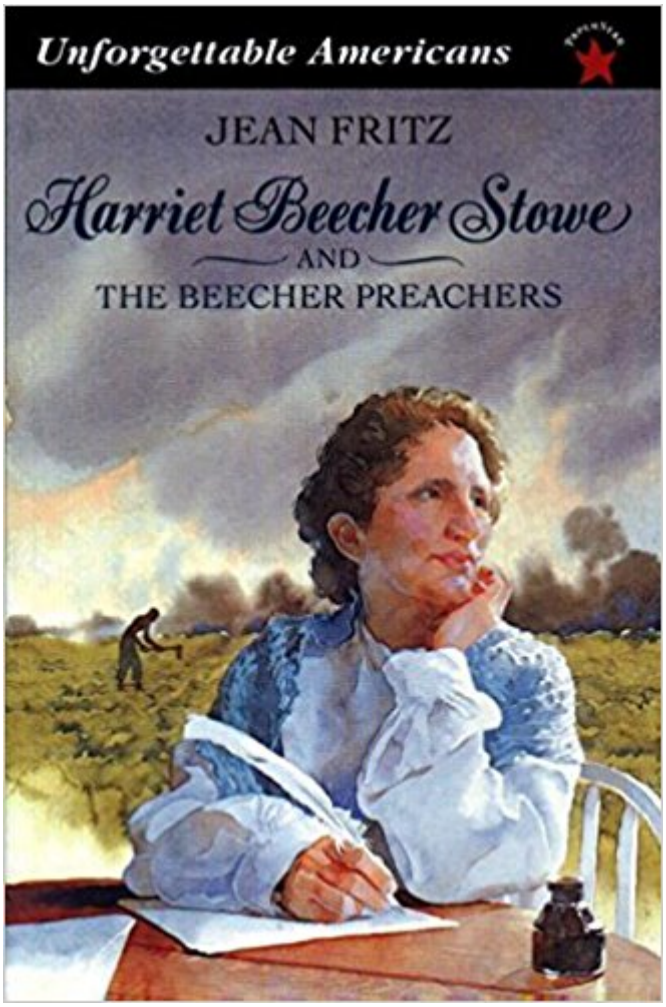
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Harriet Beecher Stowe And The Beecher Preachers (Unforgettable Americans)



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Synopsis

Harriet Beecher Stowe grew up in a family in which her seven brothers were expected to be successful preachers and the four girls were never to speak in public. But slavery made Harriet so angry she couldn’t keep quiet. Although she used a pen rather than her voice to convince people of the evils of slavery, she became more famous than any of her brothers. She firmly believed that words could make change, and by writing Uncle Tom’s Cabin, Harriet Beecher Stowe hastened the Civil War and changed the course of America history. "Readable and engrossing." -- The Horn Bookn"Fritz writes with verve and wit....Many kids will be stimulated to go on from here to find out more." -- Booklist (boxed review)

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fritz (Around the World in a Hundred Years) is justly celebrated for her ability to combine wry humor with the salient stories about the subjects of her many biographies. She scores another success with this lively book about the author of Uncle Tom’s Cabin. Fritz’s picture of Stowe, however, isn’t so much that of an influential writer as it is of a woman struggling to make her voice heard in a family where boys were seen as assets and girls as, simply, not boys. The Beechers, headed by the prominent, iron-willed preacher Lyman Beecher, were both an influential and a tragic family, and they shaped many areas of American thinking and politics. Fritz captures their public and private careers magnificently, in the process unfolding the major events of the Civil War. At the same time, Stowe remains firmly at the center of this well-researched book, and her transformation-from a

