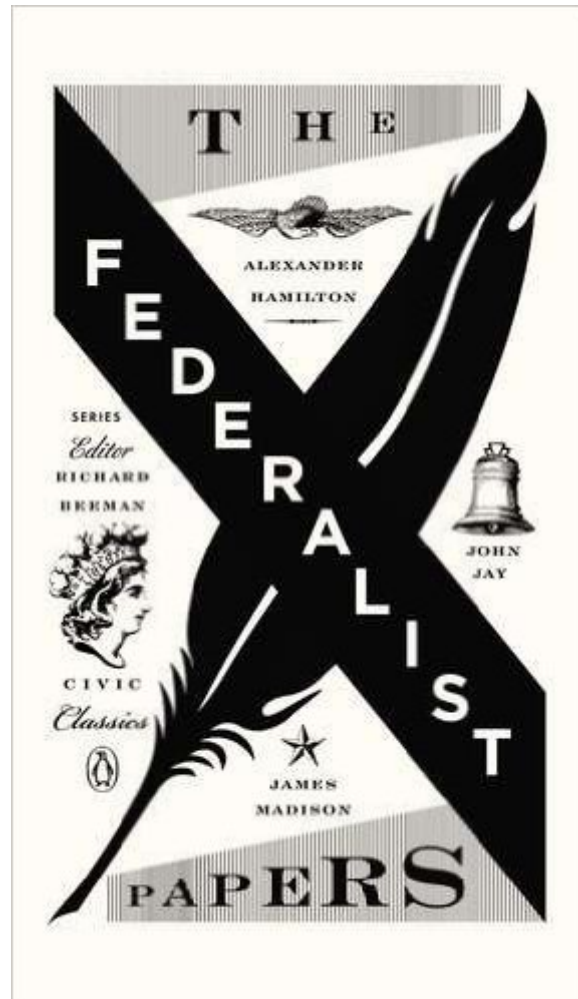


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The Federalist Papers (Penguin Civic Classics)



Synopsis

"The best commentary on the principles of government which ever was written" - Thomas Jefferson

Penguin presents a series of six portable, accessible, and "above all" essential reads from American political history, selected by leading scholars. Series editor Richard Beeman, author of *The Penguin Guide to the U.S. Constitution*, draws together the great texts of American civic life to create a timely and informative mini-library of perennially vital issues. Whether readers are encountering these classic writings for the first time, or brushing up in anticipation of the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, these slim volumes will serve as a powerful and illuminating resource for scholars, students, and civic-minded citizens. Written at a time when furious arguments were raging about the best way to govern America, *The Federalist Papers* had the immediate practical aim of persuading New Yorkers to accept the newly drafted Constitution in 1787. In this they were supremely successful, but their influence also transcended contemporary debate to win them a lasting place in discussions of American political theory. *The Federalist Papers* make a powerful case for power-sharing between State and Federal authorities and have only risen in legal influence over the last two centuries. Beeman's analysis helps clarify the goals, at once separate and in concert, of Madison, Hamilton, and Jay during their writing, and his selections show the array of issues "both philosophical and policy-specific" covered by this body of work.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I ordered this without giving it much thought because it was from Penguin, which usually has very high production values and it's usually exactly what I want. I perhaps should've given the preview more attention before I placed my order. In all, the Federalist Papers were comprised of 85 Essays. Unfortunately, this set contains barely 19, which is less than 1/4 of all the Federalist papers. Here are the ones included in this book: 1,6,9,10,14,23,39,45,46,47,48,51,62,63,64,70,78,84,85. Granted, many of the ones presented are important papers but I would much prefer to have a comprehensive collection and to let the reader decide what is important and what is not. For example, where is Federalist #29 or #30? Those are important, as are all the rest. Don't get me wrong, the Federalist papers that are included are important ones like 10 and 51 but, it should be more clear that you are not getting the entire collection. The book starts out with an introduction that most Americans suffer from an inadequate education in civics which supposedly this document seeks to correct. Well, the problem is that selectively picking and choosing what elements of history to share with us is just as dangerous as the really bad versions of the Federalist papers where supposed scholars have "translated" the works from English to English....which is very revisionist. Please, just give me all 85 Federalist papers, unadulterated, and unedited and let me decide what to read and what to take away from it. I wish I could give it more stars but I can't. The title is misleading, It should be "Select Federalist Papers," not "THE Federalist Papers." Granted there is a preview and if the buyer goes through table of contents, you'll find what is included but the title is somewhat deceptive. Good luck trying to find a good comprehensive copy of the Federalist Papers out there.

Love that it is pocket size & a important document in the history of United States.

What I expected.

This is not a complete Federalist papers.

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