

70/100

417

Courtney Merrell

The McPherson Assignment

I have already read chapters 8 and 9 and have been able to assess my own opinions about the book and the author's style of writing. At first, like most college students, I had the fear of God put in me when I was assigned to "just read" a couple of chapters because it usually isn't just reading when it comes to text books, one must scan, sentence after sentence over and over again until it can be restructured in your head in hopes that the real point of the paragraph that is trying to be conveyed, is revealed. Clutter bothers me, so sometimes I find textbooks to be not very helpful. But so far I have enjoyed reading Battle Cry of Freedom, it seems to capture all the drama of the era without adding any information that isn't relevant. James McPherson adds helpful statements from the leaders of that time, which makes it easier to gauge which part of history each event belongs to.

fine intro
but not on
my questions
yet &
length

I have always loved history, everything about our pasts is connected to it somehow. I don't think I'm worried about much when it comes to this book, if I am, you'll be the first to know. I tend to speak my mind. But I do find McPherson's credentials to be worthy of an unbiased read through, which is what I intend to do. I am always tempted to browse the history section at Smith's Family Bookstore but I never know where to start. So that would have to be my strongest motivation for taking this class, is to have a starting point. To learn about America's beginning and then be able to branch off and learn more about the other wars and conflicts both before and after the Civil War.

I thought that both reviews that we were required to read had great points. I personally liked second one, posted from <http://www.notnews.org/ubb/Forum4/HTML/000020.html>. This review agreed with my perception, that one can not simply pack everything about the early american history and the events that lead to war into one book, even if it is 900 pages. But so far I have been happy with how he has written his depiction. He has done a phenomenal job at explaining each event in great detail, with extensive footnotes and bibliography. I believe that this will be a textbook I really enjoy reading!

When I finished reading your paper, I was entirely unclear that you had used any of the articles assigned. Paper completely lacked analysis of those materials.

your basis for this? statement?

↓ does not come from the readings & materials I assigned.

— such as