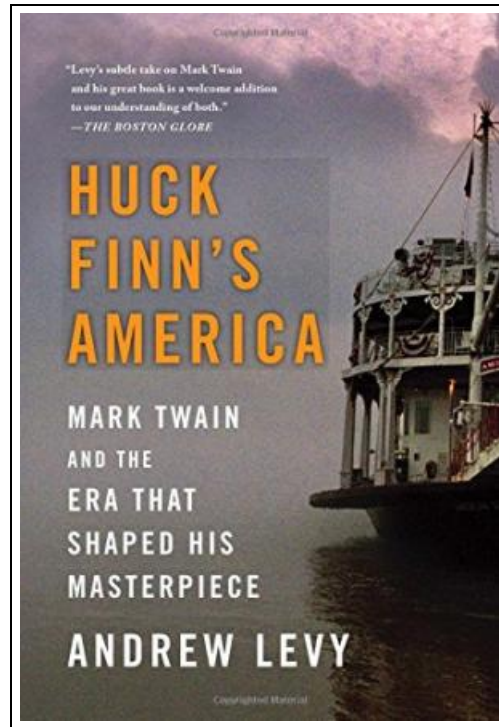


## Huck Finn s America: Mark Twain and the Era That Shaped His Masterpiece



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### ***Reviews***

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*(Dominic Collins)*

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SIMON SCHUSTER, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 213 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. A provocative, exuberant, and deeply researched investigation into Mark Twain s writing of America s favorite icon of childhood, Huckleberry Finn A boldly revisionist reading of Twain s Huckleberry Finn Twain s masterpiece emerges as a compelling depiction of nineteenth-century troubles still all too familiar in the twenty-first century ( Booklist, starred review). In the groundbreaking ( Dallas Morning News ) Huck Finn s America, award-winning biographer Andrew Levy shows how modern readers have misunderstood Huckleberry Finn for decades. Mark Twain s masterpiece is often discussed either as a carefree adventure story for children or a serious novel about race relations, yet Levy argues, it is neither. Instead, Huck Finn was written at a time when Americans were nervous about uncivilized bad boys, and a debate was raging about education, popular culture, and responsible parenting casting Huck s now-celebrated freedom in a very different and very modern light. On issues of race, on the other hand, Twain s lifelong fascination with minstrel shows and black culture inspired him to write a book not about civil rights, but about race s role in entertainment and commerce, the same features on which much of our own modern consumer culture is also grounded. In Levy s vision, Huck Finn has more to say about contemporary children and race than we have ever imagined if we are willing to hear it. An eye-opening, groundbreaking exploration of the character and psyche of Mark Twain as he was writing his most famous novel, Levy s book explores the soul of Mark Twain s enduring achievement with the utmost self-awareness. An eloquent argument, wrapped up in rich biographical detail and historical fact. ( USA TODAY ). Huck Finn s...

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