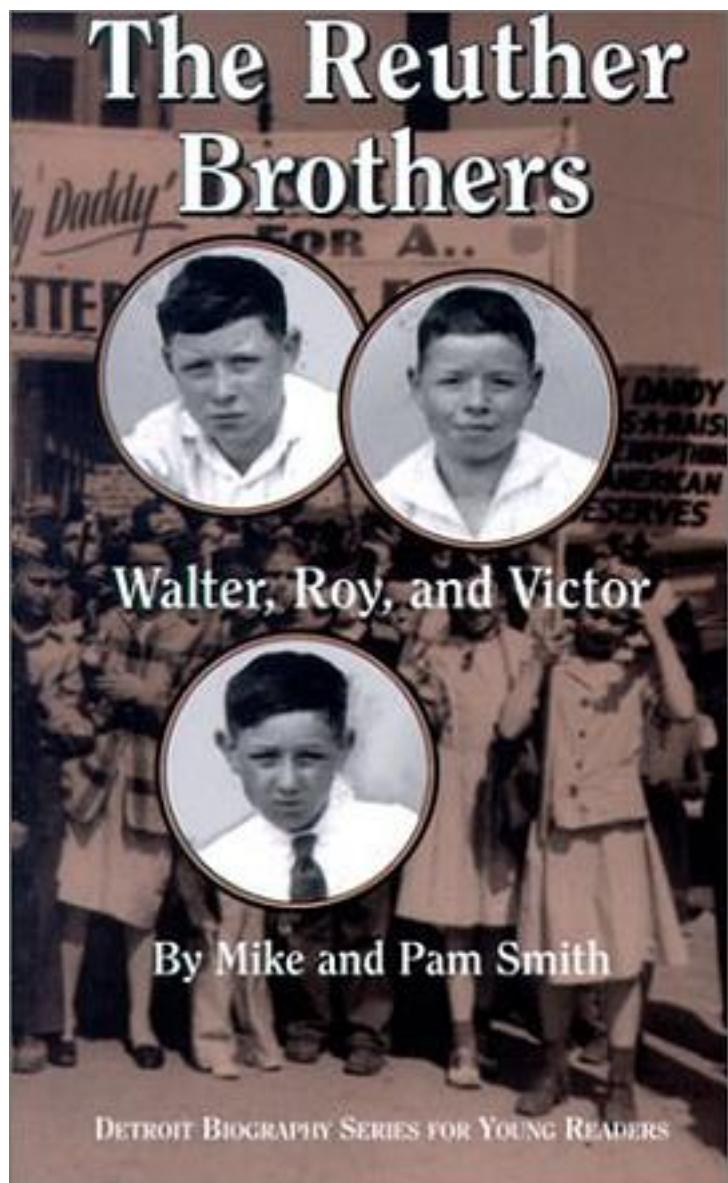


The Reuther Brothers



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The tale of the Reuther brothers -- Walter, Roy, and Victor -- is more than a story of how one of America's great unions was created. It is also a powerful example of how teamwork, dedication, and concern for others can improve the lives of many people. This book portrays the brothers' lifelong commitment to each other and to workers' rights, while charting the career paths that ultimately led each one to his involvement with the United Automobile Workers (UAW). As president of the UAW from 1946-70, Walter Reuther became one of the most important labor leaders in American history. As sons of poor German immigrants in Wheeling, West Virginia, the three brothers had to work hard and help each other learn skills that would earn money for their family. Also, their father taught them the importance of education and being able to speak up for their rights. Walter was the first to enter the auto industry, having become an expert die maker. But as he and his brothers began to earn money, they did not ignore the poverty of others or the widespread social problems of their country. In a clear, lively narration that explains many important concepts to young readers, this book describes a string of fascinating events, including Walter and Victor's trip to Nazi Germany, their days spent teaching in a Soviet factory, and the strikes they organized in the United States. Against the background of the Depression and the Civil Rights movement, The Reuther Brothers helps readers to understand the ongoing struggles for economic and social justice.

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