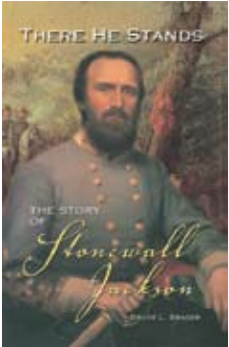


Civil War Generals



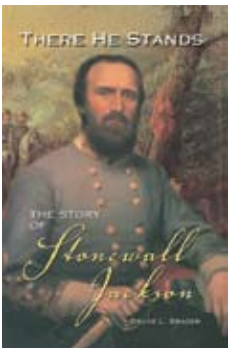
School Library Journal
November 2005

BRAGER, Bruce L. *There He Stands: The Story of Stonewall Jackson*. ISBN 1-931798-44-3. LC 2004014839.

RICE, Earle, Jr. *Robert E. Lee: First Soldier of the Confederacy*. ISBN 1-931798-47-8. LC 2004021105.

----. *Ulysses S. Grant: Defender of the Union*. ISBN 1-931798-48-6. LC 2004022345. ea vol: 176p. (Civil War Leaders Series). maps. photos. reprints. bibliog. chron. index. notes. Web sites. CIP. Morgan Reynolds. 2005. PLB \$24.95.

Gr 8-10 –All three books are well written and well illustrated with photographs, reproductions, and maps. Brager introduces readers to the complex man behind the legend. Jackson was a poor farm boy who struggled academically at West Point, yet went on to teach at the Virginia Military Institute (although he wasn't known as a very good instructor). He was revered by the Southern populace and often abhorred by his subordinates. Rice begins with Lee's youth, followed by his early career and marriage. He discusses the general's military prowess in great depth, not only describing the battles in which he fought, but also his personal reactions to them. Grant is similar in scope and content. A great deal of detail is given on the man's early career, including his participation in the Mexican-American War, and there is full coverage of his successful tenure as "general in chief of the Union armies." His battles with alcohol and his often-unsuccessful life out of the military are also detailed. These accessible titles are full of compelling and interesting insights into these important figures. –Elizabeth M. Reardon, McCallie School, Chattanooga, TN



VOYA

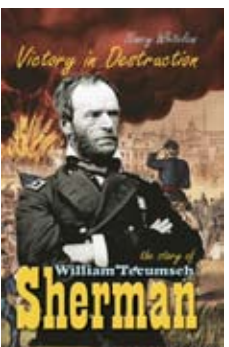
June 2005

3 Q * 2P * J * S

Brager, Bruce. *There He Stands: The Story of Stonewall Jackson*. 1-931798-44-3.

Whitelaw, Nancy. *Victory in Destruction: The Story of William Tecumseh Sherman*. 1-931798-31-1.

Dedicated to the point of obsession, loyal, self-sacrificing, career soldiers whose plans and attitudes sometimes clashed with those of fellow officers, William Tecumseh Sherman and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson were deeply respected by the men they led but they were rarely seen by their families. These detailed biographies focus mainly on their military careers but also provide some background into their personal lives. At times the reading is tedious as one battle after another is recounted during the main portions of the books. The writing is straightforward and gets the job done without any flowery language. These works might be used to gain insight into military strategy during the Civil War as well as fulfilling their primary role as biographies. Each chapter is approximately twenty pages in length with small print on glossy white pages. Reproductions of sections from actual letters written by some of the principles; color paintings; and some full page, black-and-white and sepia photographs from the era are included along with battle maps. Although the font used for captioning these items is tiny, it is readable. This reviewer is personally grateful that there are no annoying factoid boxes or "Did You Know?" sections to distract readers. Others in this series include biographies of Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant. –Pam Carlson

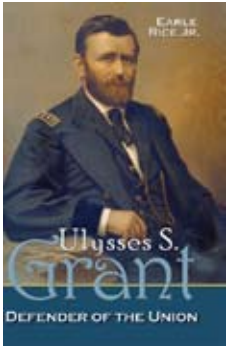


School Library Journal
May 2005

WHITELAW, Nancy. *Victory in Destruction: The Story of William Tecumseh Sherman*. 176p. maps. reprints. bibliog. chron. index. notes. Web sites. CIP. Morgan Reynolds. 2005. PLB \$24.95. ISBN 1-931798-31-1. LC 2004023837.

Gr 5-9–Whitelaw traces the general's young years, graduation from West Point, and a number of jobs he held that never brought him the success or financial security that he desired. Much like Ulysses Grant, his success came in the field he least pursued—the military. Sherman proved his worth fighting in the western theater of the Civil War, capturing key locations, including Atlanta. However, stress brought on a nervous breakdown and spawned newspaper stories about his mental stability. This text is chock-full of material about the times in which Sherman lived, which occasionally overwhelms

the biographical information. Average-quality, color reproductions and black-and-white historical photographs, maps, and excerpts from Sherman's memoirs appear throughout. It should be noted that Lincoln's "House Divided Speech" was given in Springfield, IL, not in New York.—Patricia Ann Owens, Wabash Valley College, Mt. Carmel, IL



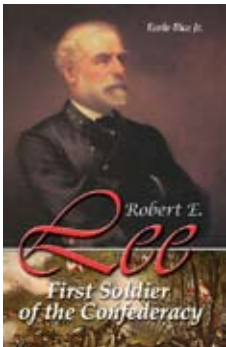
Booklist

March 15, 2005

Rice, Earle. ***Ulysses S. Grant: Defender of the Union***. 2005. 176p. illus. index. Morgan Reynolds, lib. ed., \$24.95 (1-931798-48-6).

Gr. 8-11. In this well-written biography, Rice presents Ulysses S. Grant, touching upon his Ohio boyhood, education at West Point, service in the Mexican War, military leadership during the Civil War, and two terms as president. Rice portrays Grant in an evenhanded manner, making good use of source materials for apt quotations. Particularly intriguing are the connections drawn between Grant's experiences as a young man and his later preferences, abilities, and decisions. Like other books in the Civil War Leaders series, this has an accessible look, with reproductions of period paintings, prints, photos, maps, and documents adding color and visual interest. Back matter includes a time line, source notes, a bibliography, and a list of Internet sites. The relatively high

reading level will slow some middle-school students, but more able readers will find this a fine introduction to Grant's life. Other recent volumes in the series include biographies of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. —Carolyn Phelan



The Horn Book Guide

2005

Brager, Bruce L. ***There He Stands: The Story of Stonewall Jackson*** 176 pp. Morgan LE ISBN 1-931798-44-3 \$26.95

Rice, Earle, Jr. ***Robert E. Lee: First Soldier of the Confederacy*** 176 pp. Morgan LE ISBN 1-931798-47-8 \$26.95

Rice, Earle, Jr. ***Ulysses S. Grant: Defender of the Union*** 176 pp. Morgan LE ISBN 1-931798-48-6 \$26.95

Whitelaw, Nancy ***Victory in Destruction: The Story of William Tecumseh Sherman*** 176 pp. Morgan LE ISBN 1-931798-31-1 \$26.95

(3) YA Civil War Leaders series. These four biographies recount the lives and accomplishments of two Confederate and two Union generals. Each gives an account of the general's childhood, his early years, and his importance to the Civil War, including the significant battles fought. Archival photographs, drawings, and maps illuminate the well-written texts. Timeline, websites. Bib., ind. LBC