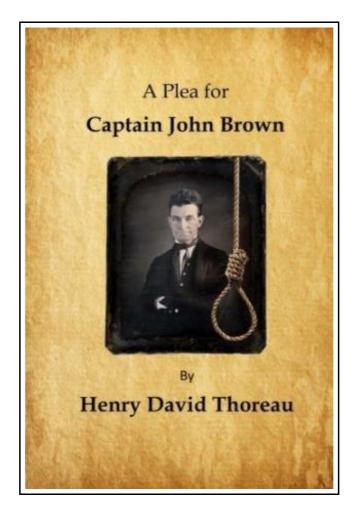
A Plea for Captain John Brown: Read to the Citizens of Concord, Mass, Sunday Evening, October 30, 1859



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A PLEA FOR CAPTAIN JOHN BROWN: READ TO THE CITIZENS OF CONCORD, MASS, SUNDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 30, 1859



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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Plea for Captain John BrownBy Henry David ThoreauA Plea for Captain John Brown is an essay by Henry David Thoreau. It is based on a speech Thoreau first delivered to an audience at Concord, Massachusetts on October 30, 1859, two weeks after John Brown s raid on Harper s Ferry, and repeated several times before Brown s execution on December 2, 1859. It was later published as a part of Echoes of Harper s Ferry in 1860. John Brown, a radical abolitionist, and twenty-one other men seized the federal armory at Harper s Ferry, the holding place for approximately 100,000 rifles and muskets, hoping to arm slaves and create a violent rebellion against the south. However, after thirty-six hours the revolt was suppressed by federal forces led by Robert E. Lee and Brown was jailed. The raid resulted in thirteen deaths, twelve rebels and one U.S. Marine. After being found guilty of murder, treason, and inciting a slave insurrection, Brown was hanged on December 2, 1859. Although largely called a failure at the time, the raid and Brown s subsequent execution impelled the American Civil War. Thoreau s essay espoused John Brown and his fight for abolition. In opposition with popular opinion of the time- Thoreau vehemently refuted the claims of newspapers and his fellow countrymen who characterized Brown as foolish and insane- he painted a portrait of a peerless man whose embrace of a cause was unparalleled. Brown s commitment to justice and adherence to the United States Constitution forced him to fight state-sponsored injustice, one he was only affected by in spirit. A unique man, Thoreau proclaimed in admiration, Brown was highly moral and humane. Independent, under the...

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