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The Greatest Treasure Hunt in History: The Story of the Monuments Men

Tessa McMillan

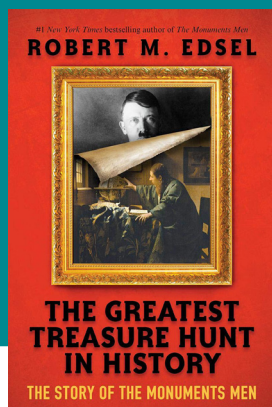
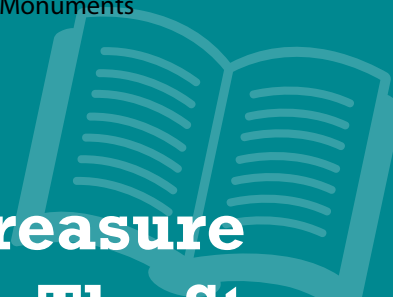
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Book Review

The Greatest Treasure Hunt in History: The Story of the Monuments Men

Author

Robert M. Edsel

Reviewer

Tessa McMillan

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Rating

Excellent

Level

Young Adult

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Pages

333

Year

2019

ISBN

9781338251197

Publisher

Scholastic Focus

After Allied forces bombed several culturally significant buildings throughout Europe, the Monuments Men division was established. They were a group of art experts on the front lines protecting architecture, monuments, artwork, and archives from the ravages of war. Soon the scope of the Monuments Men's work exploded as they tackled the Nazi's strategic plundering of works gleaned for Adolf Hitler's Führermuseum and Hermann Göring's artwork obsession. Following clues and showing their persistence, the small band of Monuments Men thwarted the Nazis' greed and saved much of Europe's cultural history.

Edsel's book is a young readers version of his New York Times best-selling novel, *The Monuments Men*. Edsel composes a well-documented and visually abundant story that breathes life into this excerpt in history. Filled with impactful visual aids, Edsel's story places young readers right alongside these heroic men and women as they fight to save Europe's history from the greedy hands of Nazi invaders. At the beginning of the book, readers are introduced to key Monuments Men and major Nazi leaders, all listed with their photographs, a small biography, and their locations during World War II. Also included are maps showing the movements and discoveries made by the Monuments Men. For young readers unfamiliar with terms of the period, Edsel includes a helpful glossary near the end of his book. A fascinating read sure to develop a deeper love of history and a richer appreciation for the arts, this book is appropriate for ages 14 and up.