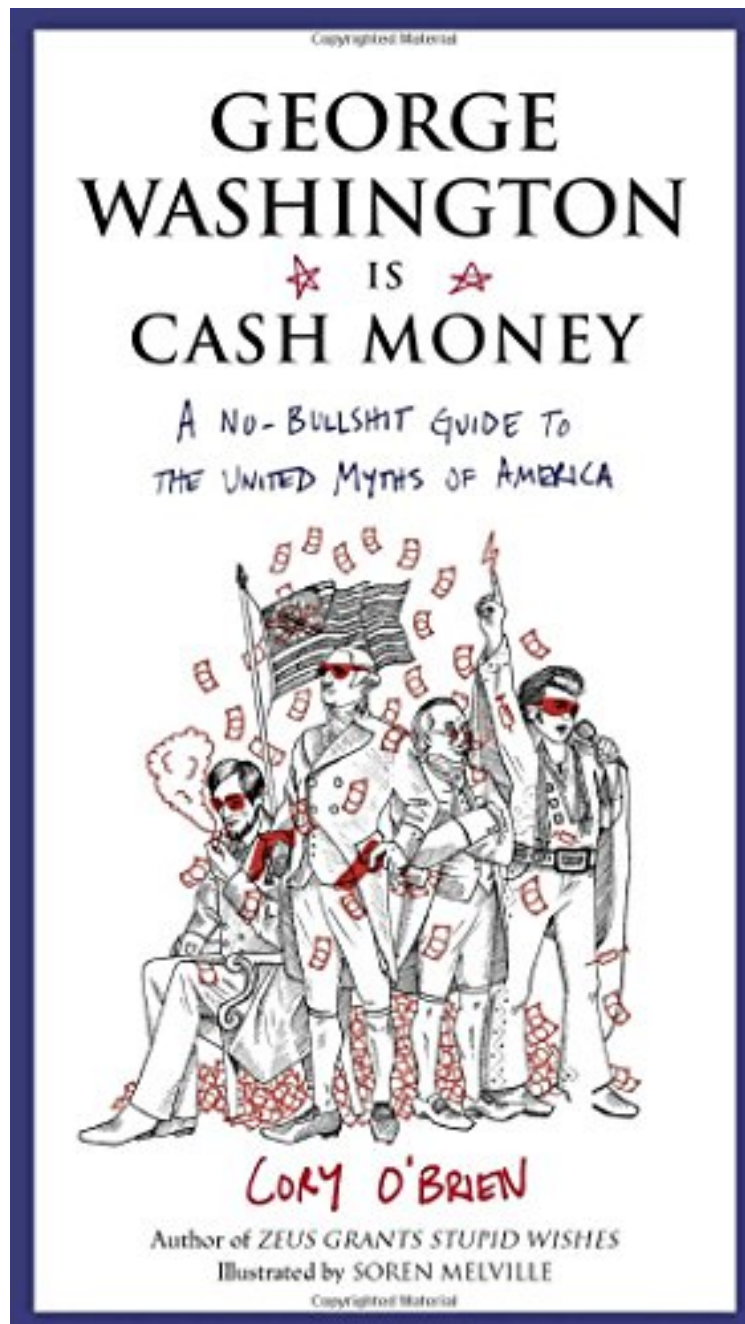


# George Washington Is Cash Money: A No-Bullshit Guide to the United Myths of America

Cory O'Brien

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## **Cory O'Brien : George Washington Is Cash Money: A No-Bullshit Guide to the United Myths of America**

