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You should never judge a book or a movie by what others think. What one person may find boring, you may find intriguing. What others may rave about, may leave you feeling as if you missed something or wondering why others rated it so highly.

The first review, A New York Times book review spoke highly of the book however stated that it was not without its flaws. I am not a huge history buff, but after reading this review I was excited about reading a book that could vividly bring the details of history to life for me.

The next set of reviews, an online blogger again speaks highly about the content and the accuracy of the book. While the third set of reviews, readers just like you and me and various critiques, both for and against the book and its content. Based on the reviews that I read, I can not come to an early decision about how I will be approaching the book, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era*.

Based on the reviews, the only issues related to historical accuracy worry me the most is in the accounting of the events that occurred during the Lincoln era and the other battles that took place before the Civil War. I'm afraid the accounts forgotten or not included may be important when considering the roots of the cause, the turning point or the end results gained by the end of the war. I understand that not actions or events can be accounted for; however, I am fairly confident that the book portrays an accurate account of events that happened before and during the Civil War.

I'm looking forward to reading the book, watching the videos and reading and responding to the blogs and making my own judgments and assumptions along the way.

By: Heather Peckham

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