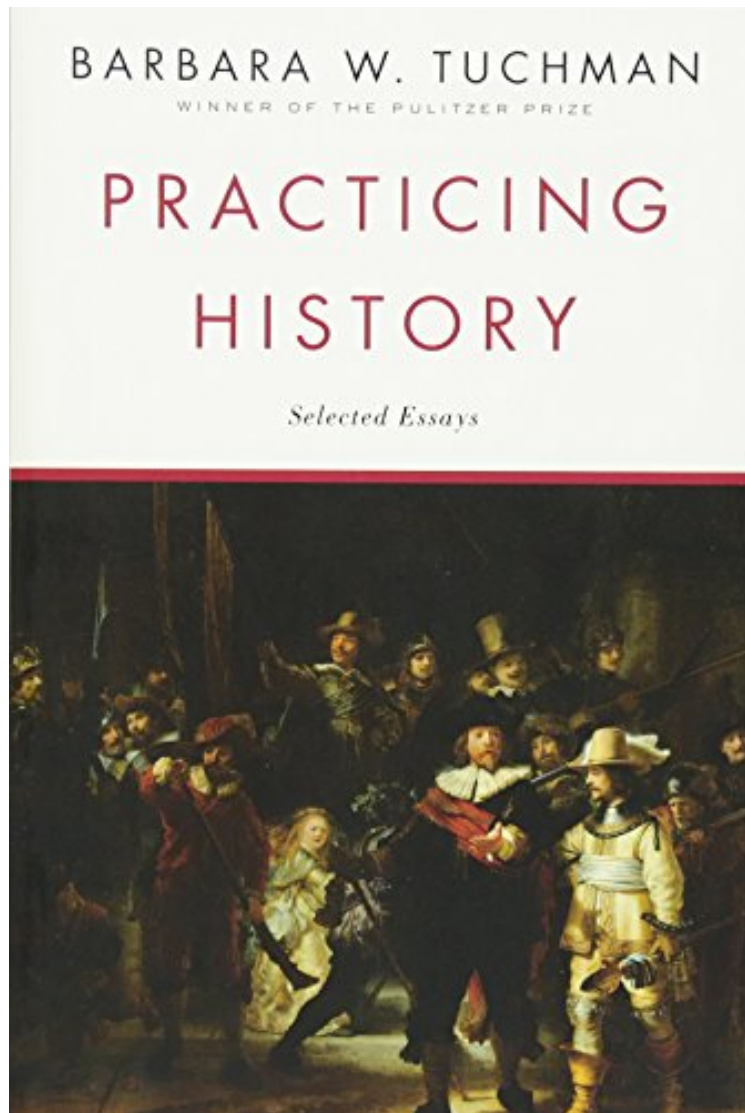


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Practicing History: Selected Essays

Barbara W. Tuchman

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Barbara W. Tuchman : Practicing History: Selected Essays before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Practicing History: Selected Essays:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Lessons Insights from a fine writer and historian By REMLike most essay collections, there are those in "Practicing History" that don't interest an individual reader and some that they value. I found that the ones I learned from and, or enjoyed in this book definitely outnumbered the former. Ms. Tuchman's essays on the value of history to one who studies it and ones on the responsibilities of the historian are worth reading and rereading. The lessons she finds in her study of disastrous governmental and diplomatic blunders,

often deliberate and self-serving, are valuable lessons, but I think her understandable anger about these blunders in Vietnam and WW II China are repeated too often in multiple essays. I must say that Ms. Tuchman, with her deep study of these fiascos and the understanding of the terrible consequences of them has every reason to be furious. I just got tired of reading about them. I recommend reading "Practicing History" , "The Proud Tower", and "Guns of August". Likely the rest after I read them myself.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy bierhausserEXCELLENT BOOK.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. But it is also for the good of all us readers out thereBy David J. CormierThis book is for writers. Writers of history and of biography. But it is also for the good of all us readers out there! Tuchman takes us through the rationale and methods of good writing, lest we fall into the trap of having complete works that cover all aspects of our topics yet bore the readers to tears. If only more history writers learned at her knee!

Celebrated for bringing a personal touch to history in her Pulitzer Prizewinning epic *The Guns of August* and other classic books, Barbara W. Tuchman reflects on world events and the historians craft in these perceptive, essential essays. From thoughtful pieces on the historians role to striking insights into Americas past and present to trenchant observations on the international scene, Barbara W. Tuchman looks at history in a unique way and draws lessons from what she sees. Spanning more than four decades of writing in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Harpers*, *The Nation*, and *The Saturday Evening Post*, Tuchman weighs in on a range of eclectic topics, from Israel and Mao Tse-tung to a Freudian reading of Woodrow Wilson. This is a splendid body of work, the story of a lifetime spent practicing history. Praise for *Practicing History* Persuades and enthralls . . . I can think of no better primer for the nonexpert who wishes to learn history.*Chicago Sun-Times* Provocative, consistent, and beautifully readable, an event not to be missed by history buffs.*Baltimore Sun* A delight to read.*The New York Times Book Review*

Persuades and enthralls . . . I can think of no better primer for the nonexpert who wishes to learn history.*Chicago Sun-Times* Provocative, consistent, and beautifully readable, an event not to be missed by history buffs.*Baltimore Sun* A delight to read.*The New York Times Book* From the Inside FlapFrom thoughtful pieces on the historian's role to striking insights into America's past and present to trenchant observations on the international scene, Barbara W. Tuchman looks at history in a unique way and draws lessons from what she sees. Here is a splendid body of work, the story of a lifetime spent "practicing history."From the Back Cover"Persuades and Enthralls...I can think of no better primer for the nonexpert who wishes to learn history." -- *Chicago Sun-Times*"Provocative, Consistent, and Beautifully Readable, an event not to be missed by history buffs." -- *The Baltimore Sun*