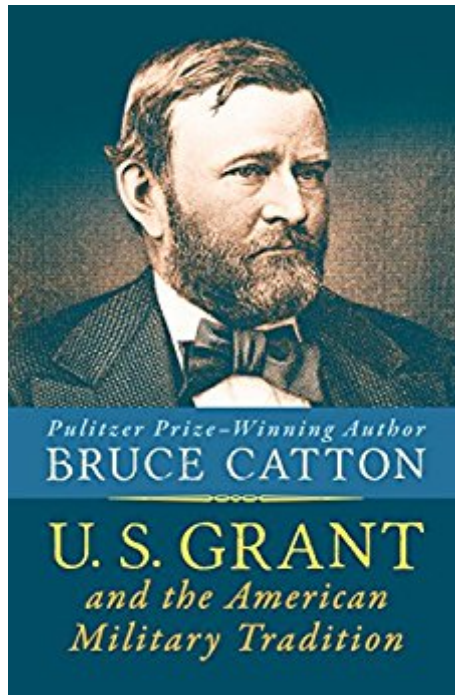


The book was found

U. S. Grant And The American Military Tradition



Synopsis

A fascinating and insightful examination of the life and times of the victorious Civil War general who became a controversial American president. In *U. S. Grant and the American Military Tradition*, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Bruce Catton explores the life and legacy of one of the nation's greatest and most misunderstood heroes, before, during, and after the terrible War Between the States that violently split the country in two. Beginning with Ulysses S. Grant's youth in Ohio and his service as a young lieutenant under General Zachary Taylor in the Mexican-American War, the story continues through Grant's post-war disgrace, his forced resignation for drinking, and his failures as a citizen farmer and salesman. But after the Civil War broke out, Grant rose from the rank of an unknown soldier to commanding general of the US Army, finding redemption as the military savior of the embattled Union. Proving his reputation as America's premiere expert on the Civil War, Catton examines Grant's campaigns in enthralling detail, including Fort Henry; Shiloh; the Siege of Vicksburg, which set the Confederate enemy on the inevitable road to defeat; and Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, which solidified Grant as a figure of national acclaim. Catton then explores Grant's two-term presidency and final years, casting an illuminating new light on a complex and controversial national figure whose great accomplishments have all too often been downplayed or overlooked.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This brass-tacks biography of US Grant, who served as America's finest Civil War general and also two terms as US president, was originally written for young adults. Now it is something of an anomaly, and yet not a bad read for the right audience. Thank you, thank you to Open Road Integrated Media and to Net Galley for providing me with the DRC. This book is available for purchase now. Reading this nifty little book reminded me "not entirely happily" of how much sturdier literacy in the United States stood during the 1950s, when this biography was originally written, compared to now. True, it was a less egalitarian, less inclusive school house that could throw this level of reading at its teenagers, and that is a different debate for a different day. Right now, I just have to tell you that Catton's boiled-down biography is going to be over the heads of most high school students. In addition, there are a couple of slang terms no longer in use that may confuse the reader. I understood one of them "and I was born in the late '50s" but another phrase left me scratching my head. My two fields, when teaching, were literature and US history, primarily the American Civil War and government, so if I don't get it, then high school kids will miss some of it also. The book could be used for honors students, most likely, but is no longer ideally suited to high school students. However, I can see its use today for community college students, and also for adults who are not doing research and don't care to see Mr. Catton's sources or argue his perspective.

Length: Print, 125 pages; Audible, 5 hours 36 minutes. Target Audience/Genre: Nonfiction, American History/Biography. What was the Rank on the date this review was published? 121. Q - How was this book obtained? A " Borrowed through my Kindle Unlimited account. Q - Is this a book that I can read without having to read others first? A " Yes. Q - Are there a lot of typos/misspellings, grammatical errors or other editing failures? A " No, this is professionally written and edited. Q - Is this a fast, easy read or is it more of a leisure read? A " A fast read that is. An enthralling page turner. A classic. Q - What sort of language does this writer use to amplify the points made? A " Plain English. One lone incident referring to dam@ torpedoes, otherwise there is not a single foul word in this book. Q - My biggest pleasure or disappointment? A " This is going to sound picky, or will be derided as appealing to the "politically correct" crowd, but, it does need to be stated: If

this book were to be written in present-day America, the opening chapter might not come across quite so stridently in its bold enthusiastic wistful declaration regarding America's Golden Age. Indigenous peoples, as well as Blacks and Hispanics might disagree with the statement that the land opened by Manifest Destiny did not become equally available to all the people. Otherwise, though, this is a fabulous historical account of one of the great American military leaders. To give a feel for the editing, and the style and flow of this work, I am posting a brief excerpt below. Excerpt Always the human tide flowed west.

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