

# Sacramento Book Review



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## Giants

By John Stauffer

Twelve, \$30.00, 448 pages

Writing a single compelling biography is an arduous task. Writing two, twice as difficult; Stauffer, however, takes on a whole new challenge and blows it out of the water with grace and ease—chronicling the lives of two men, Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, who had both lived such legendary stories, and creating a mash-up biography in one book. *Giants* is executed with a great amount of skill, keeping the two biographies separate, when appropriate, and then twisting the two together in a way that mirrors how both men's lives actually, in history, came together.



Giving the type of account that includes all of the facts, but in a manner which makes you forget that they are being provided—that is to say, in a manner that is so interesting and at times arresting that you have to stop reading, even though you do not wish to, in order to soak in the magnitude of these two men's journeys.