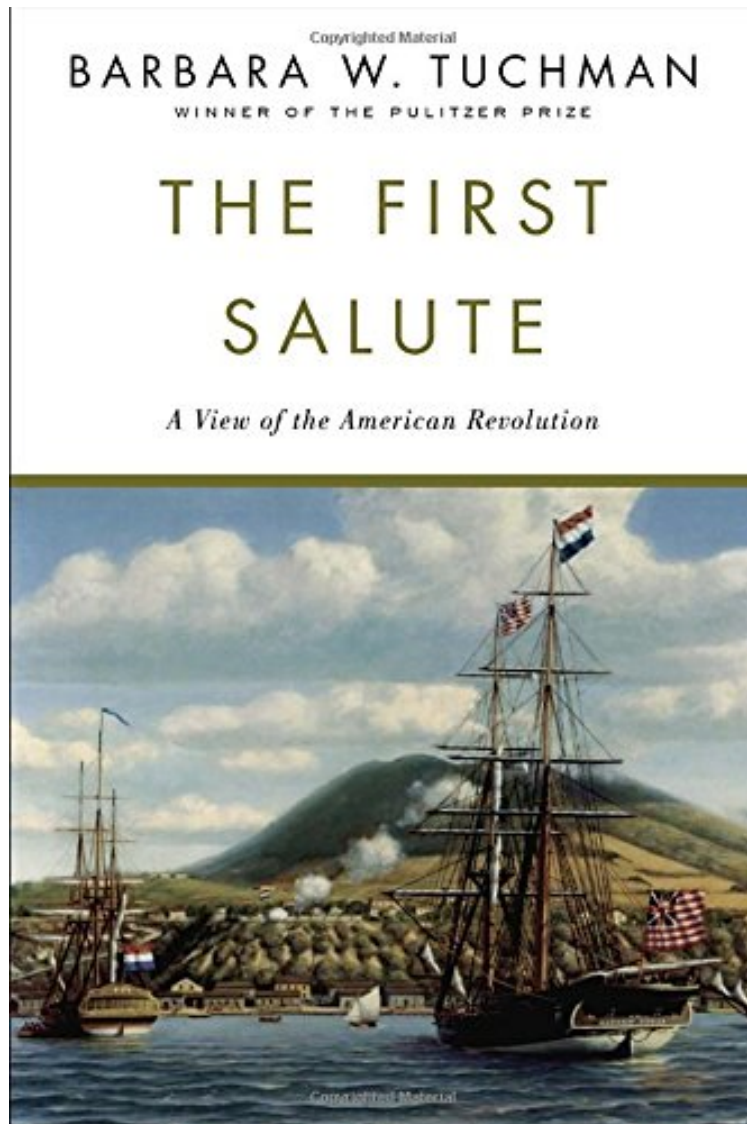


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The First Salute

Barbara W. Tuchman

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#676146 in Books Barbara W Tuchman 1989-09-06 1989-09-06 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.19 x .98 x 5.511, .97 #File Name: 0345336674448 pages The First Salute A View of the American Revolution | File size: 50.Mb

Barbara W. Tuchman : The First Salute before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The First Salute:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. I REALLY like the writings of Barbara Tuchman By David Langlois Full disclosure. I REALLY like the writings of Barbara Tuchman. This is an excellent compendium of essays, articles and speeches written by her over many years. Some from the 30's and 40's. Most from the 60's and 70's. I find

