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Let Us Now Praise Famous Men (2nd Edition, 1960)

James and Walker Evans Agee

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James and Walker Evans Agee : Let Us Now Praise Famous Men (2nd Edition, 1960) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Let Us Now Praise Famous Men (2nd Edition, 1960):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. History, Journalism and a call to open our eyes to povertyBy Downtown GirlThis is an astounding chronicle, in equally evocative words and photographs, of life in the rural South amid the Great Depression. I purchased this as research for a stage production of To Kill a Mockingbird, which takes place in that time period in fictional Maycomb County, AL. I had never read the book before, although I was familiar with some of Walker Evans' photographs. I am completely blown away.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Fine Period Piece Examining GREAT DEPRESSIONBy Roderick S. HaynesThis work is touted by some as "one of the twentieth century's greatest pieces of literature." I wouldn't go that far, but the photos are incredible and I have to say the reader is placed right inside the tenant farmer's (Alabama) house and in the fields he tends. The time is the mid-1930s, in the depths of the Great Depression. Tenant farmers down South are struggling with deepening debt, chronic illnesses in their families (NO health care), land that is not arable, and the hopeless, grinding poverty much of America suffered through in that era. The author, at times, sounds like he is attempting to imitate William Faulkner. The writing in places is highly complex, stream of consciousness stuff in some places. I like the book a lot but the reader must be very patient and willing to read methodically. It's not a breezy kind of style. It will also break your heart. The tenant farmer certainly had a rough go of it. Makes you wonder how much of this country is still in such dire straits.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Poverty in the South in the Depression.By Dave Shumway1930s classic where a writer and photographer are sent to the American South to live with a family without

means. They selected three Caucasian families. A very important book in uncovering the realities of abject poverty for the "haves" even during the depression. Also, read *White Trash*.

The now classic book documenting in text and photographs three tenant farmer families.