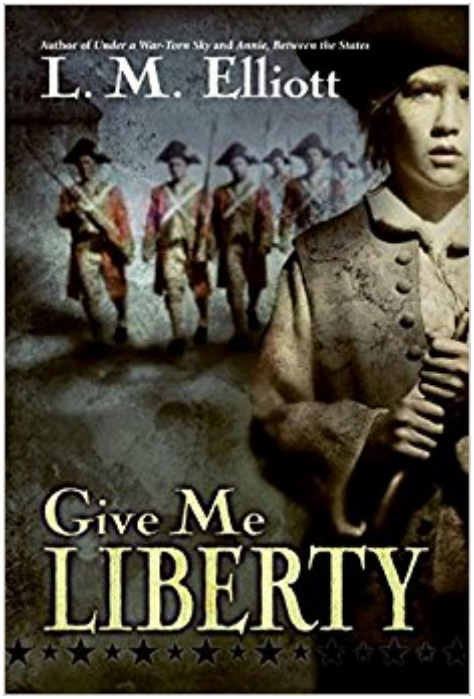
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Give Me Liberty



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Synopsis

An exciting novel for tweens that captures the dawn of the American Revolution.Life is tough for thirteen-year-old Nathaniel Dunn, an indentured servant in colonial Virginia. Then in a twist of luck, he meets Basil, a kind schoolmaster, and an arrangement is struck lending Nathaniel’s labor to a Williamsburg carriage maker. Basil introduces Nathaniel to music, books, and philosophies that open his mind to new attitudes about equality.The year is 1775, and as colonists voice their rage over England’s taxation, Patrick Henry’s words "give me liberty, or give me death" become the sounding call for action. Should Nathaniel and Basil join the fight? What is the meaning of "liberty" in a country reliant on indentured servants and slaves? Nathaniel must face the puzzling choices a dawning nation lays before him.Ã¢â ¬Å“Filled with action, well-drawn characters, and a sympathetic understanding of many points of view.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •ALA Booklist

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 810 (What’s this?)

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Katherine Tegen Books; Reprint edition (February 26, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060744235

ISBN-13: 978-0060744236

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.8 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #201,508 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #145 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > Colonial #165 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Military & Wars #593 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 5-8Ã¢â ¬â œThirteen-year-old indentured servant Nathaniel Dunn arrives in Williamsburg in 1774 to work for the local carriage maker. As the royal governor and the kings loyalists attempt to control the colonists more tightly, it becomes apparent that there will be no peaceful resolution to the tension. Through his friendship with an elderly schoolmaster, Nathaniel is exposed to music,

philosophy, and the political ideas of the day. While his inclination is to keep to himself and avoid trouble, he cannot help but be caught up in the events around him. One of his fellow servants is full of patriotic fervor and draws Nathaniel into the protests. The carriage maker, a staunch loyalist, becomes increasingly volatile as his business dwindles in the face of rising tension. In the end, Nathaniel must determine what he believes in and act accordingly. Elliotts engaging and highly readable novel is well researched and sprinkled liberally with renowned patriots of the period. Readers come away not only with an accurate glimpse into 18th-century life, but also with a better understanding of how the colonies cooperated. Particularly noteworthy is the way in which Elliott handles the paradox of colonial Americans fighting for their independence from England yet clinging to the practice of enslaving other human beings. She does not provide pat answers, and Nathaniels inability to reconcile what he sees around him promises to provoke thoughtful discussion. A rich and robust piece of historical literature.Ã¢â ¬â œKim Dare, Fairfax County Public Schools, VA
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Thirteen-year-old Nathaniel is an indentured servant in Williamsburg, Virginia, in 1774. Deserted by his father after his mother's death, he is relieved when Basil, a music teacher, takes him under his wing, but when he steals from Basil to help an escaped slave and then lies about the theft, he loses his protector's trust. The moral ambiguity of Nathaniel's actions reflects the shifting loyalties around him, as many colonists speak up against the Crown's injustices, argue about divided allegiances and civil disobedience, and, finally, rise up in armed rebellion. The final scenes take place at the Battle of Great Bridge, where Nathaniel encounters people from his past as well as the British army. Elliott packs a great deal of historical detail into a novel already filled with action, well-drawn characters, and a sympathetic understanding of many points of view. A detailed time line and a lengthy bibliography conclude a solid historical novel that portrays the period and the characters with equal care. Carolyn PhelanCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved
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Ranked from the standpoint of a teacher who would use the book in the American Revolution Historical Fiction unit. I love the blend of history with the story. I liked the characters, and I felt the story portrayed was believable. Although I liked it well enough, I have my doubts as to whether or not my 8th graders will share my enthusiasm. Still, for a book they may be required to read, I think they'll find it is a better read than most.

L. M. Elliott’s "Give me Liberty" tells a grand narrative terrific for middle grade readers regarding the hopes and challenges of this crucial era in American history.This book has FLOWN off the shelf of our school’s lending library. Credit to the skill of the writer and the history laced story. A highly recommended read for history fans of all ages.

I give it a 5 star rating because of the quality. The product is absolutely not a disappointment.

Our children need to understand our history as a nation, and this book is engages students to look at history critically. Multiple issues are addressed through the experiences of a young indentured servant.

Amazing Book for young readers!

The ending was very disappointing.

It was ok but it was boring at the beginning.

I read this in reading class. We did a book club. It’s very good. Even though it has a lot of pages, it’s still historical fiction

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