



2008

Let it Begin Here: April 19, 1775: The Day the American Revolution Began

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Brown, Dan. *Let It Begin Here: April 19, 1775: The Day the American Revolution Began*. Illustrated by Dan Brown. Roaring Book Press, 2008. ISBN 9781596432215. \$17.95. 64 p.

Reviewer: Larysa Bordner

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Informational books; Picture books;

Subject: Lexington, Battle of, Lexington, Mass., 1775 --Juvenile literature; Concord, Battle of, Concord, Mass., 1775--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

The history of the American Revolution is taught in all schools throughout the United States of America. *Let It Begin Here!* tells the beginning of the Revolution in a simple story form. It tells of Paul Revere, the Battle of Concord, and the Battle Lexington. Although the focus of the story is on how the war began, there is a brief explanation of how the war ended and what happened to the people who played major roles in its beginning.

Let It Begin Here! provides helpful facts and a basic understanding of the start of the Revolutionary War, but it lacks depth. Throughout the story there are many related quotes from historical figures that enhance the realistic aspect. The pictures are done with watercolor and ink; they fit the simplistic, yet serious subject matter of the book. Some pictures show blood and bullets, but are tastefully non-grotesque. This book would appeal to the "stereo-typical boy" who enjoys war, blood, and "real" stories, but it is also an excellent introduction for any child to learn about the Revolutionary War. Readers should be wary, though, because explanations of how men were killed are included throughout the book. Although the explanations do not go into depth, some readers may find them disturbing.

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