



Mason & Dixon: A Novel

By Thomas Pynchon

Download now

Read Online →

Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon

Charles Mason (1728-1786) and Jeremiah Dixon (1733-1779) were the British surveyors best remembered for running the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland that we know today as the Mason-Dixon Line. Here is their story as re-imagined by Thomas Pynchon, featuring Native Americans and frontier folk, ripped bodices, naval warfare, conspiracies erotic and political, and major caffeine abuse. We follow the mismatched pair--one rollicking, the other depressive; one Gothic, the other pre-Romantic--from their first journey together to the Cape of Good Hope, to pre-Revolutionary America and back, through the strange yet redemptive turns of fortune in their later lives, on a grand tour of the Enlightenment's dark hemisphere, as they observe and participate in the many opportunities for insanity presented them by the Age of Reason.

↓ [Download Mason & Dixon: A Novel ...pdf](#)

📄 [Read Online Mason & Dixon: A Novel ...pdf](#)

Mason & Dixon: A Novel

By Thomas Pynchon

Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon

Charles Mason (1728-1786) and Jeremiah Dixon (1733-1779) were the British surveyors best remembered for running the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland that we know today as the Mason-Dixon Line. Here is their story as re-imagined by Thomas Pynchon, featuring Native Americans and frontier folk, ripped bodices, naval warfare, conspiracies erotic and political, and major caffeine abuse. We follow the mismatched pair--one rollicking, the other depressive; one Gothic, the other pre-Romantic--from their first journey together to the Cape of Good Hope, to pre-Revolutionary America and back, through the strange yet redemptive turns of fortune in their later lives, on a grand tour of the Enlightenment's dark hemisphere, as they observe and participate in the many opportunities for insanity presented them by the Age of Reason.

Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon Bibliography

- Rank: #140907 in Books
- Brand: Picador USA
- Published on: 2004-01-03
- Released on: 2004-01-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .33" h x 1.34" w x 5.89" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 784 pages

 [Download Mason & Dixon: A Novel ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Mason & Dixon: A Novel ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

A sprawling, complex, and comic work from one of the country's most celebrated and idiosyncratic authors, *Mason & Dixon* is Thomas Pynchon's most magical reinvention of the 18th-century novel. It follows the lifelong partnership and adventures of the English surveyors Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon (of Mason-Dixon Line fame) as they travel the world mapping and measuring through an uncharted pre-Revolutionary America of Native Americans, white settlers, taverns, and bawdy establishments of ill-repute. Fans of the postmodern master of paranoia will recognize Pynchon's personality in the novel's first phrase: "Snow-Balls have flown their Arcs," a brief echo of the rockets that curve across the skies in the writer's masterpiece *Gravity's Rainbow*.

From Library Journal

The publication of Pynchon's fifth novel is certain to be a highlight of the literary year. To try and summarize it would be an exercise in futility. Like his previous works, this one is complex—much more than a simple, rollicking tale of 18th-century surveyors as they wend their way south (to the Cape of Good Hope) and west (to America, where they drew the line for which they will ever be famous—the boundary that came to define North and South). Indeed, it is this line, this artificial border, that lies at the heart of the novel. When Mason confides to Captain Zhang that the unremitting forest disturbs him, his exotic companion replies that given that Adam and Eve, Buddha and Newton were all enlightened while sitting beneath trees, "A quick review would suggest that Trees produce Enlightenment. Trees are not the Problem. The Forest is not an Agent of Darkness. But it may be your Visto [line] is. ...Nothing will produce Bad History more directly nor brutally, than drawing a line." This belief in the danger of artificial boundaries—be they political, literary, or philosophical—is reflected in the very structure of Pynchon's novels, in his efforts not to let "rules" get in the way of what it is he is trying to say. His novel is often poetic, sometimes tedious, and occasionally arcane. The digressions may temporarily confuse, but the humor is sure to amuse (even *Star Trek* gets a nod). More accessible than *Gravity's Rainbow*, this is still not a novel to be read quickly. It is a work that grows on one, and as the reader follows from tree to tree, a forest truly does begin to emerge—with an important message for our "scientific" age. From one of the most unique, thoughtful, and challenging of contemporary authors, a work that is essential for every public and academic library.

—David W. Henderson, *Eckerd Coll. Lib., St. Petersburg, Fla.*

Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Pynchon, an elusive, erudite, and manic satirist, has weighed in with another big book, another romp through the wild frontier of his imagination. As he did in his most celebrated work, *Gravity's Rainbow* (1973), and in *Vineland* (1990), Pynchon explores the paradoxes of a transitional era, this time harking back to the mid-eighteenth century and the so-called Age of Reason. His heroes are the English astronomers Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, the men responsible for establishing the Mason-Dixon line, and who, in his magic-making hands, embody their time's eager devotion to logic and precision even in the face of life's daunting chaos. As Pynchon chronicles their cultural and scientific adventures from their first meeting in London through their journey to Sumatra and the arduous surveying of the famous boundary line that carries their names, he considers such complex issues as colonization, slavery, the massacre of American Indians, and the conflicts between religion and science. But he also has fun, gleefully improvising on the assertive language of the time, taking sly liberties with the lives and personalities of the melancholy Mason and carefree Dixon, reveling in the buzz of pubs and coffeehouses, and animating a great cast of whimsical secondary characters. While Mason and Dixon survive all manner of extremes in weather, terrain, and human behavior, Pynchon

transforms their world into a fun-house-mirror reflection of our own, reminding us that we still search for meaning in celestial events, that racism is still alive and virulent, and that friendship and love can and do transcend the dividing lines of prejudice and politics. *Donna Seaman*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eva Burton:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be change about what going on or details even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era which is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what type you should start with. This Mason & Dixon: A Novel is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Edward Strode:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent all day long to reading a book. The book Mason & Dixon: A Novel it is rather good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book offers high quality.

Gregory Mendoza:

Beside this kind of Mason & Dixon: A Novel in your phone, it may give you a way to get more close to the new knowledge or facts. The information and the knowledge you can got here is fresh in the oven so don't always be worry if you feel like an aged people live in narrow town. It is good thing to have Mason & Dixon: A Novel because this book offers to your account readable information. Do you oftentimes have book but you seldom get what it's facts concerning. Oh come on, that will not end up to happen if you have this in the hand. The Enjoyable set up here cannot be questionable, such as treasuring beautiful island. Techniques you still want to miss it? Find this book as well as read it from right now!

Irene Allen:

A number of people said that they feel uninterested when they reading a e-book. They are directly felt this when they get a half portions of the book. You can choose often the book Mason & Dixon: A Novel to make your own personal reading is interesting. Your personal skill of reading proficiency is developing when you just like reading. Try to choose simple book to make you enjoy to study it and mingle the impression about book and reading especially. It is to be initial opinion for you to like to open up a book and study it. Beside

that the publication *Mason & Dixon: A Novel* can to be a newly purchased friend when you're experience alone and confuse with the information must you're doing of that time.

Download and Read Online *Mason & Dixon: A Novel* By Thomas Pynchon #6UPJQBNTYA5

Read Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon for online ebook

Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon books to read online.

Online Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon ebook PDF download

Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon Doc

Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon Mobipocket

Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon EPub

6UPJQBNTYA5: Mason & Dixon: A Novel By Thomas Pynchon