

Karen Jenkins

Hist 209 McPherson Assignment 1 Week 1

Instructor Escobar

unclear - (James McPherson, I found it to be most uplifting and intriguing.) The details that this author went into were extraordinary. In reading the reviews of other critics and readers, I personally felt that they were biased in their own opinions of the war. They tended to see this historian as a biased opinionated author who was "clearly a unionist and for the northern states" in his statements of blaming the cause of war on slavery. I would have to disagree with the other critics. - which. Very confused now. Critics are all negative & the same group/person.

First of all we are no longer at war and there is no north and south to fight over. Fighting over whether the north was wrong in their invasion of the southern states is mere foolishness and a hypocrisy to us as Americans. In my own critiquing of this novel, I had read the first chapter before we began our venture into this course. I read where Mr. McPherson omitted the Lincoln Assassination and I too wonder curiously why? Why did he not want to delve into the subject of the questions of the accuracy in the accusations and history behind it, is he not a historian first and an author next? I also find it fascinating as to how he portrayed the era socially, politically and found it to be entertaining none the less, but although it spins quite a historically trail on the Industrial and Agricultural era it does take a lot of pages to get to the actual battle fields of the civil war. The video I found was quite accurate and most intriguing in getting strait to the political and military points of the war and the book tends to look at it in more of social, political and less military way.

no hypo? - In my objective opinions of how I will view the nature of this novel. I personally feel that I will keep open mind in regard to the facts historically presented in this book. Keeping in mind that the author had went to several museums, looked at a lot of artifacts and videos, old glass type photos, and historically accountable writings of this book in the Library of Congress that had thousands of other books from authors over the past 150 years. How can one put together within the pages of 900, the actual factual occurrences that took place moment to moment? I think he did an awesome job considering the task at hand. In regard to his opinions related to the Lincoln Assassination, and the time it took to portray the war events in the book I would have to question if he was trying to write a book about the era or about the war. I, however enjoy the way the novel reads as I have been riveted to the factual, historical information in regard to the war. The arguments presented within from the Confederacy to Slavery, and the cause of the war is questionable but I have good confidence in that the author of this novel had a big job to do within a short amount of space in keeping it to one historical novel. The war has been lived, fought and critiqued for the past 150 years and yet the southerners still hold a lot of animosity towards the damn Yankees as they call us. I feel if we hadn't of lost the battle of Bull Run the Confederate states would have had a strong arm so to speak in winning this bloody battle. The consistent misperception that the war was over slavery is the other issue McPherson seems to portray, into which it was not over slavery it was the Southerners fighting for there homeland and security, there economical, political rights to freedom. Slavery was only a small part to do with the war.

but up to now, you discounted even negative critique in the materials I've assigned. - spelling & grammar problems - organization & analysis problems Re-read my questions. You avoided discussing the reviews almost entirely.