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As with anything worthwhile, I will be approaching the *Battle Cry of Freedom* with an open mind and genuine interest. There is overwhelming amount of support for this book and the research that was done in preparation for it. It is mentioned more than once to refer to the bibliography as a starting point for further research on the topic. I look forward to experiencing James McPherson's merits as a historian and writer without hesitation.

I have but only two main concerns related to the historical accuracy of the *Battle Cry of Freedom*. My first is mentioned many times in the reviews and implies that James McPherson imposed his own personal bias upon the historical facts he presents. Many of these reviews were posted by intelligent people that have an obvious extensive knowledge of the Civil War topic. They do acknowledge the work and literary skills McPherson exhibits but are then quick to point out the inaccuracies due to a bias opinion. My remaining concern is the minimal extend of my own knowledge of the Civil War. I was unaware of the surrounding politics during this era and that the war was not just about freeing the slaves. Many southerners did not even own slaves and were simply fighting for their Union which was attempting to expand into other territories.

In this forum and under these circumstances, I have a good level of confidence in *Battle Cry of Freedom*. I am not one to judge nor do I take sides, instead I am open to the views and opinions of all of those with the knowledge they hold about the Civil War.

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