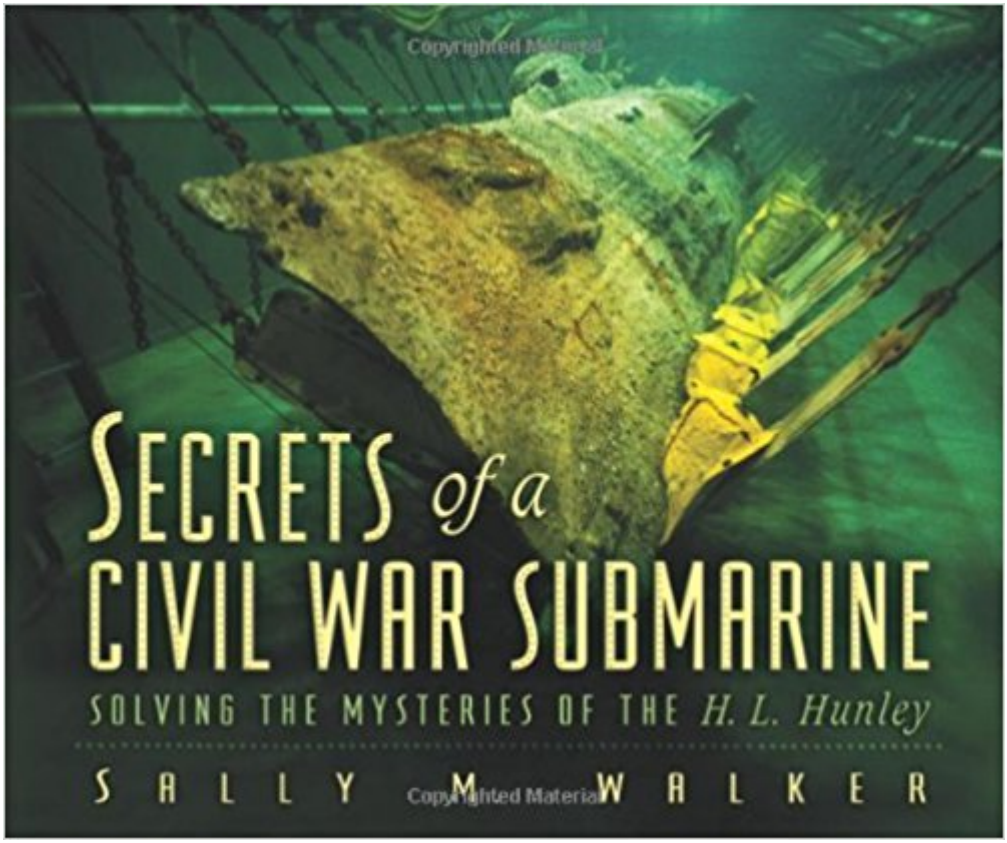
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Secrets Of A Civil War Submarine: Solving The Mysteries Of The H. L. Hunley



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Synopsis

On February 17, 1864, the H.L. Hunley made history as the first submarine to sink a ship in battle. Soldiers on the shore waited patiently after seeing the submarineÃ¢â ¬â„¢s return signal. But after several days, the ship had failed to return. What had gone wrong? In 1995, after over 130 years of searching, the H.L. Hunley was finally found buried off the coast of South Carolina. Follow author, Sally M. Walker on a fascinating journey through the workings of the famous submarine, its voyages, and the difficult obstacles that were overcome to recover, excavate and conserve the ship.

