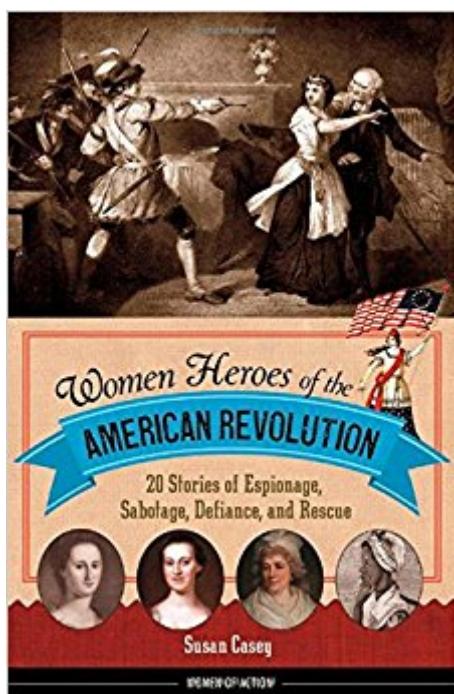


The book was found

Women Heroes Of The American Revolution: 20 Stories Of Espionage, Sabotage, Defiance, And Rescue (Women Of Action)



Synopsis

When you think of the American Revolution, perhaps you envision the Boston Tea Party, Paul Revere's infamous ride, or George Washington crossing the Delaware River. But there are many other, lesser-known stories of the war that engulfed women's lives as it did the lives of their fathers, husbands, and sons. Some women served as spies, nurses, and water carriers; some helped as fundraisers, writers, and couriers; and still others functioned as resistors, rescuers, and—surprisingly—even soldiers. Most often, their names did not make it into history books. In *Women Heroes of the American Revolution*, these fascinating women step into the spotlight they deserve. You'll learn about such brave rebels as Martha Bratton, who blew up a supply of gunpowder to keep it out of the hands of approaching British troops and boldly claimed, "It was I who did it!"; 16-year-old Sybil Ludington, who rode her horse Star twice as far as the legendary Paul Revere did in order to help her father, Colonel Ludington, muster his scattered troops to fight the British; and Deborah Sampson Gannett, who bound her chest, dressed as a man, enlisted in the Continental Army as Robert Shurtliff, and served undetected for three years alongside her fellow soldiers. These and 17 other inspiring stories of women and girls contributing to our nation's independence are recounted through energetic narrative and revealing letters and documents that allow us to hear the voices of the women themselves and those who knew and admired them.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1300 (What's this?)

Series: Women of Action

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Chicago Review Press (March 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1613745834

ISBN-13: 978-1613745830

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.9 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #315,121 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary Periods #78 in Books > Teens > Biographies > Women #93 in Books > Teens > Education &

Reference > History > Military

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 7-10 •In a clear writing style, Casey profiles 20 female figures in this collection of biographies of women involved with the American Revolution. While some of the names are legendary and recognizable, most are not. These ordinary girls and women who accomplished amazing feats usually thought of as masculine make for interesting reading. From spies to soldiers to slaves, the women profiled here are engaging enough to keep students interested, and some may even seek out further information. The author shares her research of differing accounts of the same events, so the readers can decipher the evidence for themselves. Each piece is brief—no more than 10 pages, and readers will find them very accessible. VERDICT This well-researched book sheds light on lesser known women of this period and is an excellent way to incorporate diversity into the curriculum. •Glynis Jean Wray, Ocean County Library, Toms River, NJ

•A fine, useful resource for students of American history. •

•Booklist •"This well-researched book sheds light on lesser known women of this period and is an excellent way to incorporate diversity into the curriculum. • School Library Journal"Helpful, sometimes-humorous touches include explanations of archaic activities, lifestyles and social mores; well-documented primary and secondary sources; and clear instructions on how to read a political cartoon. A good starting point for further research."

