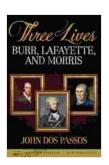
### Three Lives: Burr, Lafayette, and Morris

The American Revolution was a pivotal moment in world history. It marked the birth of the United States of America and the beginning of a new era of democracy. Among the many individuals who played a role in this momentous event, three stand out for their unique contributions: Aaron Burr, Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, and Robert Morris.



#### Three Lives: Burr, Lafayette, and Morris by Jerome G. Morse

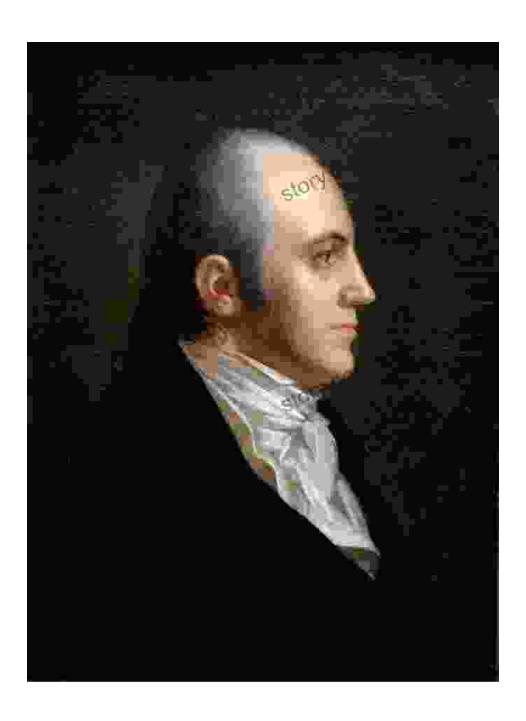
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#### **Aaron Burr**

Aaron Burr was born in Newark, New Jersey, in 1756. His father, the Reverend Aaron Burr, was a prominent Presbyterian minister. Burr's mother, Esther Edwards, was the daughter of the renowned theologian Jonathan Edwards. Burr graduated from the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University) in 1772 and went on to study law. In 1775, he joined the Continental Army and fought in several key battles, including the Battle of Long Island and the Battle of Monmouth.

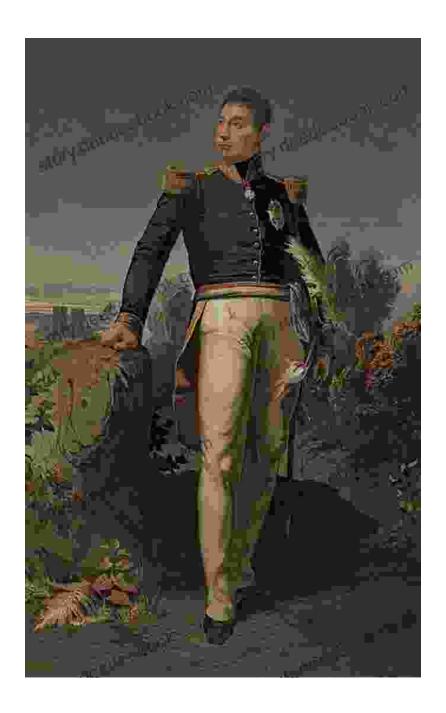
After the war, Burr served in the Continental Congress and as a state assemblyman in New York. In 1800, he was elected Vice President of the United States, serving under Thomas Jefferson. In 1804, Burr killed his political rival Alexander Hamilton in a duel. He was tried for murder but acquitted. Burr later fled to Europe, where he lived for several years before returning to the United States in 1812.



Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette

Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, was born in Chavaniac, France, in 1757. He was the son of a wealthy aristocratic family. Lafayette joined the French army in 1776 and volunteered to fight in the American Revolution. He arrived in America in 1777 and quickly became a close friend and aidede-camp to George Washington. Lafayette fought in several key battles, including the Battle of Brandywine and the Battle of Yorktown.

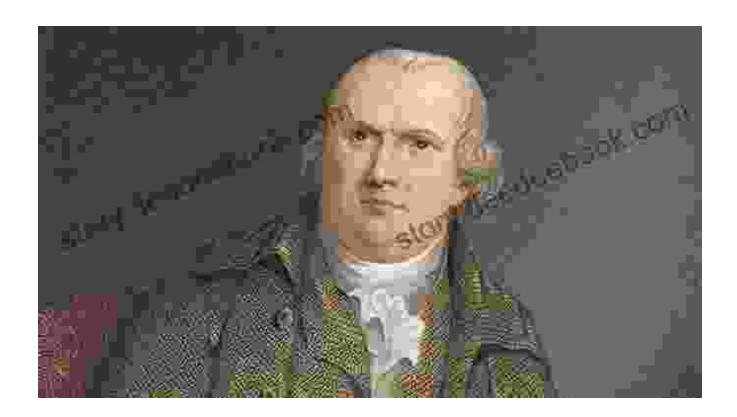
After the war, Lafayette returned to France. He served in the French National Assembly and fought in the French Revolution. In 1792, he was forced to flee France and spent several years in exile. Lafayette returned to France in 1799 and served in the Napoleonic Wars. He died in Paris in 1834.



#### **Robert Morris**

Robert Morris was born in Liverpool, England, in 1734. He immigrated to America in 1754 and settled in Philadelphia. Morris became a successful merchant and financier. In 1776, he was elected to the Continental Congress. Morris served as Superintendent of Finance from 1781 to 1784 and was largely responsible for financing the American Revolution.

After the war, Morris served in the United States Senate and as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention. In 1789, he was appointed the first Secretary of the Treasury. Morris served in this role until 1795. He died in Philadelphia in 1806.

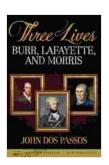


#### The Intertwined Lives of Burr, Lafayette, and Morris

The lives of Aaron Burr, Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, and Robert Morris were intertwined in many ways. All three men were born into wealthy families. All three men fought in the American Revolution. All three men served in the Continental Congress. All three men held high positions in the United States government.

Despite their similarities, Burr, Lafayette, and Morris were very different men. Burr was a brilliant but ruthless politician. Lafayette was a selfless idealist. Morris was a shrewd businessman. Despite their differences, these three men worked together to achieve a common goal: the birth of the United States of America.

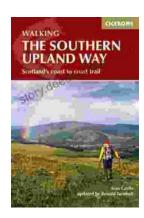
The stories of Burr, Lafayette, and Morris are a testament to the power of human ambition and the importance of collaboration. These three men came from different backgrounds and had different personalities, but they were all united by a shared desire to create a better world.



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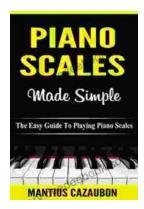
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