

Spring 5-7-2021

## Radical Sacrifice: The Rise and Ruin of Fitz John Porter

Carol Walker Jordan

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Jordan, Carol Walker (2021) "Radical Sacrifice: The Rise and Ruin of Fitz John Porter," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 69 : Iss. 1 , Article 10.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol69/iss1/10>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Southeastern Librarian by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu).

change wedding rites to meet the needs of their members. The goal of most seem to be to align their choice of rites that express their commitment to each other and to the hope for long and lasting faithfulness in the life of a marriage.

This book demonstrates in-depth research on the topic of wedding marital rites and is of value to theological seminaries, public libraries, church libraries, and historical societies. It has a section of Notes, Bibliography, and an Index. Graphs and Figures are identified by page number.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

### **Mary McLeod Bethune: Village of God**



Yahya Jongintaba  
Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2021  
ISBN: 9781621906216  
327 p. \$60.00 (Hbk)

Yahya Jongintaba author of *Mary McLeod Bethune: Village of God*, currently serves as a member of the academic community of Bethune-Cookman University. Having access to the extensive collection of papers, letters, lectures, and related priceless treasures in the archives at Bethune-Cookman University, Jongintaba became entranced by the larger than life spiritual being, Mary McLeod Bethune. Jongintaba brings in his biography of Mary the woman who once wanted to be a missionary in Africa but instead became a teacher and leader of education for girls in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Beginning with Mary's birth in a little town in South Carolina, the reader learns about Mary--the child of slave parents, in a family of 17 brothers and sisters, education in a rural school where she walked miles to attend, a seminary education, marriage, birth of her first child, followed by founding and opening of a school for girls in Florida (Daytona Educational and Industrial School for Negro Girls). Later we learn the school became the Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida. There Mary spent significant portions of her life as an educator and spiritual leader. Later in life Mary was appointed Administrator of Mi-

nority Affairs by President Franklin Roosevelt. She returned to Daytona for the later days of her life.

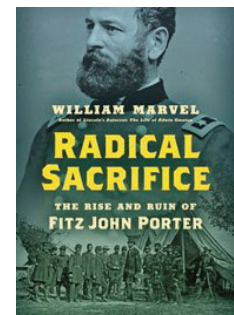
Jongintaba frames his biographical research within the spiritual and intellectual life Mary lived. He explains she chose to focus on her beliefs in the importance of lives centered on the concept of a Village of God. Collecting the important stages of Mary's life within the concept of the Lord's Prayer, he presents each chapter with a line of the prayer. This biography presents extensive research from the Archives at Cookman-Bethune University. Jongintaba shares that he attempts with this volume to write Mary's biography as he believes she wanted to write it herself but didn't.

See pages 187 to 327 for Notes and Bibliography in this 327 page biography. There are no illustrations. Recommended for archival libraries, theological libraries, church libraries, HCBU University and College libraries, and academic libraries.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

### **Radical Sacrifice: The Rise and Ruin of Fitz John Porter**

William Marvel  
Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2021  
ISBN: 9781469661858  
496 p. \$35.00 (Hbk)



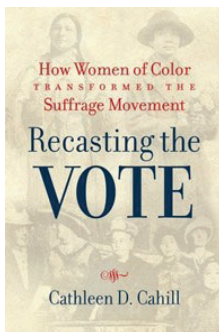
From the opening of William Marvel's book, the reader is drawn to Marvel's collection of fascinating photographs featuring Fitz John Porter's home where he was born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire in 1824, to scenes during his war days with his staff in the fields of battles, and to a memorial statue on his horse in Portsmouth, in Hazen Park, erected to honor his service (Photos, p. 141-155). These photos draw the reader into the narrative of the biography. Porter was well prepared and led an exemplary military career until the politics arose between General McClellan, his commanding officer, and the military men who surrounded the events leading up to the battles in the late days of the Civil War.

According to Marvel in his writings of the tragedies of the loss of Porter's commission and

and military career, the reader learns that political accusations and believed untruths led to the tragic demise of Porter's distinguished career. Marvel is known as an outstanding military writer and biographer. The book contains 472 pages, with Maps, Illustrations, and Sections on Notes, Bibliography, and Index. The book is filled with details and facts for the military historian. Recommended for academic libraries and historical documents repositories.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

***Recasting the Vote: How Women of Color Transformed the Suffrage Movement***



Cathleen D. Cahill  
Chapel Hill: The University of  
North Carolina Press, 2020  
ISBN: 9781469659329  
376 p. \$32.50 (Hbk)

In this well researched book by Cathleen D. Cahill, *Recasting the Vote: How Women of Color transformed the Suffrage Movement*, the reader learns the depth of the struggles beyond the 19th Amendment of 1920 to guarantee suffrage to all women. Cahill shares the stories of many women-- black, Latina, Native American, and Chinese American women who were challenged to continue the struggle.

The book is organized into 4 chronological parts: Part 1. Prelude and Parades, 1890-1913; Part II. At the Crossroads of Suffrage and Citizenship, 1913-1917; Part III. The War Comes, 1917-1920; Part IV. Our Women Take Part, 1920-1928; and Epilogue, Remembering and Forgetting. There are many interesting illustrations.

Of great interest is the author's ability to collect stories from women of color that demonstrate their passion for pressing their rights and engaging fellow citizens to support those rights to citizenship and suffrage. The book challenges readers to see the impact of so many women in our country who worked steadfastly for citizenship and suffrage rights for women of color.

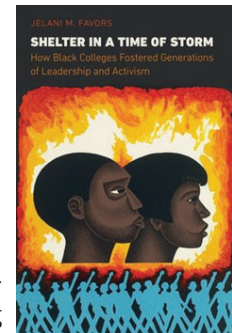
This book is recommended for academic, public, and law libraires. There are helpful sec-

tions: Notes, Bibliography, and Index.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

***Shelter in a time of Storm: How Black Colleges Fostered Generations of Leadership and Activism***

Jelani M. Favors  
Chapel Hill: The University of  
North Carolina Press, 2020  
ISBN: 9781469661445  
368 p. \$24.95 (Pbk)



Jelani M. Favors, a graduate of AT&T, an historically Black college, speaks through his writing of the impact Black colleges and universities, and their graduates had upon American social, cultural, and political life in America.

In *Shelter in a Time of Storm: How Black Colleges Fostered Generations of Leadership and Activism*, Favors explains how the Black college begun in 1837 structured its academic program to allow for "an unwritten second curriculum beyond the written course of study." The aim of a second curriculum was to encourage bonding between faculty and students. Students were encouraged to speak boldly of their freedom dreams as they shared stories in the classrooms and in living spaces.

Favors says the HBCU gave rise to a kind of *Communitas* or a building of social relationships that lifted the students beyond the "closed society" outside their classrooms and to where their dreams of freedom might go. The environments of the HBCUs nurtured and endowed activists with idealism, racial consciousness, cultural pride, and honor. Throughout the Jim Crow era, the civil rights, and Black Power movements, Favors says the HBCUs became a "seedbed" for politicians, community leaders, reformers, and activists.

The structure of Favors' book provides a spotlight on HBCUs. His writing reveals the rise and decline of student and graduate activism upon the waves of political and economic periods in the United States. Dedication to the former values of activism and reform took different paths as gov-