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Overall, the source Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era seems like it will be quite reliable. The numerous positive reviews and recommendations for this book from both normal readers and historians alike is a good sign. It is important for readers to approach the book not as if it is a factual recounting of events, but more like a story. This story is the author's own narrative and according to many sources has somewhat of a pro-North stance. This does not discredit the source altogether but more so just reinforces the fact that it is not completely objective. That is understandable and means that the author was just being honest as he wrote the book. -explain. Could you say the same about a pro Southern writer?

The reviews from the more credible historians are quite positive, and make me feel like I can learn a lot from the book. Even if there are some events omitted or certain things glossed over, I believe this book will be informative. I enjoy learning about history and with all of the good opinions I have read so far on this source, I can imagine I will like it. Both of the New York Times review and the shorter one state that the book is an accomplishment in many ways, and could be the best text recounting of the period yet. -and what about their opinions? NY Times & Hoggan

There are multiple points in the reviews that say McPherson has a military focus throughout much of his writing. This is something that can affect many factors of the text. Naturally, the novel is said to be less about every political change and idea floating around during the time and more about specific battles and military action. This intrigues me and also is something that could discredit the novel somewhat, since political movements and changes are very important to history. -unclear... need explanation here

Reading reviews from amazon show that some readers are upset by the novel and it's seemingly anti-Southern take. There is opinion and bias everywhere so it is not surprising for some readers to find the book offensive while some see it as spot-on. The way to deal with this type of writing is just to read with an intentionally objective mindset, and to keep in mind that the book is not inherently factual. There is not a reason to see the source as anything other than a very accurate and well-written account of the Civil War for the most part. Both historians and everyday readers alike agree that the novel is enjoyable. -NOT a novel

AWK

? huh? sure it is

Are you omitting all of the negative reviews?

I know that reading this book will be very informative and also a new experience. It is hard to find this type of history textbook, and the Civil War period is one of the most misconstrued times ever. I look forward to learning a lot and also just need to keep in mind the stance the author may have. Knowing the way other people reacted to the bias of the book will help me to approach the source the correct way. -unclear what this means

Overall okay,

But pages lack

analysis

at critical times.

Overuse of the word "novel" is also justifying.

Lacking any

to

specific

review citations

to prove your points.