•Kirkus Reviews" It is a fascinating little book that anyone interested in the history of women and/or the American Revolution should read. • History and Other Thoughts" A wonderful read. These are great stories that girls especially will love." • Cecelia Holland, author of *The Secret Eleanor: A Novel of Eleanor of Aquitaine*" These women did not hesitate, but acted with bravery and resourcefulness, sharing whatever resources and skills they possessed in the fight for independence, just as the men did. *Women Heroes of the American Revolution* opens our understanding and imagination concerning the people who birthed this nation. • Mary Cronk Farrell, author of *Pure Grit: How American World War II Nurses Survived Battle and Prison Camp in the Pacific*" They look so quaint, the 18th-century engravings and images so generously included in this splendid book. Envisioning those real, long-gone humans requires empathetic

imagination. But it's a rewarding, inspiring effort, well aided by Ms. Casey's straightforward, easygoing way of telling their stories." •Cheryl Harness, author of *Mary Walker Wears the Pants and Flags Over America*

I'm pleased to find now that my brother, Paul, also wrote a review of *Women Heroes of the American Revolution*. I've known Sue Casey for years and enjoyed her other books on inventors, but this one, I flat out just loved it. Sue covers twenty very different women who each played an important part in the War for Independence. Some of these women were old, some teenagers, some were rich and others poor, and several of them were slaves....but one thing they had in common was guts, lots of guts, determination, and real courage. This fine book is part of a *Women of Action* series, and it is indeed action-packed. I don't think I ever really had such a good feel for the American Revolution as I got from this book. That the Tories (anti-revolution and pro-British) played such an active part in trying to stop the revolution, that they burned and hung patriots, this I hadn't understood so well. Each of the twenty stories here is fascinating but some really do stick out, a bold fifteen year old girl who rides all over the land warning the patriots that the British are coming....her act as important as that ride of Paul Revere, and every bit as dangerous. The delicate young black slave girl, Phillis Wheatley, who wrote beautiful, melodious patriotic poems that were remarkable in their quality and who became a friend of George Washington, but who eventually died, free but destitute, of an asthma attack while still in her early 30's. The story of Phillis Wheatley was so powerfully told it made me cry. The harshness of life in those days is impressive. Many of these brave women lost numerous husbands from war or illness, and many also lost most of the young children they had. Many lost all the money and property they had during the war. Picture young Molly Pitcher whose husband was shot dead while manning a canon in a big battle against the Redcoats. With her dead husband at her feet, Molly took up the powder horn and rammed the cannon full of shot, and then continued to fire the cannon for hours until the battle was won. What guts. One of the most daring of these women (and all of them were plenty daring, risking being shot or hung if caught) was Mammy Kate. Mammy was a slave but she cared about her master, Stephen Heard, a militia officer... and when he was captured and sentenced to hang, she decided to do something about it. Mammy walked 50 miles to get to the prison, and there she arranged for herself to collect dirty laundry from the prisoners. Mammy Kate was a big, strong lady, and Officer Heard was a small fellow. One day, the day before Heard was to hang, she got into the prison, had him climb into her big laundry basket. The other prisoners then packed old clothes around him, and Mammy Kate hoisted the big basket up onto her head and boldly walked out of the prison! What a

gutsy lady. I'd like to say that while this book is suitable for pretty near everyone, it ought to be required reading in whatever years it is that children learn about the War of Independence. All of us who live in the USA now, we all owe a real debt to these brave women. We should not let their heroism be forgotten. Women in particular should buy, read and recommend this wonderful book....but men will like it too...and learn a great deal in the reading of it. Terrific research here, a rare gem of a book.

I found it surprising how much women contributed to the Revolutionary War and there is so little evidence or history about them. I thoroughly enjoyed reading the stories and telling them to my daughter

Susan Casey has crafted a well written, carefully researched and thoroughly enjoyable book about our revolution and inspiring women who took part and made a difference. This book is an excellent resource for anyone interested in our history

It was interesting but not as well written as I had hoped.

gift

My 12 yr old daughter loved it !

Good, short stories about unknown Women Heroes. Informative and Interesting!

It is easy to read and informative. Young readers interested in history and women in history will enjoy it

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