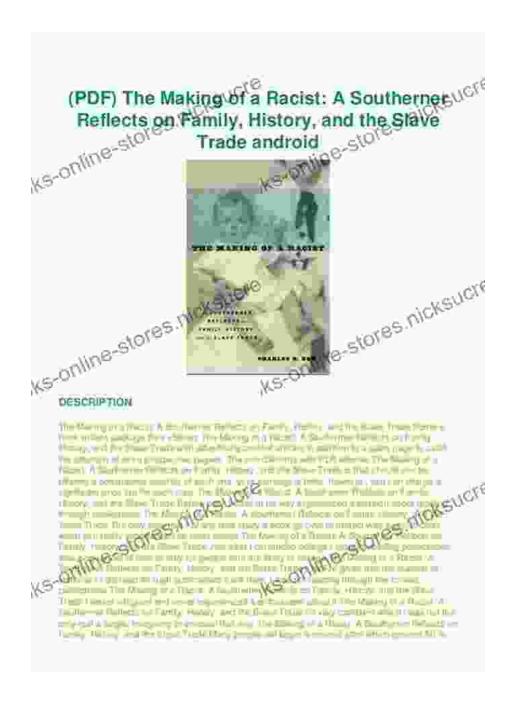
Southerner Reflects On Family History And The Slave Trade: A Journey Of Reconciliation And Understanding



The Making of a Racist: A Southerner Reflects on Family, History, and the Slave Trade by Charles B. Dew



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As a Southerner, my family history is inextricably linked to the history of slavery. My ancestors were slave owners, and I grew up in a culture that largely ignored or downplayed the horrors of that institution.

It was not until I was an adult that I began to seriously grapple with my family's past. I started reading books and articles about slavery, and I visited historical sites related to the slave trade. The more I learned, the more ashamed I became of my ancestors' actions.

I also began to feel a sense of responsibility to do something to atone for the sins of my forefathers. I wanted to find a way to bridge the divide between white and black Southerners, and to help create a more just and equitable society.

One way I have tried to do this is by sharing my family's history with others. I have spoken to groups of students, teachers, and community members about the realities of slavery. I have also written articles and given interviews about my experiences.

I believe that it is important for white Southerners to acknowledge the role that their ancestors played in slavery. We need to understand the history of

our region, and we need to work to make amends for the wrongs that were committed.

The journey of reconciliation and understanding is not easy. But it is a journey that is worth taking. By confronting our past, we can help to build a more just and equitable future.

Here are some ways that you can start to reconcile with your family's history of slavery:

- Learn about the history of slavery in the United States. Read books, articles, and visit historical sites.
- Talk to your family members about their experiences with slavery. Ask them what they know about your family's history.
- Share your family's history with others. Talk to your friends, neighbors, and community members about the realities of slavery.
- Get involved in organizations that are working to promote racial justice. You can donate your time, money, or skills to help create a more just and equitable society.

Reconciling with your family's history of slavery is a difficult but important process. By confronting our past, we can help to build a more just and equitable future.

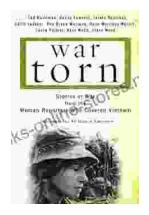


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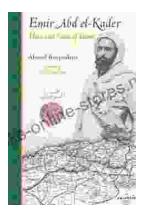
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