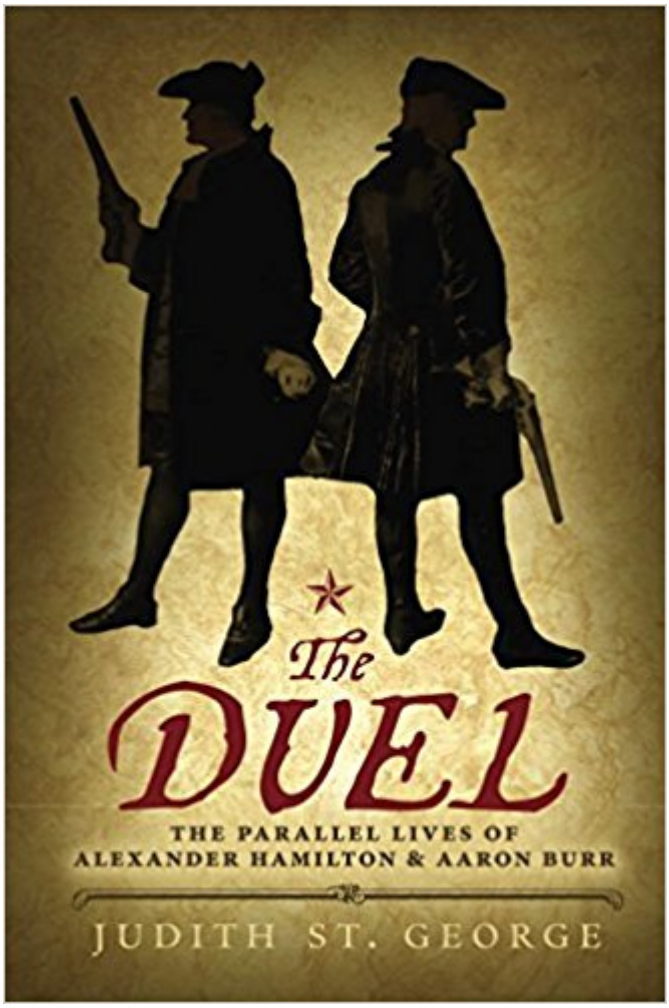
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The Duel: The Parallel Lives Of Alexander Hamilton And Aaron Burr



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Synopsis

Learn more about the men who inspired Hamilton: The Musical in this fascinating look at the historical friends turned revolutionary rivals!In curiously parallel lives, Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr were both orphaned at an early age. Both were brilliant students who attended college--one at Princeton, the other at Columbia--and studied law. Both were young staff officers under General George Washington, and both became war heroes. Politics beckoned them, and each served in the newly formed government of the fledgling nation. Why, then, did these two face each other at dawn in a duel that ended with death for one and harsh criticism for the other?Judith St. George's lively biography, told in alternating chapters, brings to life two complex men who played major roles in the formation of the United States.

Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Speak; Reprint edition (May 10, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0425288218

ISBN-13: 978-0425288214

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #18,278 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary Periods #5 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Social Science > Politics & Government #11 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Biographies > Historical

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 5-9Ã¢â ¬â œEarly in the morning on June 11, 1804, Aaron Burr shot and killed Alexander Hamilton. Both men were prominent citizens of the infant United States of AmericaÃ¢â ¬â œBurr, indeed, was the vice presidentÃ¢â ¬â œbut while Hamilton was lionized, Burr was vilified for the rest of his life. Interestingly, this marked the parting of ways in two lives that were remarkably similar. Both men had been orphaned young; both were excellent, driven students; both men had served on the staff of General George Washington during the Revolutionary War; both were lawyers in New York City; and both were deeply involved in politics. In the course of 25 years, their life paths crossed time and again, culminating in a tragic duel, as senseless as it was

damaging for both parties. St. George does an excellent job of presenting the stories of the two men, informed by particulars that give a sense of character as well as of the historical milieu. Readers who like historical fiction will find this equally intriguing and approachable. The nine chapters, chronologically organized and compellingly written, move along smoothly to the inevitable, but still distressing, end. Similar in content to Dennis Brindell Fradin's excellent Duel! Burr and Hamilton's Deadly War of Words (Walker, 2008), St. George's book has a bit more background on both men. Given its illustrative content, Fradin's title will move better with younger readers, but most collections could use both volumes.Ã¢â ¬â œAnn Welton, Helen B. Stafford Elementary, Tacoma, WA Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

"Well researched and organized, the book offers insights into the personalities, lives, and times of Burr and Hamilton. A fine choice . . ."--Booklist"St. George employs the dual biography format with facility and flair, bringing these two historical figures to life."--Horn Book"This well-researched book includes an excellent bibliography and a fairly thorough index. It would be useful in a school setting, not only as a dual biography but also as an introduction to life, culture, and the politicalsystem in the United States in the late 1700s."--Children's Literature"Well researched and even uses some primary sources, which helps readers get a real sense of who Hamilton and Burr really were and the impact their lives had on American history."--VOYA"St. George does an excellent job of presenting the stories of the two men . . . Readers who like historical fiction will find this equally intriguing and approachable."--School Library Journal"The author's ability to lucidly explain the political intricacies of the time is impressive, revealing to readers that politics were as ugly, if not uglier, in the nation's earliest days as they are now."--Kirkus Reviews

I chose to buy this book to feed my love for all things Alexander Hamilton these days. I wasn't quite ready for the Chernow biography (I have since purchased it). I am also a 6th grade teacher and I can't wait to share this with my students! It gives just the right amount of detail to keep the students interested, yet not too much that their eyes will glaze over while reading it. I think it is going to be the perfect addition to my classroom library due to the Hamil-mania that is happening right now!

How much do you know about our founding fathers? The was a very interesting read! The two men, their lives touched by similar events, yet it led to this very sad ending in a few pages.

A most interesting and valuable read to compliment "Hamilton: The Musical" !

I learned something new. It was interesting that their lives paralleled in many ways. I was reading it to my son (9) but he lost interest. I thought it might be a good book to get him reading non-fiction. Guess not, but I enjoyed it.

My 11 year old couldn’t put it down. Granted, he loves to read but this is a good history. Interestingly the narrative varies somewhat from the Alexander Hamilton biography that the Hamilton musical was based on.

Read in one weekend. I liked the duel story concept and gave just enough information about the relationship, the motive and the environment these 2 men shared.

Easy quick, yet enough detail about these two very complex, ambitious men both frustrated and both feeling unrealized and unappreciated.

DUELING TIMES... INCREDIBLE HOW MEN OF SUCH INTELLECT COULD NOT COPE WITH THEIR DISAGREEMENTS...

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