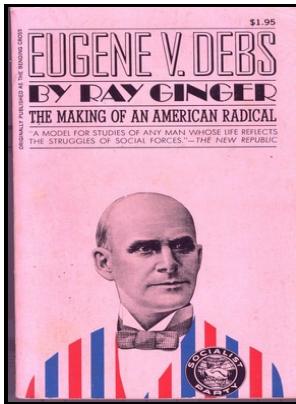


Bending cross - a biography of Eugene Victor Debs

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THE BENDING CROSS: A BIOGRAPHY OF EUGENE VICTOR DEBS 1949 BOOK BY RAY GINGER

You I was finishing this book right as the Wisconsin union protests were starting up, and the historical allegories gave this book added resonance, both in good ways and in bad. Debs stood up to and spoke Truth to Power and got nailed for it.

The bending cross; : a biography of Eugene Victor Debs

But he equally deserves recognition for his remarkable goodness in his personal dealings: he refused all offers of careering and high wages, refused all attempts of union federations to lavish gifts or praise upon him, and was known for giving away large amounts of his money even when he could not afford it. Debs ran for, and was elected, town clerk and state assemblyman.

The Bending Cross a Biography of Eugene Victor Debs

Both books are compelling, smart, and extremely well done. Its hard to think of a more admirable person to read about when it comes to those who have run for president in America's history. He may be as close to Dostoevsky's Idiot as America may get.

THE BENDING CROSS: A BIOGRAPHY OF EUGENE VICTOR DEBS 1949 BOOK BY RAY GINGER

FDR, Robert Moses, Huey Long, three men whose biographies I have read and enjoyed, achieved power through some manner of ruthlessness and cunning, and actually accomplished things, which gives something to write about; Debs had no ruthless or cunning bone in his body, achieved no power beyond his own organizations and very little, it seems to me, even within them and accomplished nothing except inspiring people, and that is very difficult to write about. His words outlive him; the decent world he dreamed of still as inevitable as the coming sunrise.

The bending cross; : a biography of Eugene Victor Debs

Debs' political views, him being a communist, this is a great biography.

The Bending Cross: A Biography of Eugene Victor Debs by Ray Ginger

The human flaws are what gave him his humanity and are what gives us hope. They're just the bad guys. It boggles the mind how so many different groups devoted to class solidarity and the brotherhood of man could be unable to agree on even the most basic of agenda items, and though Ginger tries to put a brave face on it, it's clear that Debs was trapped and blocked by all this infighting just as much as anyone else.

The Bending Cross: A Biography of Eugene Victor Debs

So he ends up, for me as for my grandfather, an inspiration.

The bending cross; : a biography of Eugene Victor Debs

The Bending Cross is a highly readable introduction to the life of this remarkable figure in American political history.

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