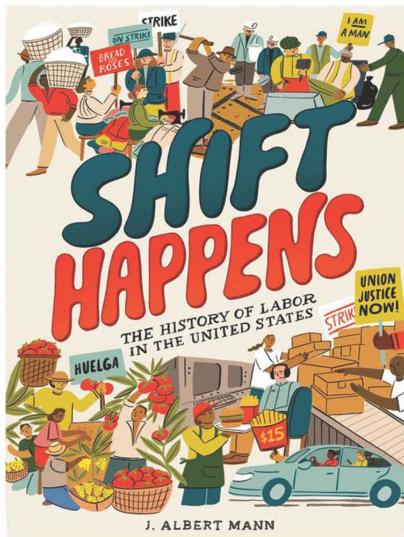


# SHIFT HAPPENS: The History of Labor in the United States

By J. Albert Mann



You need to work to live.

That's the truth for most people, and plenty of people in power have been abusing that truth for centuries.

Long before the first labor unions were formed, workers still knew what exploitation looked like. It looked like the enslavement of Black people. It looked like generations of children dying in dangerous jobs. It looked like wealthy people hiring private militaries to attack their employees.

But workers have always found a way to fight back. Lokono tribespeople resisted Columbus and his colonizers. Enslaved people led walkouts and rebellions. Textile workers demanded a wage that would let them have fun, not just survive. Miners died for the right to unionize. From 30,000 young seamstresses striking in the early 1900s to Uber drivers organizing for change today, people have learned we're stronger when we are united.

Shift Happens is a smart, funny, and engaging look at the history of the worker actions that brought us weekends, pay equality, desegregation, an end to child labor, and so much more.

**Join us for a virtual book club** featuring a charming young adult book perfect for learning and teaching U.S. Labor History. The author will lead the discussion and share resources, including an NCSS outline to accompany the book. MTA Reads is offering audiobooks and e-books to members using the Libby app.



**Shift Happens Book Club**

**Wednesday April 9, 2025**

**4 - 5:30pm – ZOOM**

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