

From Slave To Soldier: Based On A True Civil War Story

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For some children, learning about history can be boring. However when authors are able to apply history in a way that children can relate, it becomes a world where children can learn enormous amounts of information. In this book, we see a slave who is content with his life, except he doesn't enjoy being a slave. He is given the opportunity of a lifetime, to be a part of something bigger than himself, when he is asked to join the Union Army in the Civil War. He accepts, and is always able to come to the Unions side whenever they need him. Even though he has some moments of self-doubt, he knows that he is doing the right thing and striving for a better, more equal world.

Something that I respect this book for doing is not showing any fighting scenes. I believe it is important for children to know what has happened in American history, but some of the gruesome details can be too much for young children to take in. By not showing the violence, readers are able to zone in on the courage and bravery this young slave takes on as becoming a part of the war. Although fighting and battle did occur very often during the war, which is something many kids will learn as they get older. This book portrays the life of many slaves that took to battle during the Civil War era.

To sum up this book, I would highly recommend it to any parent or teacher who wants their child to know the history behind the United States. This book allows you to teach a child what it's like to stand up for what's right, even if not everyone is standing with you. Having stories like this engage children into wanting to know more about the history and lives of those who lived in a far worse time than what we're living in now. By being able to convey the message that this author chose to, she is enabling the new generation of children to see what has made America the brave and open-minded nation that we are striving to become.

Recommended Titles:

Pearl Harbor: Ready To Read Level 3, by Stephen Krensky

Civil War Sub: The Mystery Of The Hunley, by Kate Boehm Jerome

Billy and the Rebel: Based on a True Civil War Story (Ready-to-Read. Level 3), by

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