



The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery

By Steve Sheinkin

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Most people know that Benedict Arnold was America's first, most notorious traitor. Few know that he was also one of its greatest Revolutionary War heroes. Steve Sheinkin's accessible biography, *The Notorious Benedict Arnold*, introduces young readers to the real Arnold: reckless, heroic, and driven. Packed with first-person accounts, astonishing American Revolution battle scenes, and surprising twists, this is a gripping and true adventure tale from history.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—American history is brought to life in this engaging story of revolution and treason. Most people know very little about Benedict Arnold—only that he was a traitor during the American War of Independence. Sheinkin recounts the tale of a larger-than-life persona, from his uncertain boyhood to his immense popularity as an unpredictable, yet brilliant, commander in the American army, and finally, to his end days, living in London, despised and disgraced. The story of Arnold's bravery and his rise in the esteem of the colonists is played out against the political squabbling and fears the Continental Congress had about military figures becoming too powerful and upsetting the delicate democracy they were busy creating. Through letters, journals, historic accounts, and other resources, Sheinkin keeps readers wanting to know what will happen next. Short, episodic chapters titled with relevant dates are an effective way to pace various battles—on the field and off—and understand their place in the larger picture of the war. Other key figures are well developed in the narrative. Seeing a glimpse of these personalities makes their subsequent actions believable and meaningful. *The Notorious Benedict Arnold* is likely to make readers want to learn more about the American Revolution and its players, great and small. Source notes at the end of the book allow them to do just that.—Karen Elliott, Grafton High School, WIα(c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

History junkies are in for a treat when they pick up this lively, highly readable biography of the U.S.' most vilified traitor. Emphasizing Arnold's reckless, adventurous side, Sheinkin, who admits to being a longtime admirer of the infamous figure, makes a good case for why Americans have cause to embrace the general's early incarnation as a heroic icon of the Revolution. Without his impetuous personality and willingness to hurl himself into a fray, the war might well have been lost before the French directed their might our way. Arnold's fall also becomes understandable, if inexcusable, in Sheinkin's hands. How much did his wounds, colossal ego, and need for money sway him to become a potential betrayer? Weaving in the story of John André, Arnold's British contact, creates an atmosphere of suspense. When will they finally meet? How close will they come to throwing the war? Copious source notes and quotation notes will lead both report writers and avid enthusiasts to additional materials. A worthy addition to all libraries. Grades 6-9. --Karen Cruze

Review

“* Sheinkin sees Arnold as America's ‘original action hero’ and succeeds in writing a brilliant, fast-paced biography that reads like an adventure novel. . . . The author's obvious mastery of his material, lively prose and abundant use of eyewitness accounts make this one of the most exciting biographies young readers will find.” *?Kirkus Reviews, starred review*

“* American history is brought to life in this engaging story of revolution and treason. . . . *The Notorious Benedict Arnold* is likely to make readers want to learn more about the American Revolution and its players, great and small.” *?School Library Journal, starred review*

“* Several complex political, social, and military themes emerge, one of the most prominent being that within the Continental army, often simplistically depicted as single-minded patriots, beat hearts scheming with political machinations that are completely familiar today. . . . Arnold's inexorable clash with Gates and his decision to turn traitor both chill and compel.” *?Horn Book Magazine, starred review*

“History junkies are in for a treat when they pick up this lively, highly readable biography of the U.S.'s most vilified traitor. . . . A worthy addition to all libraries.” *?Booklist*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Timothy Rowe:

Book is usually written, printed, or created for everything. You can learn everything you want by a book. Book has a different type. As it is known to us that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Next to that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A book *The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery* will make you to be smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about almost everything. But some of you think this open or reading any book make you bored. It is not necessarily make you fun. Why they can be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or ideal book with you?

Tara Wilson:

Do you one among people who can't read pleasant if the sentence chained inside straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This *The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery* book is readable by you who hate the straight word style. You will find the data here are arrange for enjoyable looking at experience without leaving actually decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer involving *The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery* content conveys the idea easily to understand by most people. The printed and e-book are not different in the content but it just different in the form of it. So , do you still thinking *The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery* is not loveable to be your top record reading book?

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Allen Lutz:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to

fill your free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book might be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the publication untitled The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery can be great book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

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