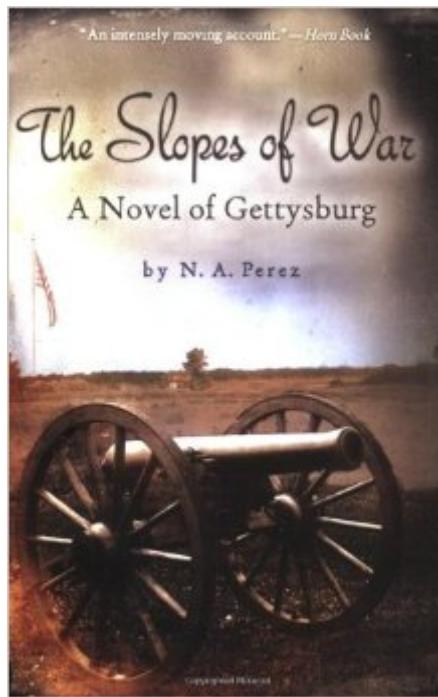


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The Slopes Of War



Synopsis

Buck Summerhill is a young soldier from West Virginia. He faces the horrors of the battle of Gettysburg knowing that his two cousins, Custis and Mason, may be fighting against him in the Army of Northern Virginia. The Slopes of War is a fast-paced, panoramic story of a family divided in loyalty but equally affected by the dangers and sometimes senseless brutality of battle.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 850L (What's this?)

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reissue edition (June 16, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 054701614X

ISBN-13: 978-0547016146

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.6 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #158,932 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 inÂ Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > United States > Civil War Period #76 inÂ Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > United States > 19th Century #90 inÂ Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Military

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Perez' novel is a young adult novel in a similar genre to Johnny Tremain: historical fiction with a considerable amount of gore. The scenes of violence in this story, which centers on the Battle of Gettysburg, are well-written and appropriate for the subject but I would think they would be too graphic for some young readers. Perez presents a Shaara-esque Gettysburg with a befuddled Lee and a Longstreet in the right. Her research fails her at one point as she places the Stonewall Brigade in the night assault on Culp's Hill (they were not engaged there until the next day) and the Second Virginia with the rest of the brigade (they were detailed as skirmishers on the far left throughout the battle, which is why they had only one man, Wesley Culp, killed in action). Most readers, of course, won't even notice this error. They may, on the other hand, find her presentation of young people involved on opposite sides of the war a little shallow, and her conclusion with the Gettysburg Address a little routine. Moments of interesting, original language do, however, lift this

book somewhat above the general swamp.

I thought that this book started out boring and almost as soon as the war started, it picked up into a fast paced "horror" novel of what it would be like to live in this time period. I had to read this book for a college course and i thouht it was a great read for us and I expect that even kids will enjoy history in the form of a story!

Wonderful historical fiction that lends realism and depth to the Civil War and this time in our history. This novel will be added to our Core Knowledge curriculum this coming school year.

This book was bought for my grandchild for social studies class, i read it along with her and found it to be interesting as well

I first read this book in 6th grade (although I wouldn't recommend it for most 6th graders because of the graphic nature) and absolutely loved it, even though I thought it was going to be boring (I got it along with some kind of award at school in the 5th grade). To date, I have read it three times and plan on reading it again since it has been years since I have last read it. The historical nature of the book is quite accurate, even though most of the characters are fictional. Perez ties in real historical anecdotes with her characters and stories, which makes it feel that much more genuine. I was fully pleased with this book and would whole-heartedly recommend it.

I read this book a few years ago, and it has remained one of my absolute favorites. The subject matter and the way it is presented are touching, and stay with you. The realizations the characters come to ring true of the story and the history.

If you love battles, battle strategies, and battle grit, this is the Gettysburg book for you. There are some "human interest" portions, but mostly, detailed battle. I teach this book in Jr. High. The kids loathe it, except for the battle-lovers. We joke at the end that we all want t-shirts sporting the phrase "I survived the Slopes of War". But if you like battle scenes, hey, go for it.

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