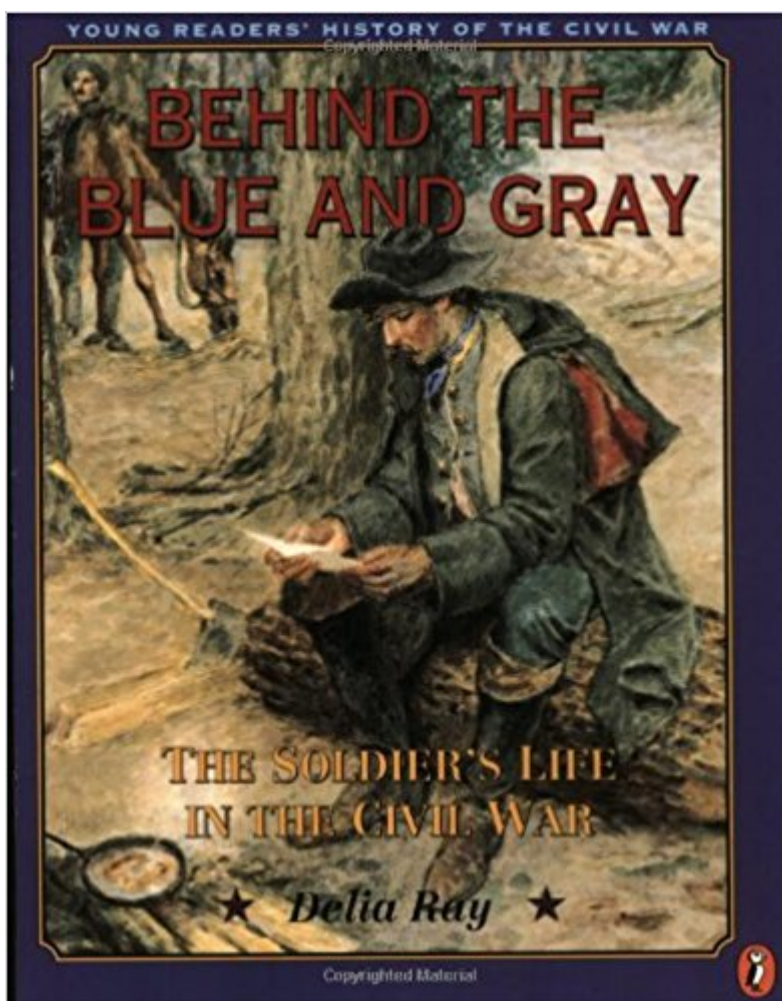


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Behind The Blue And Gray: The Soldier's Life In The Civil War (Young Readers' History Of The Civil War)



Synopsis

In this second of a three part series, this book traces the events of the Civil War from the first battle to the surrender with emphasis on the experiences of the individual soldiers. Whether they wore Union blue or Confederate gray, the untrained recruits of the Civil War quickly learned to endure the hardships of the army life. They experienced the horrors of battle, rampant disease, makeshift hospitals and prison camps, and even boredom. Drawing on letters, diaries, eyewitness accounts, and many vintage photographs, *Behind the Blue and Gray* explores the lives of soldiers from all walks of life, from all-black Northern regiments to young boys who lied about their age to enlist. Also in this series: *A Nation Torn: The Story of How the Civil War Began* *Separate Battle: Women and the Civil War*

Book Information

Series: Young Readers' History of the Civil War (Book 2)

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 15 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Grade 7 Up-- This sequel to *A Nation Torn: The Story of How the Civil War Began* (Lodestar, 1990) is the story of the Civil War as seen from the perspective of common soldiers who served in Union blue and Confederate gray; coverage is from the first shots fired upon Fort Sumter to the long trek home at war's end. Ray is an excellent narrator and has chosen many informative, perceptive personal accounts upon which to base her work. The fears, horrors, boredom, and simple, transitory pleasures of these young men are brought into sharp focus by the many first-person writings. Especially moving is the chapter concerning medical care--primitive at best--and the prisoner of war

camps--inhumane at worst. Readers may learn for the first time of the many Native American volunteers; all-black regiments; and the large number of German, Irish, and other foreign-born soldiers who fought in the war. Black-and-white historical photographs and reproductions flesh out this highly readable volume that should whet the appetite of readers and inspire them to delve further into a this period. --David A. Lindsey, Lakewood Junior/Senior High School, WA
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A continuation of the ``Young Readers' History of the Civil War," begun in A Nation Torn (1990). Here, Ray discusses the soldiers' personal experiences: their early enthusiasm; the conditions they found in the armies on either side; their tempering under war's ordeals; roles played by diverse national groups; the hardships of hospitals and POW camps; the feelings of returning veterans. Ray's writing is vivid, if undistinguished, and aided by memorable photos of the period. Chapter notes would have been useful for tracing the origins of generalizations about the soldiers' feelings, and chronological information might have been better integrated. Nevertheless, an intense portrayal of the military experience, with resonance for today. Bibliography; index. (Nonfiction. 10-14) --
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This is an excellent book, really illuminating as to what the Civil War soldiers endured. I disagree with the recommendation for 7th grade and up. Boys of that age may like it but it is truly more appropriate for the high school years. We study the Civil War in 11th grade (for the third time, there are so many good books available) and that is definitely when this book will be read. There are grisly photos and the text, which is very well written, covers many of the sickening details of war as well. These things are of value and should not be forgotten. However, I see no need to rub younger children's noses (and minds) in the mire of war. Let the unpleasantness of life unfold at an age where there is more discernment. It is a pity that the words across the top read "Young Readers' History of the Civil War". That phrase is misleading and should be struck from the cover. The book Fields of Fury is a far better choice for grades 4-8.

great product, great value, great seller!!

Perfect!

son loved the book

Bought this book for my eleven year old granddaughter who was studying the civil war in school. She loved this book and read several other civil war books during the summer. Would recommend for all ages.

Gives an outstanding description of what a soldier's life was like in the US Civil War, both North and South.

I read this before giving it to my 11 year old grandson who is a young Civil War buff. Excellent book and tells the 'real' story and hardships of the soldier. The teacher reviews were extremely helpful.

This is a great book. A perfect book for a 12 year old. My grandson has to read this and make a report for his class. It gives a general overview of the war and the effects of that war.

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