



2008

I'll Pass for Your Comrade: Women Soldiers in the Civil War

Megan Harris

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Silvey, Anita. *I'll Pass for Your Comrade: Women Soldiers in the Civil War*. Clarion Books, 2008. ISBN 9780618574919. \$17.00. 128 p.

Reviewer: Megan Harris

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Informational books;

Subject: United States--History--Civil War, 1861–1865--Participation, Female--Juvenile literature.; United States--History--Civil War, 1861–1865--Women--Juvenile literature; Women soldiers--United States--History--19th century--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

Hundreds of women openly and secretly fought in the American Civil War. Some women were able to serve as female “mascots” to their regiments. However, most women were forced to disguise themselves to avoid being detected and removed from their regiments. *I'll Pass for Your Comrade* covers the experiences of women fighting for either the Union or Confederate cause.

The information is approachable and comprehensible for even mid-grade elementary students. The book is roughly organized into chronological chapters, spanning from the First Battle of Bull Run to the lives of the soldiers following the Civil War. Silvey uses large photographs, prints, and copies of original documents to increase a reader’s understanding of the content. Silvey, a leading children's literature expert and author of several reference books, uses credible sources, such as journals and census tables, and provides honest conclusions. A bibliography and source notes are included. *I'll Pass for Your Comrade* can be a useful read-aloud book in a classroom or home library setting.

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