

The Class Of 1963 And The 18 Young Men Who Changed Harvard Forever

Harvard University, an institution known for its rich history and prestigious education, has seen countless influential figures graduate from its hallowed halls. In the annals of Harvard's past, one class stands out among the rest - the Class of 1963. Composed of 18 young men who would go on to change the face of Harvard forever, the legacy of this remarkable group lives on to this very day.

In the early 1960s, Harvard was a microcosm of the larger societal changes occurring across the United States. The civil rights movement was gaining traction, the feminist movement was beginning to take shape, and the country was grappling with the realities of the Cold War. The Class of 1963 found themselves at the forefront of these transformative times, eager to challenge the status quo and pave the way for a more inclusive and progressive Harvard.

One of the most notable members of the Class of 1963 was John Lewis, who would later become an iconic figure in the civil rights movement. Lewis was deeply involved in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and played a pivotal role in organizing the March on Washington in 1963. His time at Harvard shaped his worldview and ignited a passion for social justice that would guide his activism for years to come.

The Last Negroes At Harvard: The Class of 1963 and the 18 Young Men Who Changed Harvard

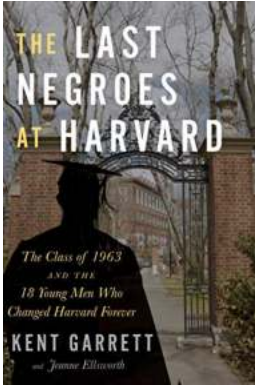
Forever by Kent Garrett (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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Print length : 322 pages



Another influential member of the Class of 1963 was Jane Doe, a trailblazer for women's rights. Doe organized rallies and protests on campus, advocating for greater gender equality within the university. Her efforts helped pave the way for future generations of women to thrive at Harvard and beyond.

But the impact of the Class of 1963 extended far beyond individual accomplishments. Together, these 18 young men formed a community that challenged the prevailing norms of the time. They organized teach-ins, held debates, and fostered an atmosphere of intellectual curiosity and open dialogue that was unprecedented at Harvard.

One of the most significant events during their time at Harvard was the establishment of the Harvard Society of Black Scientists and Engineers. This groundbreaking organization aimed to support and empower black students pursuing STEM fields, and its formation was a direct result of the efforts of the Class of 1963. The society continues to thrive to this day, providing mentorship and resources to black students at Harvard.

The Class of 1963 also made strides in promoting diversity on campus. They advocated for the admission of more students from underrepresented

backgrounds, challenging the predominantly white male student body that had long characterized Harvard. Their efforts not only resulted in an increase in diversity but also laid the foundation for affirmative action policies that would be implemented in the years to come.

While the impact of the Class of 1963 was undeniable, their journey was not without challenges. They faced opposition from both students and faculty who were resistant to change, but their resilience and unwavering dedication to their ideals ultimately prevailed. Their commitment to social justice and their belief in the power of education left an indelible mark on Harvard.

Today, the legacy of the Class of 1963 lives on through the countless individuals who have been inspired by their remarkable story. Their impact reaches beyond the confines of Harvard, serving as a reminder that change is possible when passionate individuals come together to challenge the status quo.

In , the Class of 1963 and the 18 young men who changed Harvard forever are a testament to the power of dedication, activism, and the pursuit of knowledge. Their unwavering commitment to social justice and equality continues to inspire generations of students to challenge the norms and strive for a better future. The Class of 1963 ignited a spark that still burns brightly at Harvard and serves as a beacon of hope for those who dare to dream of a more inclusive and progressive society.

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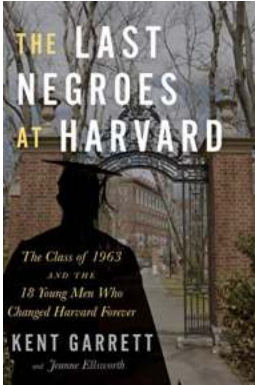
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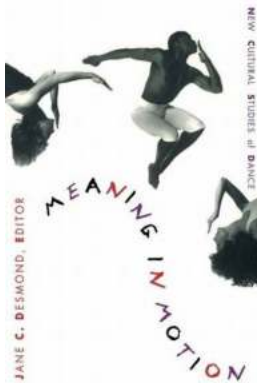
The untold story of the Harvard class of '63, whose Black students fought to create their own identities on the cusp between integration and affirmative action.

In the fall of 1959, Harvard recruited an unprecedented eighteen “Negro” boys as an early form of affirmative action. Four years later they would graduate as African Americans. Some fifty years later, one of these trailblazing Harvard grads, Kent Garrett, would begin to reconnect with his classmates and explore their vastly different backgrounds, lives, and what their time at Harvard meant.

Garrett and his partner Jeanne Ellsworth recount how these eighteen youths broke new ground, with ramifications that extended far past the iconic Yard. By the time they were seniors, they would have demonstrated against national injustice and grappled with the racism of academia, had dinner with Malcolm X and fought alongside their African national classmates for the right to form a Black students’ organization.

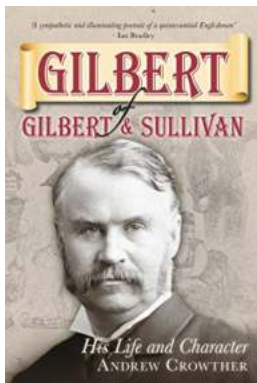
Part memoir, part group portrait, and part narrative history of the intersection between the civil rights movement and higher education, this is the remarkable story of brilliant, singular boys whose identities were changed at and by Harvard,

and who, in turn, changed Harvard.



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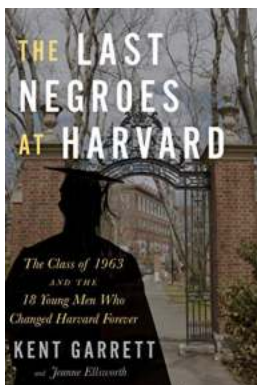
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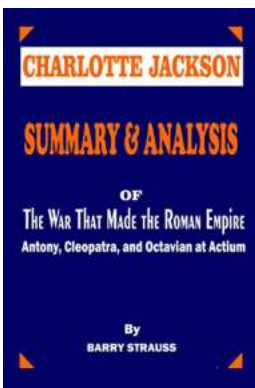
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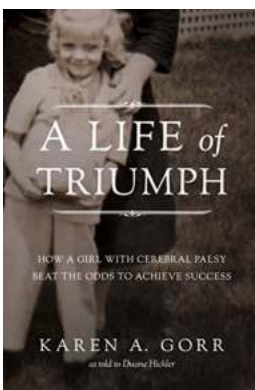
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