



# Fields of Fury: The American Civil War

By James M. McPherson

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Pulitzer Prize award-winning historian James M. McPherson has written for young readers a stirring account of the greatest conflict to happen on our nation's soil, the Civil War, bringing to life the tragic struggle that divided not only a nation, but also friends and family. From the initial Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, to the devastating loss of life at Shiloh as Ulysses S. Grant led the Union to unexpected victory, to the brilliance of Stonewall Jackson's campaign at Shenandoah, to General Pickett's famous charge at Gettysburg, to the Union's triumph at Appomattox Court House, *Fields of Fury* details the war that helped shape us as a nation.

Also included are personal anecdotes from the soldiers at the battlefield and the civilians at home, as well as profiles of historical luminaries such as Robert E. Lee, Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, and Ulysses S. Grant. McPherson also explores the varied roles that women played during the war, healthcare on the battlefield, and the demise of slavery.

McPherson's narrative is highlighted with black-and-white photographs taken by Civil War photographers Mathew Brady and Timothy O'Sullivan, period oil paintings, and key campaign and battlefield maps, that make *Fields of Fury* the consummate book on the American Civil War for kids.

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## Fields of Fury: The American Civil War By James M. McPherson Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

### Amazon.com Review

Civil War historian James M. McPherson's *Fields of Fury* does for kids what the author's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Battle Cry of Freedom* did for adults.

The well-organized, well-executed, kid-friendly history of the Civil War was a brilliant idea if there ever was one. It's difficult to imagine anyone doing a better job than McPherson at breaking down this complex, interrelated series of events into such compelling and easily digestible chunks. Except for a handful of longer entries, each major battle and section receives a single, concise, two-page spread that includes McPherson's summary and analysis, eyewitness accounts from all sides of the conflict (many from kids!), a few "Quick Facts," as well as carefully chosen maps, photographs, and other illustrations (some of which, appropriately, border on the macabre, a fact kids will appreciate). *Fields of Fury* also includes a glossary, an index, a list of related Web sites, a bibliography, and a timeline in the endpapers.

McPherson succeeds not just by grabbing attention and keeping it, but by doing so with such economy--and never without context that relates each entry back to the whole. (In fact, grownups who lacked the time or interest to weather McPherson's 904-page *Battle Cry* shouldn't be surprised if they find themselves "borrowing" *Fields of Fury* after their kids hit the sack.) (Ages 9 to 12) --*Paul Hughes*

### From School Library Journal

Grade 5-8-A distinguished historian has used his formidable talents to produce a concise, accessible, and appealing history in an attractive format. In 41 well-written one or two page chapters, McPherson summarizes the major facts of the war and relates anecdotes that bring to life the conflict's participants, from the commanders in chief to the soldiers on the front lines. Interspersed with accounts of the principal battles are discussions of other important issues, such as slavery, how the war was financed, the roles of African Americans and women, life on the home front, treatment of prisoners of war, and the effects of Reconstruction. Each chapter contains a sidebar of "quick facts," and the book as a whole is enhanced by a profusion of illustrations, many full page, including vintage black-and-white photographs and drawings, period oil paintings in full color, and color maps depicting the locations of campaigns and battlefields. A good pick for researchers and browsers alike.

*Starr E. Smith, Fairfax County Public Library, VA*

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### From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 6-8. This large-format book provides an attractive and readable introduction to the Civil War. A Pulitzer Prize-winning writer who has published many books on the war, McPherson writes with authority, offering a broad overview as well as many details and anecdotes that give his account a human dimension. A typical double-page spread comprises several paragraphs of text focused on a single topic; a sidebar of quick facts; a small, captioned picture; and a large, full-page picture. The many fine illustrations include period photographs, paintings, prints, some excellent maps and, on the endpapers, a time line of the war. Topics include single battles and leaders as well as broader subjects, such as the Emancipation Proclamation and African American soldiers. Completing the presentation are a lengthy glossary, a bibliography, and a list of recommended Web sites. A good balance of information and illustration on a topic of perennial interest.

*Carolyn Phelan*

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#### **Mary Sims:**

What do you in relation to book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what yours problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy man? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They need to answer that question due to the fact just their can do in which. It said that about e-book. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this particular Fields of Fury: The American Civil War to read.

#### **Barbara Palmer:**

As people who live in the modest era should be change about what going on or data even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe may update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to you is you don't know which one you should start with. This Fields of Fury: The American Civil War is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and want in this era.

#### **Ernest Bryan:**

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition info. Even you love Fields of Fury: The American Civil War, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout men. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its named reading friends.

#### **Curtis Swasey:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray you, why because this Fields of Fury: The American Civil War guide written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written throughout good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and writing skill only for eliminate your own personal hunger then you still uncertainty Fields of Fury: The American Civil War as good book not just by the cover but also by content. This is one e-book that can break don't evaluate book by its deal with, so do you still needing an additional sixth sense to pick this particular!/? Oh come on your studying sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

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