restless young woman too shy to use her own name in print to a confident speaker whom Lincoln once called "the little lady who started the great big war"-shines through. Illustrations not seen by PW. Ages 10-14. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 4-8-With her usual respect for young readers, Fritz explores not only a life, but also a family, an era, and vitally important social movements. With careful scholarship and without fictionalizing, she vividly evokes the people and times and shows the Beechers' strengths and weaknesses in an engaging, immediate style. It's hard not to feel annoyed with the eldest Beecher sister, Catharine, whose intention was to run everyone's life, and with the ineffectual, hypochondriachal Calvin Stowe, whose demands and crotchets would have derailed a lesser woman than Harriet. Readers will admire her from the start-she is described as a bright young girl who would not be ignored, and later as an overworked wife and mother who somehow managed to write in her non-existent spare time. Fritz covers the same information as two other well-done biographies for this age level, but her approach is different. Robert Jakoubek's Harriet Beecher Stowe (Chelsea, 1989) devotes more space to slavery and the Fugitive Slave Act, and Suzanne Coil's Harriet Beecher Stowe (Watts, 1993) is packed with material about the family. In fewer pages, Fritz conveys the same facts while bringing the subject to life. Librarians should not pass on this book just because they own the other two. It has great appeal, and will be read for pleasure as well as for reports.Sally Margolis, Deerfield Public Library, ILCopyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This woman was the author of Uncle Tom's Cabin. She was the daughter of a preacher and the wife of preacher who could not tolerate slavery and wrote a story that helped cause the Civil War to happen sooner than later as she exposed the sin of slavery and it's effect on people of color. This woman had strength of character, morals, and a message of truth that had to be shared with the world. Inspiring and Fabulous!

While this is just a small pocket book, it was a delight to read. I had purchased it for a friend who is a direct descendant of the Beetcher clan from New England. She is doing genealogy research on the family, and the information in the two books I got her (the other was "Sinners, Saints, and Beechers", was fantastic in filling in some data she was severely lacking. Both she and her mom were thrilled to get these copies.

Got this book for an advanced 2nd grader to use for a biography. She really liked it and could comprehend it well. She was able to get a good deal of info from it!

A light and lively read that you can do in short time. Enjoyed it very much!

I’m sure there are lots of good facts, but it was not engaging enough to keep my attention.

The lives of the twelve children of Lyman Beecher, a fiery New England minister determined that all his sons become preachers, are chronicled in this book. But the primary focus is on his middle daughter, Harriet Beecher, who longed for her father’s love and approval.The shy, talented Harriet was overshadowed by her older and domineering sister Catherine after the death of their mother when they were young. Trying to please everyone, Harriet lived her life "doing as she ought" and giving in to the desires of almost everyone around her.During a time of unprecedented upheaval in America because of slavery, it took the urging of her husband, brother, and a dear sister-in-law to convince Harriet to use her pen to change the world. The result was Uncle Tom’s Cabin, a novel that, in President Lincoln’s words, "started this big war." It was her story that changed the minds of many in America and led to the Emancipation Proclamation and the Civil War to end slavery.The entire Beecher family suffered with bouts of depression in a day when there was no medical help available. In addition, the influence of a harsh, critical father who preached God’s wrath and judgment sent his twelve children in opposite directions. Two committed suicide, one was institutionalized for insanity, and others spent their lives meddling in the affairs of their family. The saving grace of the family resulted in Henry Ward Beecher, one of the best known and beloved preachers of New England, three other ministers, and Harriet, whose passion and sense of justice made her the toast of Europe and the conscience of America in the late 19th century.This unpretentious book is a vaulable essay for young ministers especially, but also for anyone who enjoys history and biographies.

When I hear the word `biography’, the first thing I think is another boring book of facts. But Jean Fritz keeps her reader’s interested, talking in a conversational tone, while weaving the tale of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s life during the Civil War. You watch the influential writer and her family grow - facing much hardship and happiness. I would give this book five stars. Anyone who is interested in life during the civil war - well, Harriet’s life at least, should definitely read this book. I would

recommend it to kids 10-15.

This book was recomended to my by one of my study books after I finished reading Uncle Tom's Cabin. This book gives you insightful information about Harriet and her family, but does not make it dull. It is not to long of a book perfect for those readers who don't want to waste time on extra information. This book made me want to study further on about Harriet Beecher Stowe and learn more about her. I highly recomend this book to anyone who wants to learn more about someone and their part of making history.

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