



Guts & Glory: The American Civil War

By Ben Thompson

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Tremendous battles, dangerous operations, fearless spies, and legendary heroes from America's deadliest conflict!

From courageous cavalry rides deep into enemy territory to harrowing covert missions undertaken by spies and soldiers, the events of the American Civil War were filled with daring figures and amazing feats. This exhilarating overview covers the biggest battles as well as captivating lesser-known moments to entertain kids with unbelievable (and totally true) tales of one of America's most fascinating conflicts.

History buff, Civil War reenactor, and popular blogger Ben Thompson uses his extensive knowledge and vivid storytelling style to bring the Civil War to life in this first book in a thrilling new series featuring incredible people, events, and civilizations. Get ready to learn just how awesome history can be!

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–7—In this first of a series, history buff and reenactor Thompson displays a solid knowledge of the Civil War, hampered by an overreliance on "hip" prose. He ably covers major battles, campaigns, and figures in a roughly chronological order, mixing informational passages and fact boxes with colorful action sequences in each chapter in what could potentially have been a winning formula to grab and hold the attention of young readers. Unfortunately, Thompson's colorful prose often veers into the realm of the bizarre. The repeated use of the word dude may seem odd coming from an adult author, and readers are likely to miss many pop culture references, such as a mention of the 1990s film *Anaconda* or a "Mike Tyson haymaker sucker punch." The many run-on sentences will leave readers at a loss. One such sentence describing Lincoln's situation approaching the election of 1864 ends by saying that his popularity didn't "necessarily mean that everything was coming up unicorns, rainbows, and smiley-face sunshine happiness roses of joy." Thompson takes a linguistic swing for the fences and ends up spinning around and falling down at the plate. There are many other books on the Civil War for this age range that will hold a reader's attention without the bamboozling prose.—Eric Norton, McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Review

A 2015 International Literacy Association Teachers' Choice

A 2015 National Parenting Publications Silver Winner

An Amazon Best Book of the Month

"The book's greatest strength is its colloquial storytelling.... Thompson's passion for his subject is infectious.... An easy, breezy series opener that should help create a few new history buffs." *Kirkus Reviews*

"Action-packed.... Thompson adopts an urgent and sometimes humorous tone that conveys infectious enthusiasm.... A rousing introduction to this defining conflict that makes the history appealing and relatable." *Publishers Weekly*

"Thompson displays a solid knowledge of the Civil War.... He ably covers major battles, campaigns, and figures...mixing informational passages and fact boxes with colorful action sequences." *School Library Journal*

"An entertaining overview.... What brings these events to life, particularly for reluctant readers, is Thompson's spirited, conversational narration.... Should keep students engaged."

Booklist

About the Author

Ben Thompson is the author of several books on military history and has written humorous history-related material for publications such as *Soldier of Fortune* and organizations like the American Mustache Institute. He is a fifteen-year veteran of Civil War reenacting and can occasionally beat the Star Wars Trilogy arcade game with one quarter.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jan Doyle:

This book untitled Guts & Glory: The American Civil War to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, that is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book shop or you can order it by means of online. The publisher with this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, because you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this publication from your list.

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