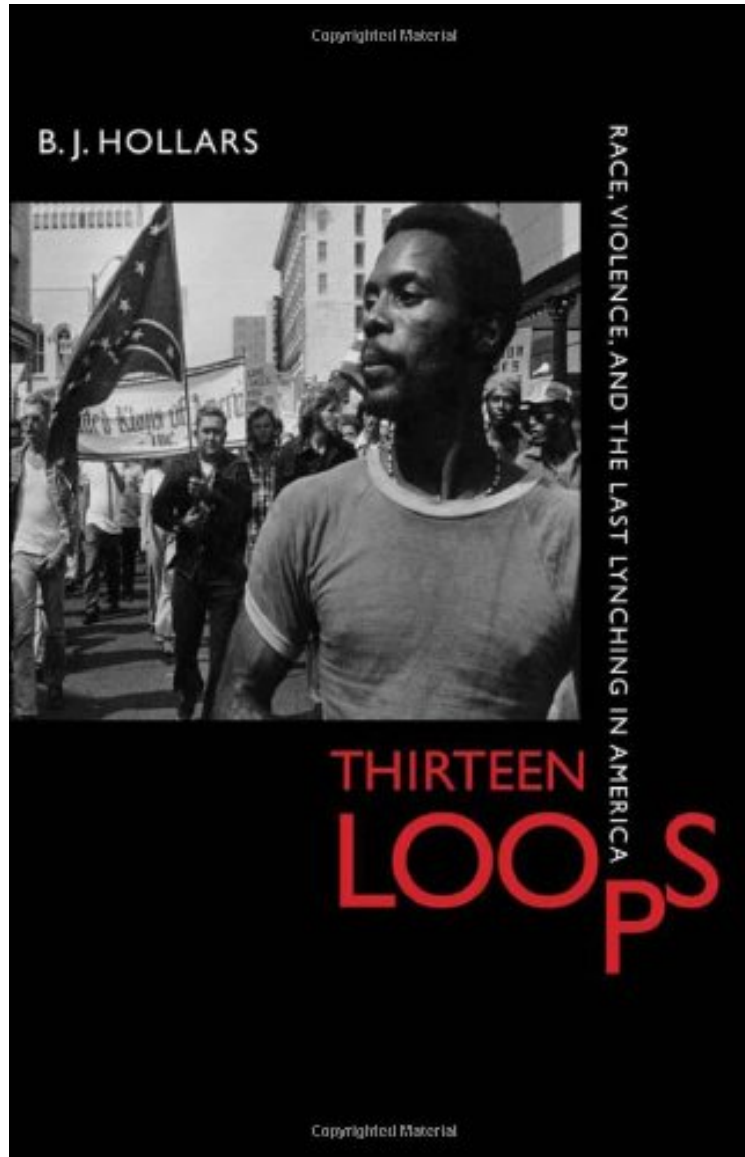


(Download free ebook) Thirteen Loops: Race, Violence, and the Last Lynching in America

# Thirteen Loops: Race, Violence, and the Last Lynching in America

*B. J. Hollars*

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#607877 in Books 2011-09-06 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .90 x 5.50l, 1.08 #File Name: 0817317538264 pages | File size: 29.Mb

**B. J. Hollars : Thirteen Loops: Race, Violence, and the Last Lynching in America** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thirteen Loops: Race, Violence, and the Last Lynching in America:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Engrossing History By Alabama Reader I learned so much about some of the ugliest aspects of America's vigilante behavior and the incredible racial hatred associated with the lynchings described in Thirteen Loops. That the author, BJ Hollars, was able to write so beautifully about such

ugliness reveals his extraordinary literary skills. The stories are rich in research and detail and captivating in the use of language and suspense. I think we can expect much from this author based on this first book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. *The Culture of Lynching and Hate Persists* By leclam The book is well written for any age beginning at middle school and should be used as a text book in history classes covering slavery, hate groups and persistent prejudice. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. The horrors of racial violence handled deftly and fairly. By Brendan Todd *Thirteen Loops* is one story, three stories, thirteen. Each "loop," or chapter, corresponds to a place and time, but the book is far more compelling than its clever organization. *Thirteen Loops* takes us from Tuscaloosa to Birmingham to Mobile to tell the story of the last lynching in America. Moving from the thirties into the late seventies and early eighties, it examines relationships between race-related violence, but it resists making the kind of grand sweeping proclamations that suggest there are definitive answers that will satisfy us as both readers and citizens: "It's easy to draw connections, tracing a path from Tuscaloosa to Birmingham to Mobile. From 1933 to 1979 to 1981. However, it's far more difficult to ensure these paths lead to some greater truth." The book chronicles with extensive research and an elegant prose style the events in the manner of a 3rd-person omniscient. But the true elegance of the book is that it claims no such omniscience. Although it abhors violence--racial and otherwise--it does not point fingers or succumb to stereotype. *Thirteen Loops* confronts the black eyes of our collective history with restraint and an endearing objectivity. This book is neither a Hollywood hype-up nor another dull, one-sided middle school textbook. It is the honest endeavor to discover just how we as humans come to beat and hang our brethren in a tree.

*Thirteen Loops: Race, Violence, and the Last Lynching in America* recounts the story of three innocent victims, all of whom suffered violent deaths through no fault of their own: Vaudine Maddox in 1933 in Tuscaloosa, Sergeant Gene Ballard in 1979 in Birmingham, and Michael Donald in 1981 in Mobile.

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