Book Information

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Age Range: 11 - 14 years

Grade Level: 6 - 9

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 6-10Ã¢â ¬â œWalker brings a little-known story of the Civil War to life in this fascinating book. When the Union blockade of all ports in the South stopped supplies from reaching the Confederate Army, Horace L. Hunley decided to create a submarine that would be able to sneak up on enemy ships and blow them up. After many years of trial and error, the H. L. Hunley actually succeeded in sinking the USS Housatonic in February of 1864. But the submarine never returned to port, and her crew perished in the Charleston Harbor. This is a finely crafted account of the Hunley from its inception to the modern archaeological quest to exhume her from the water. It is divided into chronological chapters complete with pictures, maps, and primary sources. Half of the

book discusses the construction and design of the submarine, in addition to its practice runs and its first and only mission. The second half consists of the process of locating and excavating the Hunley, as well as piecing together the puzzle of exactly what happened on that fateful night in 1864. The archaeological process is well documented in both words and pictures, and the conclusions are interesting and even surprising. Highly recommended for school and public libraries.Ã¢â ¬â œAnna M. Nelson, Collier County Public Library, Naples, FL Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Starred Review Gr. 7-10. The author of Fossil Fish Found Alive (2002) now discusses a different sort of discovery, the Confederate submarine H. L. Hunley. After sinking a Union sloop near Charleston, South Carolina, in 1864, the hunley did not return to port. Although divers searched for more than 130 years, the sub was not found until 1995. Over the last 10 years, archaeologists have carefully raised the hunley and painstakingly sifted through the 20,000 pounds of sediment it contained for artifacts and human remains and, ultimately, clues to why, when, and how the vessel sank. Walker begins with the history of the Hunley's design and construction as well as its place in Civil War and naval history. She really hits her stride, though, in explaining the complex techniques and loving care used in raising the craft, recovering its contents, and even reconstructing models of the crewmembers' bodies. Back matter includes a detailed author's note, source notes, a bibliography, and recommended Web sites. Thoroughly researched, nicely designed, and well illustrated with clear, color photos, the book will serve as an informative guide to anyone interested in the hunley or intrigued by archaeology. Carolyn PhelanCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved

My kids devoured this book. Clear writing a d large photographs, plus who doesn't like a shipwreck? Impressive. Plenty of information. Nice long book.More books like this, please.

Not being a history buff I must admit (to my shame) I had never heard of the Hunley before my husband and I paid a visit to the museum where it is now located. I didn't want to pay the prices for the books at the gift shop so when I got home I looked for an inexpensive book that would give me some of the history and had most of the pictures of what I had seen. This is exactly what I was looking for. I found the reading interesting without being overwhelming. The pictures were also exactly what I was looking for to remind me of what turned out to be an extremely interesting chapter in American history.

Secrets Of A Civil War Submarine, by Sally Walker, provides a nice, quick overview of the Hunley's history, recovery, excavation, and conservation. Targeting the late grade-school reader, the book is written in the style of and at a similar level to a National Geographic article. Any reader will enjoy it and come away with a good understanding of the Hunley project. There are a few detail mistakes, such as in an explanation of neutral buoyancy, but the main point is always delivered successfully by the text. I've been studying material on the Hunley since 2000, but I found several important bits of information I haven't seen elsewhere. The explanation of archaeological techniques as applied in the Hunley excavation is the best I've read. The book is nicely illustrated, although most of the photos have been previously published, and the interpretive drawings contain some fairly large inaccuracies. Overall, I'm happy to have this in my collection of books about the Hunley and I'm glad to recommend it.

Despite most people's fascination with land battles there was a war at sea. This book does a great job of opening a window that most people never thought of looking through.

After seeing the Hunley at Charleston SC, I thoroughly enjoyed this book. How those sailors crammed themselves in this unproven submersiblemachine of the Civil War is almost unbelievable. It killed more Confederates than it did the Union enemies!

A fantastic pictorial review of the rediscovery of the Hunley's resting place outside Charleston, it's fascinating recovery and subsequent archeological investigation. It also introduces the reader to the men who manned her on her fateful first and last mission against a Federal vessel blockading Confederate supplies entering the harbor. A great introduction to this interesting if little known aspect of the war between the states.

This is a fine book for anyone interested in this part of the civil war. That it has been raised from the sea bottom and is currently on display, makes the book even more of a preliminary read before a trip to actually visit and view.

Love this submarine book! Beautiful pictures and great information. Found this book to be very helpful in writing a paper on submarines in the Civil War.

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