

BIRTH OF THE AMERICAN DREAM

Four Immigrant Families
Nine Generations
The Middle-Class Struggle

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This is the creation story of four immigrant families who left the chaos of Europe, journeyed across America and settled in a frontier town in the Des Moines River valley. It becomes the story of the middle-class struggle in America, from the initial migrants in their quest for land to the migration of their landless children into the towns and cities, through the violent labor turmoil of the early twentieth century and the culmination of their dream in the 1950s.

Beginning with the exodus of George Hull from England, the story follows the successes and failures of the Hull family over nine generations as they wind their way across the American continent. Joined by families from Ireland and Poland, the story chronicles the hardships of financial depressions, disease and war and how these families, along with the Sauk and Meskwaki, came to live in the same Des Moines River valley.

The story spans three hundred years, including the forced removal of the American Indians to the labor strikes pitting the Hull family against the Thomas Dove Foster family, who brought their wealth and factories from England during the massive investment of British capital in the Victorian Era.

Part history, part biography, part memoir, *Birth of the American Dream* is about the hopes of four families and the birth of the middle class. The editor of *Annals of Iowa* has submitted the book for consideration for the Benjamin Shambaugh Award, the State Historical Society of Iowa's annual award for "the most significant book on Iowa history published during the year."

Birth of the American Dream is available only on Amazon in both paperback at \$14.99 and Kindle version at \$5.99.

<https://www.amazon.com/Birth-American-Dream-Generations-Middle-Class/dp/1975914643/>