



## Ida Tarbell: Portrait of a Muckraker

By Kathleen Brady

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### Ida Tarbell: Portrait of a Muckraker By Kathleen Brady

In this first definitive biography of Ida Tarbell, Kathleen Brady has written a readable and widely acclaimed book about one of America's great journalists.

Ida Tarbell's generation called her "a muckraker" (the term was Theodore Roosevelt's, and he didn't intend it as a compliment), but in our time she would have been known as "an investigative reporter," with the celebrity of Woodward and Bernstein. By any description, Ida Tarbell was one of the most powerful women of her time in the United States: admired, feared, hated. When her *History of the Standard Oil Company* was published, first in *McClure's Magazine* and then as a book (1904), it shook the Rockefeller interests, caused national outrage, and led the Supreme Court to fragment the giant monopoly.

A journalist of extraordinary intelligence, accuracy, and courage, she was also the author of the influential and popular books on Napoleon and Abraham Lincoln, and her hundreds of articles dealt with public figures such as Louis Pateur and Emile Zola, and contemporary issues such as tariff policy and labor. During her long life, she knew Teddy Roosevelt, Jane Addams, Henry James, Samuel McClure, Lincoln Stephens, Herbert Hoover, and many other prominent Americans. She achieved more than almost any woman of her generation, but she was an antisuffragist, believing that the traditional roles of wife and mother were more important than public life. She ultimately defended the business interests she had once attacked.

To this day, her opposition to women's rights disturbs some feminists. Kathleen Brady writes of her: "[She did not have] the flinty stuff of which the cutting edge of any revolution is made. . . . Yet she was called to achievement in a day when women were called only to exist. Her triumph was that she succeeded. Her tragedy was that she was never to know it."

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Kathleen Brady brings to life the personality of Ida Tarbell, queen of the muckrakers, who was one of the first women to break the gender gap in American journalism. . . . [An] eminently balanced biography."

--*New York Times*

"Tarbell epitomizes the achieving women who is not a feminist. With her lithe, sympathetic, factual book, Brady helps us understand how that can be. A bitter lesson; but it keeps your eyes open; also your heart."

—Susan Dworkin, *Ms.* magazine

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#### Jordan Weatherspoon:

Often the book *Ida Tarbell: Portrait of a Muckraker* has a lot details on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was published by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research prior to write this book. This particular book very easy to read you can find the point easily after scanning this book.

#### Debra Riggs:

The reason? Because this *Ida Tarbell: Portrait of a Muckraker* is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap that but latter it will surprise you with the secret it inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such awesome way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book get such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

#### Haley Thacker:

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