

Heather Cox Richardson is Professor of History at Boston College and an expert in nineteenth-century America, specializing in politics and economics. She has written about the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, and the American West in books whose subjects stretch from the European settlement of the North American continent to the history of the Republican Party through the Trump administration.

Her nightly newsletter, *Letters from an American*, chronicles current events in the larger context of American history. Launched in September 2019 on Facebook, the newsletter is now hosted on Substack, where it is one of the platform's most popular publications. She has been called the "breakout star of the newsletter platform Substack," and has built a devoted following for her thoughtful, concise, and deeply informed rendering of the news of the day.

Her new book, *Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America*, will be published in September. *Kirkus* has praised it as "a fresh historical interpretation of American democracy and its many challenges."

Heather has written widely for popular publications and is a national commentator on American political history and the Republican Party. Her work has appeared in *The Guardian*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *Quartz*, among other publications, and she has been a columnist for [Salon.com](https://www.salon.com). She and Joanne Freeman co-host the podcast, *Now and Then*, on the Vox Media network, and it has become one of the network's most popular programs.

Heather has been honored with the 2021 Ruth Ratner Miller Memorial Award for Excellence in American History from the Concord Free Library and the Massachusetts Governor's Award in the Humanities, and shared the Intelligence and Courage Award from the Frances Perkins Center with Senator Elizabeth Warren. In 2022, *USA Today* named her one of their national Women of the Year.

She is the author of six books on history and American politics. *How the South Won the Civil War: Oligarchy, Democracy, and the Continuing Fight for the Soul of America* was named one of the *Washington Post*'s 50 Notable Works of Nonfiction and was honored with the Robert M. Utley Book Prize from the Western History Association. Her other books include a history of the Republican Party, *To Make Men Free: A History of the Republican Party, West from Appomattox: The Reconstruction of America after the Civil War*, *Wounded Knee: Party Politics and the Road to an American Massacre*, *The Death of Reconstruction*, and *The Greatest Nation of the Earth: Republican Economic Policies during the Civil War*.