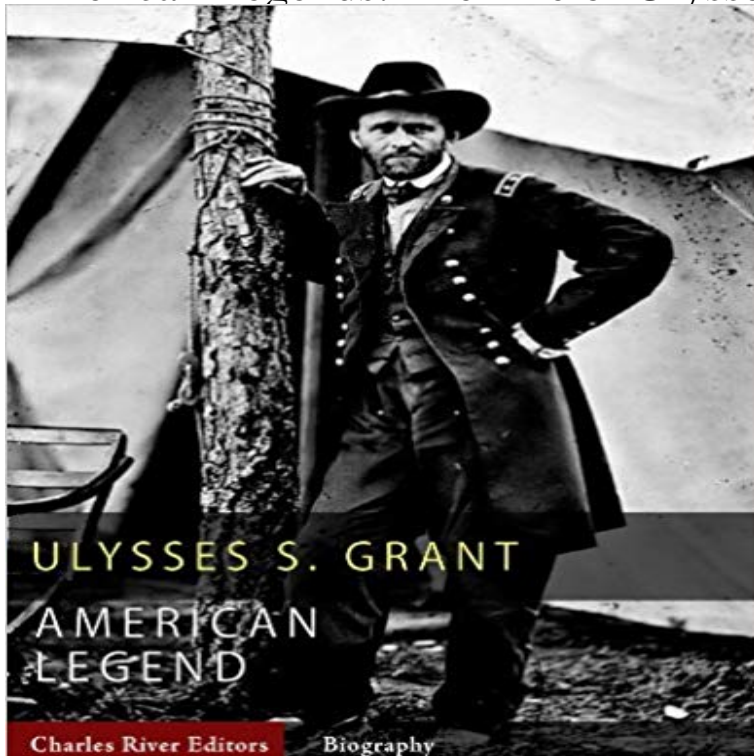


American Legends: The Life of Ulysses S. Grant



*Includes 30 pictures of Grant and important people, places, and events in his life.*Includes anecdotes about Grants life, such as how Hiram Ulysses Grant came to be known as Ulysses S. Grant.*Includes a Table of Contents.A lot of ink has been spilled covering the lives of historys most influential figures, but how much of the forest is lost for the trees? In Charles River Editors American Legends series, readers can get caught up to speed on the lives of Americas most important men and women in the time it takes to finish a commute, while learning interesting facts long forgotten or never known. In the 19th century, one of the surest ways to rise to prominence in American society was to be a war hero, like Andrew Jackson and William Henry Harrison. But few would have predicted such a destiny for Hiram Ulysses Grant, who had been a career soldier with little experience in combat and a failed businessman when the Civil War broke out in 1861. However, while all eyes were fixed on the Eastern theater at places like Manassas, Richmond, the Shenandoah Valley and Antietam, Grant went about a steady rise up the ranks through a series of successes in the West. His victory at Fort Donelson, in which his terms to the doomed Confederate garrison earned him the nickname Unconditional Surrender Grant, could be considered the first major Union victory of the war, and Grants fame and rank only grew after that at battlefields like Shiloh and Vicksburg. Along the way, Grant nearly fell prey to military politics and the belief that he was at fault for the near defeat at Shiloh, but President Lincoln famously defended him, remarking, I cant spare this man. He fights. Lincolns steadfastness ensured that Grants victories out West continued to pile up, and after Vicksburg and Chattanooga, Grant had effectively ensured Union control of the states of Kentucky and Tennessee, as well as the entire Mississippi River. At the

beginning of 1864, Lincoln put him in charge of all federal armies, and he led the Army of the Potomac against Robert E. Lee in the Overland campaign, the siege of Petersburg, and famously, the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox. Although Grant was instrumental in winning the war and eventually parlayed his fame into two terms in the White House, his legacy and accomplishments are still the subjects of heavy debate today. His presidency is remembered mostly due to rampant fraud within his Administration, although he was never personally accused of wrongdoing, and even his victories in the Civil War have been countered by charges that he was a butcher. Like the other American Legends, much of Grants personal life has been eclipsed by the momentous battles and events in which he participated, from Fort Donelson to the White House. American Legends: The Life of Ulysses S. Grant covers the amazing accomplishments of Grants life and career while putting a human touch on the Westerner who rose from virtually nothing to become the most influential general and author of the Civil War, and an important president. Along with pictures of Grant and other important people, places and events in his life, you will learn about Grant like you never have before, in no time at all.

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