before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised George Washington Is Cash Money: A No-Bullshit Guide to the United Myths of America:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. O'Brien is like a sea of wonderfulness rushing over the dismal headlands ...By Jon GilbertO'Brien is like a sea of wonderfulness rushing over the dismal headlands of stolid, boring history and carrying with it a deluge of life-bringing urban styling in an otherwise bleak and arid factual wasteland. The kids in my house especially love when I read it to them in a clipped, staccato voice right before bed.What I'm saying here is, this read is as fresh and cheery as a stick of deodorant with a dryer sheet wrapped around it. It's fun to read and, while as true as I'm sure he's willing to research before spinning off onto an extinction-level ADD distraction, re-adds the air of mysticism and unknowingness of lore and legends that the relatively new American country lacks.I bet I'm not doing my kids ANY favors by reading this out loud to them.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very Engaging look at US History. Read it!!By oxoneOzoneI love this look at American history. O'Brien has a very sophisticated sense of irony plus a delicious depth of knowledge. Great U.S. history of economics and the underbelly of how the USA functions. I have recommended it to my high school students even though it has 'language' included. (Ha!As if teens have not heard all of this talk before.) But they enjoy reading it and I am grateful to find a version of US history which engages them on so many levels. O'Brien does not fool around. He knows his stuff and lays it out in the most engaging ways. For my money this is the best version of the US history as viewed in the hit Broadway musical 'Hamilton' this side of 42nd Street! Read it!3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Lots of funBy Jen LThis book is pretty hilarious. Like O'Brien's other book, Zeus Grants Stupid Wishes, it's sort of how Reddit might tell American history/mythology. You have to have a pretty high level of irreverence to appreciate it, but if you have that, there's a lot to laugh at.

**PREPARE TO BE BEAKED BY THE MAJESTIC EAGLE OF HISTORY** Most of us are familiar with the greatest hits and legendary heroes of US history. In *George Washington Is Cash Money*, Cory OBrien, author of *Zeus Grants Stupid Wishes*, does away with the pomp and circumstance and calls Americas history what it is: one long, violent soap opera. In his signature clever, crude, and cuss-ridden style, OBrien reminds us that: Teddy Roosevelt stopped bullets with his manly chest Harriet Tubman avoided danger by having prophetic seizures. Joseph Smith invented Mormonism by staring into a hat full of rocks. Billy the Kid was finally defeated by the smell of fresh bacon. And theres plenty more Star Spangled stupidity where that came from.

Praise for *Zeus Grants Stupid Wishes*I was giggling by the first page and full blown LOLing by the first myth. Its really that funny.Electric FeastIt is in fact the not-so-delicate, in-your-face attitude, sarcasm, and black humor that have made this book an instant standout against the other mythology chronicles of its time.The Blue GoldAbout the AuthorCory OBrienis a word-wizard and technohipster of the first degree and the creator of *Myths Retold!* (BetterMyths.com), as well as the author of *Zeus Grants Stupid Wishes* and *George Washington is Cash Money*. He reads and writes mythology, science fiction, and computer code. He has camped with gypsies, juggled for food, and driven across the country in a car powered by vegetable oil. Now he lives in Chicago, where he recently graduated with an MFA in writing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Cory's dream is to one day travel to Mars, or at least to own a jacket made entirely of pockets.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.Benjamin Franklin Is the God of Lightning I know what youre expecting because I know how books like this usually go. Im supposed to tick off the Founding Fathers one by one and tell you what assholes they all actually are. You know why popular history likes to do this? Because everyone loves to see their heroes look bad and if you have enough information about a dude it is SUPER EASY to make him look like a dingus. BAM INSTANT BESTSELLER. I did it with Christopher Columbus because hes terrible and I did it with George Washington cause hes the colonial equivalent of a trust fund kid but now its time to talk about Ben Franklin and I wont do it. Its not that I cant make Big Ben look like a prick. Dude may have (definitely) hit on his best bros girl while his bro was out of town one time and he may have (definitely) refused to marry a lady because her parents wouldnt pay off ALL HIS DEBT and he may have (definitely) cheated on his wife and then fathered a son who eventually fought against him in the revolution but when the best dirt historians can dig up on you is that you had a lot of extramarital sex well, at worst youre the Zeus of the thirteen colonies. Ben gets born in Boston around 1706 which means he had exactly seventy years to become enough of a ruckus-causer to spark off the American Revolution. Yeah imagine your granddad banging hookers in France while simultaneously negotiating military treaties and maybe then youll understand why I like this guy. Anyway he gets born he works for his brother as a printer for a while teaches himself writing (because hes too poor for college) and then goes fuck this and moves to Philly because he hears they have dope sandwiches. In Philly, he keeps being a printer and hes so goddamn good at it (spoiler: Ben Franklin is good at EVERYTHING) that pretty soon dudes are just handing him cash to buy his own press and start his own business. So now he becomes a master printer buys a couple

