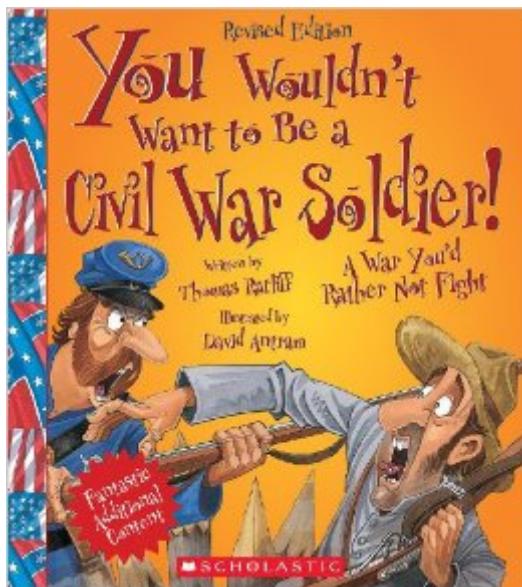


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You Wouldn't Want To Be A Civil War Soldier!



Synopsis

Its 1861. War has broken out between the United States and the Confederate States of America, and you have answered President Lincolns call for volunteers to fight for the Union. What are your chances of surviving Americas bloodiest war? This new extended edition includes a Civil War timeline, details of major battles, and fascinating information on the role of women in the Civil War.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 950 (What's this?)

Series: You Wouldn't Want to...

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Childrens Pr; Revised edition (January 15, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0531245039

ISBN-13: 978-0531245033

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #50,973 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > Civil War Era #40 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars #4368 inÂ Books > History

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

The good: I liked the approach, "You wouldn't want to be a Civil War soldier - a war you'd rather not fight." After 35+ years of reading about the subject, I have come to the same conclusion. I also liked the humorous style. It seems wholly original to me. The bad: It's flawed in a number of places...The cover - Are those modern rifle *cartridges* flying through the air, not the bullets? I suspect the artist, David Antram, has never fired a real gun or he'd know better! The minie ball is an important part of Civil War knowledge - why not depict it? Page 5: A Confederate naval ensign (the rectangular flag) is shown crossed with the Union flag. More accurate to show a Confederate battle flag, which was square. Page 7: The protagonist is shown wearing Ambrose Burnside "wraparound" sideburns and mustache. This is very atypical facial hair in the Civil War. Better to show a full beard - or, since the reader is likely to be a child - no facial hair. Page 12 and page 21: Black men are shown in white

Union army regiments. In fact, they were segregated. This, I suspect, is a nod towards political correctness. Page 17: The Battle of Antietam is depicted in mud or brown dirt with fortifications. In fact, the battle was fought on farmland - no fortifications. Page 19: The Gettysburg hand-to-hand combat was fought in the woods, not on a dirt field as depicted. Page 20: I wear wool uniforms when I reenact the Civil War. They are not itchy. Page 20: Robert E. Lee is shown with dark hair. In fact, it was white. By the way... on pages 22 and 23 there is lots of blood shown in a hospital scene. In fact, in the library copy I used, somebody (parent? librarian?) taped the pages shut. Naturally, I untaped them.

We are a family of avid readers from oldest to youngest (even though he can't quite read well for himself yet). As homeschoolers, we are always trying to find books to supplement our favorite subject: history. We especially look for history books that we can read to the preschooler to draw him into what we're learning in history. Since it's just too much to review every book we've read in this series, I'm going to do a combination review of this book and the series as a whole right here. **THIS BOOK:** This particular volume is taken from the perspective of a Union soldier. It is rather obvious from the cover that the soldier is on the Union side, but I think I would have preferred the title to delineate that a little more. Or, better yet, I think it might have been neat to devote half the book to each side for the balance of perspectives. However, within the book there is some description of both sides and of some of the similarities and differences. And, all in all, I liked the perspective of it, incorporating side-specific information. All in all, I found this perfect for what it is: a picture book with basic information on what it meant to be a Union soldier in the US Civil War. **SERIES:** This series covers such a wide range of history that we can easily find 10 books per year that fit into what we're learning. Each book gives a glimpse or overview of the topic covered. They are not written in story form, but in interesting fact form, so frequently they throw in tidbits that you don't typically find in a normal history book. They are also appropriate for just about every age. My youngest is captivated even at four, my girls at 8 and 10 devour them over and over again, and my husband and I can't wait to read each new book. So far we have not found one that we dislike.

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