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Personal Memoirs Of U.S. Grant: All Volumes



ACHERON PRESS

GRANT
PERSONAL MEMOIRS OF
U.S. GRANT



Synopsis

Ulysses S. Grant (1822 – 1885) was the most famous Union general of the Civil War and later became president of the United States. Upon learning that he had terminal cancer in the 1880s, Grant decided to write his personal memoirs to help provide for his family when he was gone. Mark Twain published the memoirs which sold very well, and provided Grant's family with almost \$500,000. Grant's memoirs is considered to be the best of the Civil War and one of the best personal memoirs ever written. The memoirs give a comprehensive description of the actions of both sides of the fighting. This version of Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant includes a table of contents and the original illustrations from the book.

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Customer Reviews

Grant's memoirs show the power of clear-eyed realism. He was a great general because he refused the temptations of self-delusion and called it out when he saw it in others. His writing has a clarity about it no doubt developed from years of writing as if the lives of thousands of men depended on getting his message across clearly and unambiguously. One surprise was how loosely the other, supposedly subordinate generals did or did not follow Grant's orders. I expected more discipline in

our army - poor communications to distant theaters probably made tighter control impossible. True, the book sometimes bogs down in campaign detail of little interest to today's reader but that is the raw stuff of his success. Before delving deeply into Civil War history, I recommend a book on the military technology of the day - a book like "The Civil War Military Machine" by Drury and Gibbons. One needs to understand issues like a charging group of men can cover 200 yards in 2 minutes while mounted cavalry can do it in 30 seconds. Why is that important? The range of their rifles was about 200 yards and a steady soldier could get off 2 rounds a minute or four shots into the attacking column. A locomotive of the time could pull 15 cars at about 25 mph. A wagon train pulled by horses or mules had a maximum range of 100 miles hauling its own feed and could travel in a day what a locomotive could cover in an hour. All these facts and more shaped how the war was fought. Grant's political development and the events after Lincoln's death were of particular interest. He signed on to the Know Nothing Party as a young officer but only attended one meeting before dropping it.

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