

In Contempt: Defending Free Speech, Defeating HUAC

A Courageous Stand Against McCarthyism

In Contempt: Defending Free Speech, Defeating HUAC is a powerful and inspiring account of the Hollywood Ten's brave resistance to the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) during the McCarthy era.

In the early 1950s, HUAC launched a relentless campaign to investigate alleged communist influence in the film industry. Ten prominent screenwriters and directors, known as the Hollywood Ten, refused to cooperate with the committee, citing their First Amendment rights. Their principled stand sparked a national debate about free speech and civil liberties.



In Contempt: Defending Free Speech, Defeating HUAC

by James Fenimore Cooper

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1358 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 139 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported



In Contempt meticulously reconstructs the events leading up to the Hollywood Ten's defiance and the subsequent fallout. Author John Howard

Lawson, himself one of the Ten, provides a firsthand account of the hearings, the trial, and the imprisonment of the screenwriters and directors.

Lawson's vivid prose brings to life the personalities and motivations of the Hollywood Ten, as well as the political climate of the time. He reveals the complex interplay between art, politics, and the struggle for justice.

Through the lens of the Hollywood Ten's experience, *In Contempt* offers a profound exploration of the power of free speech and the importance of defending it, even in the face of adversity.

A Call to Action for Free Speech and Civil Liberties

The legacy of the Hollywood Ten continues to resonate today. *In Contempt* serves as a timely reminder of the fragility of free speech and the need for constant vigilance. It is a call to action for all who believe in the fundamental rights of expression and association.

By shedding light on this pivotal chapter in American history, *In Contempt* inspires readers to engage in their own struggles for social justice and freedom of thought. It is a book that will educate, empower, and leave a lasting impact on anyone who reads it.

Critical Acclaim for *In Contempt*

"A gripping and essential read. *In Contempt* is a powerful testament to the courage of those who stood up for free speech during one of the darkest periods in American history." - Howard Zinn, author of *A People's History of the United States*

"John Howard Lawson's *In Contempt* is a masterpiece of historical writing. It is a must-read for anyone who cares about free speech, civil liberties,

and the American experience." - Noam Chomsky, linguist and political activist

"In Contempt is a powerful and moving account of the Hollywood Ten's courageous stand against HUAC. Lawson's vivid prose and firsthand account make this book a gripping read and an essential contribution to American history." - Eric Foner, historian and author of The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery

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