slaves (but dont worry, he frees them later and he doesnt even have to die first!) and starts a newspaper which he uses to manipulate the opinions of Philadelphias ENTIRE GOVERNMENT. He also starts a weekly discussion group which gets so popular that each member starts his own discussion group and from that point on Ben Franklin owns Philadelphia. Let me explain how this works: Anytime Benjamin Franklin wants a thing to happen the first thing he does is write a paper about it then he reads it in his discussion group and then he gives it to each of his members and has them read it in their discussion group then he publishes it in his newspaper which is the most popular newspaper in the city and then when everybody is talking about his plan he goes to the assembly (which he is also the clerk of, coincidentally) and is like Hey, guys it seems like everybody wants this thing to happen maybe you should do it. BOOM. POLITICS. He uses this technique to get a night watch a fire department a militia a hospital a university paved roads and a library (while also securing himself a contract to print ALL THE MONEY IN PENNSYLVANIA). You couldnt throw a rock down a street without hitting a public service attributable to him and even if you did your rock would be quickly swept up by the street sweepers Franklin employed. So obviously he becomes unreasonably wealthy and he tries to retire but everyone is like NOPE YOU HAVE TO BE IN THE ASSEMBLY NOW and hes like Aw man, really? I was looking forward to a life of leisure just doin science and hot chicks forever. But he does it anyway. Then when shit starts getting crazy in the colonies he goes to England and hes like Guys, maybe we should make a deal where you dont act like you can make laws for us and we maybe dont kill all your guys and the British are like PISH POSH and Bens like Okay maybe stop being British for a sec and just listen to me and the British are like BALDERDASH and Ben is like Okay, well I guess Im gonna go tell France to kill you now and the French (who at this time in history will take ANY opportunity to screw with England) are like OUI OUI and Ben is like God dammit Im surrounded by foreigners. But Franklin is not content simply to challenge the British Empire he has to challenge THE GODS THEMSELVES specifically Zeus, god of lightning presumably because he didnt like the competition when it came to illegitimate sexytimes. So Ben decides to find out whats up with electricity which means he has to take a break from single-handedly inventing Philadelphia to run some experiments and it turns out that there is one particular experiment that everyone else is too much of a weenie to run and that is the experiment that will finally answer the age-old question: IS LIGHTNING MADE OF ELECTRICITY???? COME ON COME THE FUCK ON ITS LIGHTNING. WHEN YOU GET HIT BY LIGHTNING IT GOES BZZT AND YOUR SKIN GOES TRANSPARENT AND EVERYONE CAN SEE YOUR BONES HOW IS THIS NOT OBVIOUS? Man, the past is dumb. But Big Ben Franklin is NOT so he does the smartest possible thing which is to make a kite out of metal and silk attach a key to the bottom and go out in a lightning storm. This guy is on our money, America. Not only is he on our money hes on a denomination of money that Im not even rich enough to possess. Anyway, this experiment is a great success Benjamin Franklin finally proves that lightning is the only thing it could possibly be and he writes a paper about it and sends it to the Royal Society of London and theyre all like POPPYCOCK! LIGHTNING IS MADE OF GLOWING BEES EVERYONE KNOWS THAT. And they refuse to acknowledge the experiment until some French dudes run it better. This brings to mind an old adage: Early to bed and early to rise will not make you as cool as Benjamin Franklin. SLEEP LATE HAVE SEX.