



Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies)

Ritchie Devon Watson Jr.

[Download now](#)

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies)

Ritchie Devon Watson Jr.

Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) Ritchie Devon Watson Jr.

When Representative Preston Brooks of South Carolina savagely caned Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts on the floor of the U.S. Senate on May 21, 1856, southerners viewed the attack as a triumphant affirmation of southern chivalry, northerners as a confirmation of southern barbarity. Public opinion was similarly divided nearly three-and-a-half years later after abolitionist John Brown's raid on the Federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia, with northerners crowning John Brown as a martyr to the cause of freedom as southerners excoriated him as a consciousness fanatic. These events opened American minds to the possibility that North and South might be incompatible societies, but some of Dixie's defenders were willing to go one step further -- to propose that northerners and southerners represented not just a "divided people" but two scientifically distinct races. In *Normans and Saxons*, Ritchie Watson, Jr., explores the complex racial mythology created by the upper classes of the antebellum South in the wake of these divisive events to justify secession and, eventually, the Civil War.

This mythology cast southerners as descendants of the Normans of eleventh-century England and thus also of the Cavaliers of the seventeenth century, some of whom had come to the New World and populated the southern colonies. These Normans were opposed, in mythic terms, by Saxons -- Englishmen of German descent -- some of whose descendants made up the Puritans who settled New England and later fanned out to populate the rest of the North. The myth drew on nineteenth-century science and other sources to portray these as two separate, warring "races," the aristocratic and dashing Normans versus the common and venal Saxons. According to Watson, southern polemical writers employed this racial mythology as a justification of slavery, countering the northern argument that the South's peculiar institution had combined with its Norman racial composition to produce an arrogant and brutal land of oligarchs with a second-rate culture. Watson finds evidence for this argument in both prose and poetry, from the literary influence of Sir Walter Scott, De Bow's Review, and other antebellum southern magazines, to fiction by George Tucker, John Pendleton Kennedy, and William Alexander Caruthers and northern and southern poetry during the Civil War, especially in the works of Walt Whitman. Watson also traces the continuing impact of the Norman versus Saxon myth in "Lost Cause" thought and how the myth has affected ideas about southern sectionalism of today.

Normans and Saxons provides a thorough analysis of the ways in which myth ultimately helped to convince Americans that regional differences over the issue of slavery were manifestations of deeper and more profound differences in racial temperament -- differences that made civil war inevitable.

 [Download Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and th ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) Ritchie Devon Watson Jr.

From reader reviews:

Frank Hegarty:

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want really feel happy read one with theme for entertaining such as comic or novel. Typically the Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) is kind of publication which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Gonzalo Barnes:

The book Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading any book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to learn, this book very appropriate to you. The book Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) is much recommended to you to see. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

Mary Bolinger:

You can obtain this Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) by check out the bookstore or Mall. Simply viewing or reviewing it could to be your solve trouble if you get difficulties for ones knowledge. Kinds of this book are various. Not only by simply written or printed but in addition can you enjoy this book through e-book. In the modern era including now, you just looking because of your mobile phone and searching what your problem. Right now, choose your own personal ways to get more information about your book. It is most important to arrange you to ultimately make your knowledge are still revise. Let's try to choose proper ways for you.

Charles Hopper:

A lot of reserve has printed but it is different. You can get it by internet on social media. You can choose the most beneficial book for you, science, comedian, novel, or whatever through searching from it. It is known as of book Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies). You'll be able to your knowledge by it. Without causing the printed book, it might add your knowledge and make you happier to read. It is most critical that, you must aware about reserve. It can bring you from one place to other place.

**Download and Read Online Normans and Saxons: Southern Race
Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War
(Southern Literary Studies) Ritchie Devon Watson Jr.**

#D5OYIU3K67Z

Read Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) by Ritchie Devon Watson Jr. for online ebook

Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) by Ritchie Devon Watson Jr. Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) by Ritchie Devon Watson Jr. books to read online.

Online Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) by Ritchie Devon Watson Jr. ebook PDF download

Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) by Ritchie Devon Watson Jr. Doc

Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) by Ritchie Devon Watson Jr. Mobipocket

Normans and Saxons: Southern Race Mythology and the Intellectual History of the American Civil War (Southern Literary Studies) by Ritchie Devon Watson Jr. EPub