

Due date: Sunday, 9 January 2011, 11:55 PM
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A+ -- the grade I am certain to get if I carefully read McPherson's book titled Battle Cry of Freedom! Hugh Brogan published a review in *The New York Times* of this book and determined it is the "best one-volume treatment of its subject..." [Works cited #1]. Criticisms of the book are surprisingly few and seem insignificant in relation to the enormity of the subject and its place in the literary world. After all, Battle Cry of Freedom is used in history classes as a learning tool and holds a place as volume number six in Oxford's 14-book series *History of the United States*. Brogan's mostly positive review ensures this is one textbook I won't be selling back at the end of the term. It also should be noted that, based on my experiences in previous history classes taught by professor Joe Escobar, if a book is "assigned reading material" it is important and a resource I can trust.

Reviews by Amazon.com customers do not typically interest me. Any review that begins with "The beauty of this books..." (sic) is not an opinion that I would waste my time reading. Battle Cry of Freedom is not multiple volumes under the same name. Another customer review starts off with the first sentence jumping off the page with its clear lack of proof-reading "If you a political fanatic and Civil War buff well then this book is for you." (sic) I am by no means a *great* writer but I do know how to use spell check. I will also ask a person with an academic background to proof-read anything I am going to submit, regardless of where I intend to submit it. To some I may seem judgmental and dismissive but any reviews I read will come from a recognized academic source. Part of critical thinking is to choose any source wisely and read with the understanding / expectation that an author, more often than not, has a personal perspective and agenda. A wise reader will take that into consideration.

Disclaimer

Any compliments directed toward above mentioned professor are not sycophant and disrespect for the assignment by using humor was not intended. Additionally, any *spell check* errors are purposefully and strategically placed by the author within the text body for purely academic reasons.

Works Cited

[# 1] NYTimes Article

1. •Date: February 14, 1988, Sunday, Late City Final Edition Section 7;

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