her way of saying things rings true with me, and I like the way she puts history into context. I have the sense that hers is not revisionist history in any way, but history presented in a manner which makes sense to me. I bought the Kindle version. OK, but not the same thing as having a real book in my hands. Highly recommended. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A roving glimpse of America's birth - 3-1/2 stars By ct reader This work's subtitle ('A View of the American Revolution') is accurate: it's one vista rather than a comprehensive history. Like much of Tuchman's work, it's an accessible and interesting account with fresh insight on the rebels and their European enemy and allies in the late war years. The episodic text sometimes seems to wander (the longest of the twelve chapters deals with British Admiral Sir George Brydges Rodney), but ultimately rewards the reader with a coherent message: the American Revolution wasn't simply a domestic divorce - it benefited from (and largely succeeded because of) continental rivalries. Poignant accounts of rebel leaders (Washington, Franklin, Morris, etc) are matched to their perilous links with their allies in the Netherlands and France. One learns French regular troops at Yorktown outnumbered American colonial regulars (without including troops on de Grasse's 31 ship fleet); French funds paid for rebel wages, supplies, and arms; and that Bourbon France incurred a 1.5 billion livre (\$375 million) debt for the pleasure of helping defeat rival Britain (it led to the bankruptcy and fall of the ancien regime in 1789). Tuchman could have embellished her case with Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais (watchmaker, inventor, playwright of 'The Marriage of Figaro' and 'The Barber of Seville') who served as clandestine French conduit for rebel funds and arms before Saratoga in 1777 (and narrowly escaped execution in the French Revolution). The ultimate destiny of de Grasse, Rochambeau, and Lafayette would also have been interesting (for Lafayette's later history read Simon Shama's 'Citizens'). Nonetheless, 'The First Salute' is worth reading (I first read it in hardcover in 1988 and still admire it). 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I absolutely loved this book By Tom Fallows I absolutely loved this book. It filled in so many gaps in my understanding of the American Revolution and "how did it happen that Washington beat Cornwallis to end the American War for Independence against England?" I find most commentaries on the American Revolution are about the beginning (Lexington/Concord, Bunker Hill, Brooklyn Heights, Trenton, Valley Forge, Brandywine, Saratoga, etc.), but very little covers the topic about How it Ended. Plus, it is hard to find a coherent analysis on the contribution of the anti-British allies (Spain but above all, France) in defeating the English at Yorktown. The central theme in the book covers the naval story, from American privateers to Dutch traders. The book fills a lot of gaps

Barbara W. Tuchman, the Pulitzer Prizewinning author of the classic *The Guns of August*, turns her sights homeward with this brilliant, insightful narrative of the Revolutionary War. In *The First Salute*, one of America's consummate historians crafts a rigorously original view of the American Revolution. Barbara W. Tuchman places the Revolution in the context of the centuries-long conflicts between England and both France and Holland, demonstrating how the aid to the American colonies of both these nations made the triumph of independence possible. She sheds new light on the key role played by the contending navies, paints a magnificent portrait of George Washington, and recounts in riveting detail the decisive campaign of the war at Yorktown. By turns lyrical and gripping, *The First Salute* is an exhilarating account of the birth of a nation. Praise for *The First Salute* Nothing in a novel could be more thrilling than the moment in this glorious history when French soldiers arrive [to] see a tall, familiar figure: George Washington. . . . It is only part of Tuchman's genius that she can reconstitute such scenes with so much precision and passion. People Tuchman writes narrative history in the great tradition. . . . A persuasive book, which brings us entertaining pictures, scenes and characters. Chicago Tribune [A] tightly woven narrative, ingeniously structured. The Christian Science Monitor

From Publishers Weekly "In this brilliant slice of American Revolutionary history, Tuchman (*A Distant Mirror*; *The Guns of August*) pits the 13 colonies against a rogues' gallery of British fools," wrote PW of this bestseller in cloth. "Expertly weaving political and military history, Tuchman lets you feel how Washington's victory at Yorktown sent shock waves around the globe." Photos. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Tuchman's trademarks are here: trenchant observations and an exciting climax, in this case when Washington and Cornwallis meet at Yorktown. But this work is not her best. The narration is loosely structured and at times repetitious; the chronology is sometimes confusing. In her first venture into American history, the popular historian highlights military and diplomatic turning points of the Revolution, focusing on European participation and its impact on the politics of the Dutch, French, and English. Despite its drawbacks, most libraries will want this Pulitzer Prize-winner's latest. BOMC main selection. Nancy C. Cridland, Indiana Univ. Libs., Bloomington Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. Nothing in a novel could be more thrilling than the moment in this glorious history when French soldiers arrive [to] see a tall, familiar figure: George Washington. . . . It is only part of Tuchman's genius that she can reconstitute such scenes with so much precision and passion. People Tuchman writes narrative history in the great tradition. . . . A persuasive book, which brings us entertaining pictures, scenes and characters. Chicago Tribune [A] tightly woven narrative, ingeniously structured. The Christian Science Monitor