

WALT  
WHITMAN'S  
AMERICA

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*A Cultural Biography*

DAVID S. REYNOLDS



ALFRED A. KNOPF NEW YORK 1995

May 31, 1819 b.  
MAR 26, 1892 d.

Spent 28 yrs in Brooklyn  
Long Island  
Candor  
Manhattan

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C-SPAN AIR DATE

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1836

Jesse -  
Mary - 15  
Hannah - 13  
Andrew - 9  
George - 6  
Jeff - 3  
Eddy - 9 mos.

1837 - Depression

Melville

Emerson

Thoreau

My Captain, My Captain  
Grounded in Quakerism

Was he a womanizer

Was he a homosexual

What was the "I" of his poetry

Relationship between Emerson and Whitman

Sister - Mary

Brother - Jesse

Slavery - a big issue for Whitman

Was Whitman ever an orator - what Henry (Becher's Hand)

What were the antebellum years

South hold - The trouble - gay experience with boys  
never appeared in Whitman biography p 71-72

Leaves of Grass - 1st edition 1855/1856

Know Nothing - 1845-1855 - 3 million immigrants

Irish were pro-slavery - potato famine

361. David Reynolds  
Walt Whitman's America

Taped: 4/4/96

Aired: 4/28/96

Tape #: 63648

How much did he write in his life

Leaves of Grass

1855 / 1860 / 1871-12 / 1876 / 1881-82 / 1888 / 1891

Worked for the govern.

Lincoln Lectures

Wanted to be a popular speaker

WALT WHITMAN'S AMERICA

- Railroad - 1829
- rubber overshoe 1830
- street railway 1831
- steam press for newspapers 1835
- ice box 1839
- daguerrotype 1839

BOOKNOTES  
1996-04-28

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