



Title: Educated: A Memoir

Author: Tara Westover

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BOOK RESUME: EDUCATED

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Heart-wrenching . . . a beautiful testament to the power of education to open eyes and change lives." —Amy Chua, *The New York Times Book Review*

"Westover is a keen and honest guide to the difficulties of filial love, and to the enchantment of embracing a life of the mind." —*The New Yorker*

"Extraordinary . . . an act of courage and self-invention." —*The New York Times*

"Westover's one-of-a-kind memoir is about the shaping of a mind. . . . In briskly paced prose, she evokes a childhood that completely defined her. Yet it was also, she gradually sensed, deforming her." —*The Atlantic*

"Whether narrating scenes of fury and violence or evoking rural landscapes or tortured self-analysis, Westover writes with uncommon intelligence and grace. . . . One of the most improbable and fascinating journeys I've read in recent years." —*Newsday*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Winner of a 2019 American Library Association Alex Award
- Finalist for the 2018 National Book Critics Circle's Award for Autobiography
- Finalist for the 2018 National Book Critics Circle's John Leonard Prize for Best First Book
- Finalist for the 2018 *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for Autobiography
- Finalist for the 2019 PEN/Jean Stein Book Award
- Named One of the Ten Best Books of the Year by *The New York Times Book Review*
- Named One of the Best Books of the Year by: *The Washington Post*, *Time*, NPR, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Guardian*, *The Economist*, *Financial Times*, *Newsday*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Library Journal*, *LibraryReads*, New York Public Library, and more

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*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Teacher's Guide](#)
- [First-Year & Common Reading Guide](#)
- [Discussion Guide](#)
- [Tara Westover's Special Message to Students](#)
- [Tara Westover at the 2019 Conference on The First-Year Experience®](#)
- [Tara Westover speaking to students and teachers](#)

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