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I usually don't read critiques of books until I have read them. Then I will read them to see if I agree or disagree with what the critics say. In this case, it appears as though McPherson does an excellent job of the politics and environment prior to the war, where as Burns did a better job after the war began. I don't have any real reservations about the information or shortcomings of information. It seems as though the two resources we are using seem to cover what the other lacks and gives us a full spectrum of information for this course. I am excited to find the differences and find out if these resources do in fact give us a greater understanding of the Civil War.

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