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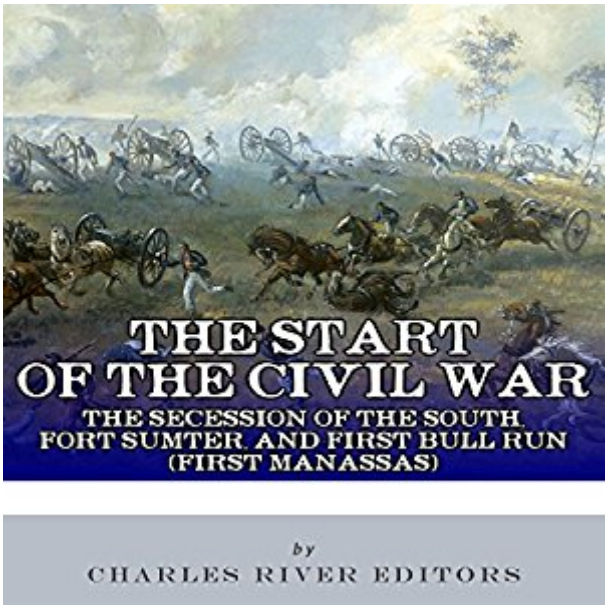
The Start Of The Civil War: The Secession Of The South, Fort Sumter, And First Bull Run (First Manassas)



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Synopsis

Includes accounts of the fighting at Fort Sumter and First Bull Run by important generals and leaders who fought there. Explains the causes and chain of events that led to the secession of Southern states and the formation of the Confederacy. The secession of the South was one of the seminal events in American history, but it also remains one of the most controversial. The election of Abraham Lincoln was the impetus for secession, but that was merely one of many events that led up to the formation of the Confederacy and the start of the Civil War. On December 20, a little more than a month after Republican Abraham Lincoln had been elected the 16th president, a convention met in Charleston and passed the first ordinance of secession by one of the states, declaring, "We, the people of the State of South Carolina in convention assembled, do declare and ordain.... That the Union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States, under the name of 'the United States of America', is hereby dissolved." In January 1861, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Kansas followed South Carolina's lead, and the Confederate States of America was formed on February 4 in Montgomery, Alabama, with former Secretary of War Jefferson Davis inaugurated as its president. A few weeks later, Texas joined. The Confederacy's hope of being let go in peace ended at 4:30 a.m. on the morning of April 12, 1861, when Confederate Brigadier-General P. G. T. Beauregard ordered the first shots to be fired at the federal garrison defending Fort Sumter in the Charleston Harbor, effectively igniting the Civil War. For nearly 36 hours, Beauregard's Confederates unleashed a general bombardment from 43 guns and mortars positioned at various points across the Harbor.

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Customer Reviews

The author of this e-book is anonymous. Only the editor/publisher ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ Charles River ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ takes the responsibility for promising a work that ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“comprehensively covers the events and political issues that led up to the secession of the Southern states in 1860 and 1861 and the creation of the Confederacy.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•Unfortunately, the only things ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“comprehensiveÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• about the book are the many tedious quotations from legislative declarations, diary entries, memoirs and accounts from a few of the prominent players (and some not-so-prominent, i.e., Abner Doubleday, of all people).The most casual student of the War will understand that it was provoked by Abraham Lincoln, a Machiavellian genius who tried to resupply Fort Sumter after AndersonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s aggressive move there from Fort Moultrie, who ignored a reasonable compromise proposed by Jefferson Davis, and who shamelessly and quickly issued a call for 75,000 volunteers - whose mission was to be the destruction of the nascent Confederate States of America. Lincoln did all he could to goad the CSA into firing the first shot, and he succeeded.If the reader can stay awake long enough to read the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Declaration of the Immediate Causes Which Induce and Justify the Secession of South Carolina from the Federal Union,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• he will see an eloquent document resembling an updated version of the original Declaration of Independence. The fundamental problem ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“elephant in the roomÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ was that South Carolina and the other Southern states advocated life, liberty, and the ownership of human beings.So, perhaps the Great American Civil War was inevitable, given the tenor of the times. We will never know, of course, but the mysterious and reclusive author of this e-book seems to have no opinions on his subject. The reader is left to slog through detailed, supposedly first-hand, accounts of the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“battlesÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• of Fort Sumter and Bull Run. In other words, the book is filled with details and empty of overview.I have my opinion about what really happened (and why) during the period leading to the War. Doubtless, you have your own opinion; and a reading of The Start of the Civil War will not change your mind, in part because our nameless author leaves it to the reader to glean the significance of the facts. Speaking of facts, the reader is told that Kansas was one of the states that seceded in January of 1861 and joined the new CSA in February of that year. (Kindle Locations 60-62). Hmm, if the clock strikes thirteen, do you wonder about the other twelve?Summary ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ An interesting, free

Kindle e-book for anyone who likes historic documents. Worth every penny.

If you have an interest in the Civil War, especially why it happened, this is a great eye opener to the behind the scenes reasons for the "separation". The detailed accounts of how each Southern State justified their leaving the US is quite informative. I was personally unaware of how each State, published a justification for seceding from the Union. Almost akin to our own Declaration of Independence.I would definitely recommend it to any and all History buffs.

Very mundane representation of the facts covered. The book did what it was supposed to do. Presented facts in an orderly manner.

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