

An abstract landscape painting with a dark, textured blue and purple sky above a green and yellowish ground. The brushstrokes are visible and expressive, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall mood is somber yet vibrant.

Paul S. Boyer

AMERICAN HISTORY

A Very Short Introduction

OXFORD

American History: A Very Short Introduction

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I lovingly dedicate this work to my dear wife, Ann Chapman Boyer, who has been a pillar of strength in many ways during its completion, and also to our son, Alex, and his wife, Mary, and our daughter, Kate, and her husband, Michael, for their unstinting love and support. I also dedicate the book to our grandsons, Ethan and Jake, hoping it may pique their interest in the field to which their grandfather devoted his career.