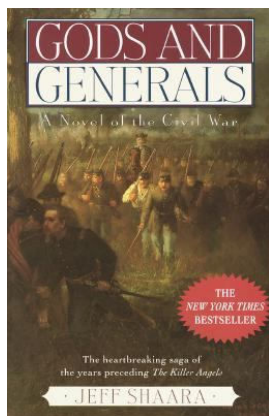
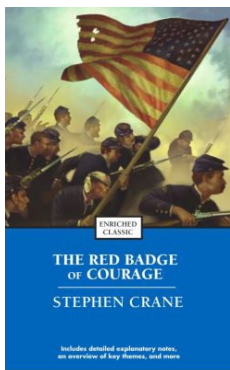


READING LIST | Civil War Fiction



Civil War Fiction

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young women in nineteenth-century New England.

The Black Flower by Howard Bahr

Bushrod Carter stoically awaits each Civil War battle until the Battle of Franklin, during which the Union forces defeat Carter and the Army of Tennessee.

March by Geraldine Brooks

In a story inspired by the father character in "Little Women" and drawn from the journals and letters of Louisa May Alcott's father, a man leaves behind his family to serve in the Civil War and finds his beliefs challenged by his experiences.

Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane

Henry Fleming, a young Union soldier, struggles with his conflicting emotions about violence, death, and the nature of bravery in this ironic, skeptical account of the Civil War.

Alice's Tulips by Sandra Dallas

An evocation of the day-to-day life of women in the Civil War era follows Alice, whose husband has left their Iowa farm for the war, as she copes with the farm and lives normally, until suddenly being accused of murder.

Shiloh by Shelby Foote

A re-creation of the day's events at the Battle of Shiloh, from the perspectives of five officers and men from a single squad.

Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier

After Inman escapes from a war hospital in 1864 and starts walking to Cold Mountain, Ada struggles to save her mountain farm with the help of Ruby, an illiterate but efficient farmer.

On the Occasion of my Last Afternoon by Kaye Gibbons

A woman who loves the South but hates slavery goes North after the Civil War ends.

Civil War Series by Newt Gingrich

Gettysburg: A fictionalized account of an alternate American Civil War, based on five years of research, considers how history might have transpired if General Robert E. Lee had won the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863

Grant Comes East: 2nd book in series

Never Call Retreat: Traces the events surrounding the pivotal battle of August 1863, during which Lee and Grant both cross the Susquehanna and make decisions that culminate in the war's outcome.

The Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All by Alan Gurganus

Lucille Marsden, 99, recalls her husband (whom she married when she was 15 and he was over 45) and his experiences in the Civil War and afterward during Reconstruction.

Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt

Young Jethro Creighton grows from a boy to a man when he is left to take care of the family farm in Illinois during the difficult years of the Civil War.

North and South Trilogy by John Jakes

North and South: The rice-growing Mains family from South Carolina meets the iron-producing Hazards from Pennsylvania at West Point in 1842.

Love and War: In the sequel to North and South, the Hazards of Pennsylvania and the Mains of South Carolina fight in the Civil War.

Heaven and Hell: The Civil War displaces Charles in the sequel to Love and War, and his wife dies, so he takes his infant son out West to start a new life.

Enemy Women by Paulette Jiles

Follows Adair, the daughter of modest farmers in the Missouri Ozarks, who is wrongly accused of enemy collaboration by the Union militia, as she falls in love with her interrogator and embarks on a perilous journey to find her family.

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In the Fall by Jeffrey Lent

An interracial relationship between a Union soldier from Vermont and a runaway slave at the end of the Civil War initiates a haunting family legacy of war, racism, and secrets that follows three generations from the end of the Civil War to the Great Depression.

Jacob's Ladder by Donald McCaig

When a Works Project Administration writer interviews an old woman in 1934, he learns the secrets of a prominent Virginia family before and during the Civil War.

Gone With the Wind by Margaret Mitchell

Scarlett O'Hara faces and survives the Civil War and Reconstruction and marries Rhett Butler for his money because her true love has married someone else.

My Vicksburg by Ann Rinaldi – *Teen Section*

During the siege of Vicksburg, thirteen-year-old Claire Louise struggles with difficult choices when family and friends join opposing sides of the **war**.

Gilead by Marilynne Robinson

As the Reverend John Ames approaches the hour of his own death, he writes a letter to his son chronicling three previous generations of his family, a story that stretches back to the Civil War and reveals uncomfortable family secrets.

The Civil War Series

Gods and Generals by Jeff Shaara: Two Confederate and two Union generals (Lee, Jackson, Hancock, and Chamberlain) examine their careers leading to Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville in a prequel to *The Killer Angels*.

The Killer Angels by Michael Shaara: Robert E. Lee and James Longstreet tell the Southern view of the battle at Gettysburg while Colonel Joshua Chamberlain and General John Buford present the Northern view.

The Last Full Measure by Jeff Shaara: The two sides of the country go to war in the last of the trilogy that includes *Killer Angels* and *Gods and Generals*.

All-True Travels and Adventures of Lidie Newton by Jane Smiley

In Quincy, Illinois, Lidie, 20, marries abolitionist Thomas Newton and goes with him to Kansas, but when Thomas is murdered, she disguises herself to get revenge.

Underground Railroad

Though Waters Roar by Lynn Austin

Following her grandmother's footsteps to fight for social justice, Harriet Sherwood lands herself in jail, and while she is in a cell, she sifts through the memories of the three generations of women who have preceded her.

Cloudsplitter by Russell Banks

John Brown preaches against slavery, and he plans to overtake the arsenal at Harper's Ferry.

The Sugar Camp Quilt: by Jennifer Chiaverini (Book 7 of the Elm Creek Quilts series)

In Creek's Crossing, Pennsylvania, in the years before the Civil War, Dorothea Granger agrees to sew an unusual quilt to fulfill her uncle's deathbed request, realizing later that the quilt pattern contains an Underground Railroad map.

The Lost Quilter by Jennifer Chiaverini (Book 14 of the Elm Creek Quilts Series)

Master quilter Sylvia Compson investigates her ancestry and discovers unexpected connections to a runaway slave and quilter who traveled the Underground Railroad to Elm Creek Farm before she was captured and returned to Virginia.

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtiss – *Children's Section*

In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American south, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

The Ever-After Bird by Ann Rinaldi – *Teen Section*

In 1851, thirteen-year-old Cecilia has her eyes opened to the horrors of slavery when she accompanies her ornithologist uncle on an expedition in search of the rare "Scarlet Ibis," and watches as he shows slaves the way to the Underground Railroad.

The Safe Room by Barbara Shapiro – *Mystery*

Narrator Lee Harden is working on her historic home in New England. She discovers the diary of Sarah Harden, which reveals a tragic love that developed between her and a runaway slave.

