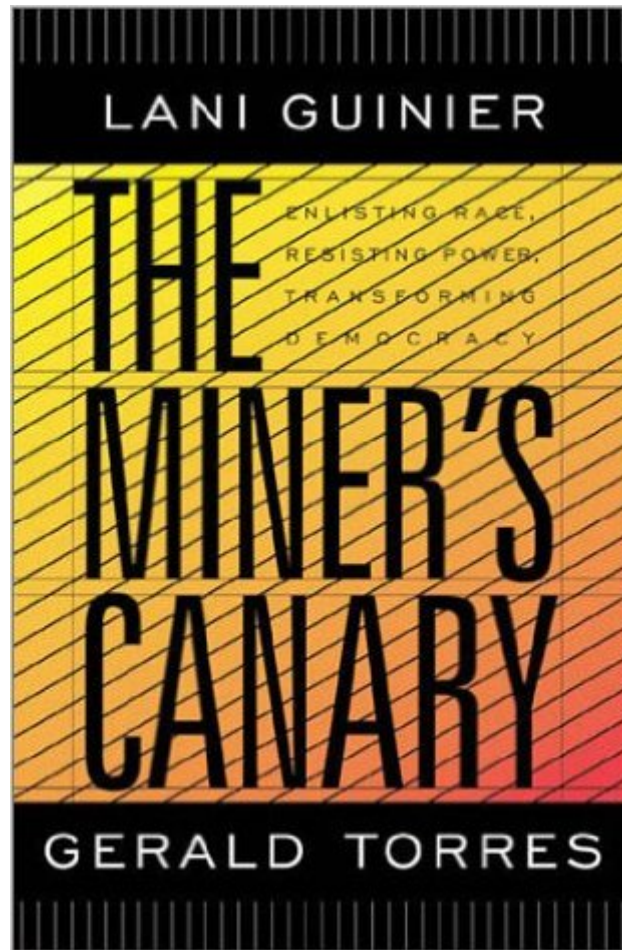


The book was found

The Miner's Canary: Enlisting Race, Resisting Power, Transforming Democracy



Synopsis

Like the canaries that alerted miners to a poisonous atmosphere, issues of race point to underlying problems in society that ultimately affect everyone, not just minorities. Addressing these issues is essential. Ignoring racial differences--race blindness--has failed. Focusing on individual achievement has diverted us from tackling pervasive inequalities. Now, in a powerful and challenging book, Lani Guinier and Gerald Torres propose a radical new way to confront race in the twenty-first century. Given the complex relationship between race and power in America, engaging race means engaging standard winner-take-all hierarchies of power as well. Terming their concept "political race," Guinier and Torres call for the building of grass-roots, cross-racial coalitions to remake those structures of power by fostering public participation in politics and reforming the process of democracy. Their illuminating and moving stories of political race in action include the coalition of Hispanic and black leaders who devised the Texas Ten Percent Plan to establish equitable state college admissions criteria, and the struggle of black workers in North Carolina for fair working conditions that drew on the strength and won the support of the entire local community. The aim of political race is not merely to remedy racial injustices, but to create truly participatory democracy, where people of all races feel empowered to effect changes that will improve conditions for everyone. In a book that is ultimately not only aspirational but inspirational, Guinier and Torres envision a social justice movement that could transform the nature of democracy in America.

Book Information

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: Harvard University Press; First Edition edition (February 8, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0674004698

ISBN-13: 978-0674004696

Product Dimensions: 9.5 x 6.3 x 1.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #356,238 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in [Books > Law >](#)

[Constitutional Law > Discrimination](#) #39 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology >](#)

[Race Relations > General](#) #53 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Social Theory](#)

Customer Reviews

Because it's the best book about race relations in America since Ellison's masterpiece of fifty years

ago. By "race relations" I mean blacks and whites, as Ellison would have meant the words. But *The Miner's Canary* is about much more, it's about all-minority-cultures and whites in America. And in direct opposition to the color-blind solution the Supreme Court has decided the Constitution requires, the book's authors esteem and celebrate and find strength, including political strength, in our separate cultural identities -- including the separate (non-oppressive) cultural identities of whites. When I put *The Miner's Canary* down, I wished I had read the Acknowledgments first, then the chapter "by" Torres. This is a difficult book, it has many authors, and the voice I identify as Ms. Guinier's seems sometimes to address junior high school students and other times to address law professors. So the book has many levels of analysis, and it treats its central topic -- political race -- from many angles. These are not shortcomings, but they add up to a very demanding book. The book's real-life examples, however, are all wonderful and all one -- compelling and utterly elucidating. And the long illustration of how Greek democracy in action would look if it followed American districting and apportionment rules is simply surpassing wonderful. Then there's the book's immediacy. The Nobel Prize winning econometrician Robert Fogel has emphasized the roles of technology and religious activism in America's movements for social justice, relegating progressivism to the status of an adjunct to the latter. *The Miner's Canary*, on the other hand, puts the struggle for social justice squarely within the politics of progressivism.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Miner's Canary: Enlisting Race, Resisting Power, Transforming Democracy *The Miner's Canary: Enlisting Race, Resisting Power, Transforming Democracy* (The Nathan I. Huggins Lectures) *Canarios de color/ Canary with colors: El Canario Agata/ the Agata Canary* (Pajaros) (Spanish Edition) *Race, Reform, and Regulation of the Electoral Process: Recurring Puzzles in American Democracy* (Cambridge Studies in Election Law and Democracy) *Predictive Modeling with SAS Enterprise Miner: Practical Solutions for Business Applications, Second Edition* *Power Training: For Combat, MMA, Boxing, Wrestling, Martial Arts, and Self-Defense: How to Develop Knockout Punching Power, Kicking Power, Grappling Power, and Ground Fighting Power* *Resisting Global Toxics: Transnational Movements for Environmental Justice* (Urban and Industrial Environments) *BEARly Resisting* (Romance on the Go) *Democracy More or Less: America's Political Reform Quandary* (Cambridge Studies in Election Law and Democracy) *Democracy--The God That Failed: The Economics and Politics of Monarchy, Democracy, and Natural Order* (Perspectives on Democratic Practice) *Losing the News: The Future of the News that Feeds Democracy* (Institutions of American Democracy) *Democracy Incorporated: Managed Democracy and the Specter of Inverted Totalitarianism* *Canary in the Courtroom: How Pesticide Poisoning*

Changed a Woman's Life and Forced Her into Civil Action Hitler's Savage Canary: A History of the Danish Resistance in World War II The Emperor of China, The Mute Canary & The Executioner of Peru A Darker Sky (The Canary Island Series Book 1) I Like Giving: The Transforming Power of a Generous Life When God's People Pray Participant's Guide: Six Sessions on the Transforming Power of Prayer (Zondervangroupware(tm) Small Group Edition) El Poder Transformador de los Grupos Pequeños (Transforming Power of Small Groups) (Spanish Edition) Love and Respect in the Family: The Transforming Power of Love and Respect Between Parent and Child

[Dmca](#)