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Before even opening this book I would say that judging by the reviews it seems to be a reliable source of information on the history of the Civil War. After reading all the reviews it seemed like most of the complaints were from people who know a lot about the war already and are paying attention to very little details. In the long run these little details may become very important but for this class, or for someone like myself who knows very little about the war I will not be paying attention to those little details. My main focus is going to be learning the overall basics about the war.

Judging by the reviews it seems that most of the issues with historical accuracy in this book are pretty minor. They had to do with little details such as the amount of votes that were casted, which in my opinion does not matter as much as the outcome of the voting. As long as that is correct then it probably won't affect my learning that much. There were other issues talked about such as a place that never actually existed. But as long as there were no major events that apparently happened in the so called place then it should not affect the outcome of the book.

Overall it seems to be a good book for an overall view on the war detailed enough for a person who knows very little about the war which is probably how a lot of the students in this class will be. For the most part the complaints about the facts in the book were about little details like number of votes etc. To someone who is just learning the basics on the war little facts like that won't matter so much, as long as the outcome of the voting is the truth then I don't see how it will matter that much to an amateur "civil warist". I like it does not just focus on the war itself but on what lead to the war and what else was happening during the war and what was going on in society. It seems he may have chosen some vocabulary poorly (issues with "revolution" being used improperly), and is a little too one sided at times but now that I am aware of these issues I will be conscious about them while reading the book.

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