

# American Tempest

HARLOW GILES UNGER

READ BY WILLIAM HUGHES

Boston, December 1773—An estimated seven dozen men dumped £10,000 worth of tea in the harbor, unleashing a social, political, and economic firestorm that would culminate in the Declaration of Independence. The Boston Tea Party provoked a reign of terror in the colonies, the turmoil stripping tens of thousands of Americans of their dignity, homes, properties, and birthrights—in the name of liberty and independence. Still, John Adams called the Tea Party nothing short of “magnificent.”

Today, few Americans could name even one of the participants in the Boston Tea Party, or any of its important consequences. The acute shortage of tea helped transform Americans into coffee drinkers, but its effects went far beyond culinary tastes. The Tea Party helped spawn a new, independent nation whose citizens would govern themselves.

**“Harlow Giles Unger has taken a much-written-about subject from America’s past and looked at it with fresh eyes, finding insights and drawing conclusions that will startle not a few people.”**

—Thomas Fleming, *New York Times* bestselling author

**HARLOW GILES UNGER**, a former distinguished visiting fellow in American history at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, is a veteran journalist, broadcaster, educator, and historian. His books include *The Last Founding Father* and four other biographies of America’s Founding Fathers, as well as many more. He lives in New York.

**WILLIAM HUGHES** is a professor of political science at Southern Oregon University in Ashland, Oregon. He received his doctorate in American politics from the University of California, Davis. He has done voice-over work for radio and film and is also an accomplished jazz guitarist.

Running Time: 8 Hours • Unabridged

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