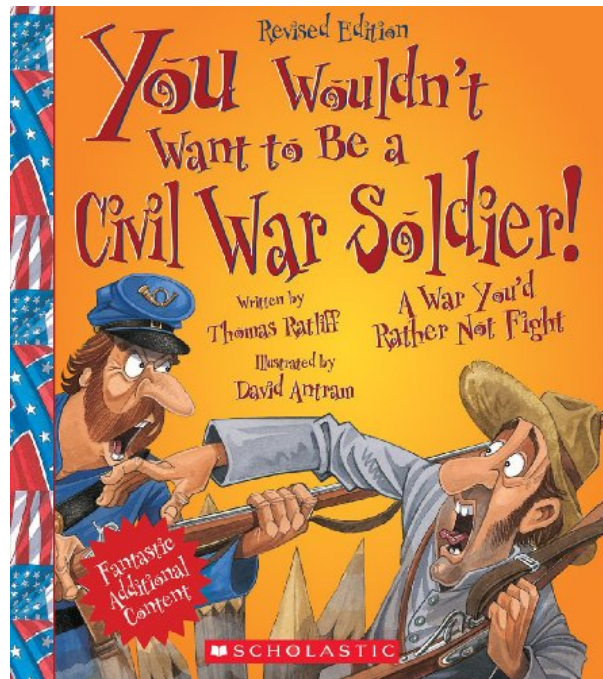
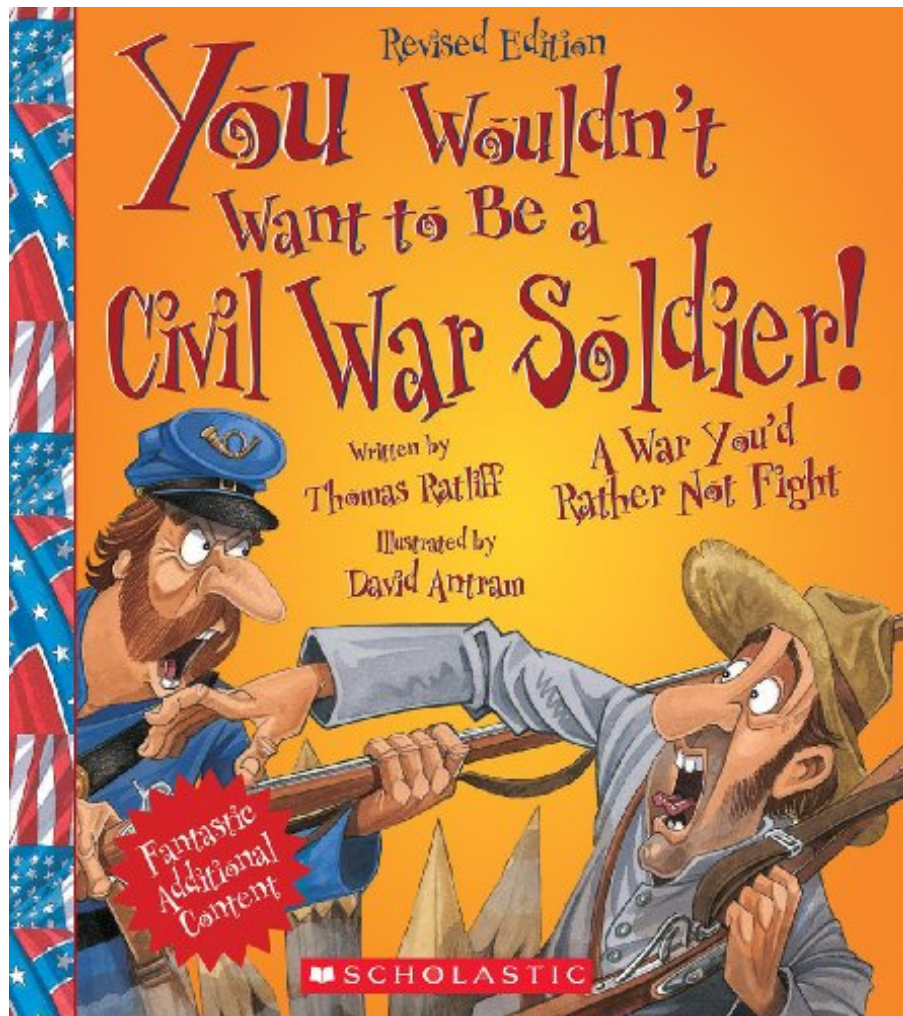


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Its 1861. War has broken out between the United States and the Confederate States of America, and you have answered President Lincoln's call for volunteers to fight for the Union. What are your chances of surviving America's bloodiest war? This new extended edition includes a Civil War timeline, details of major battles, and fascinating information on the role of women in the Civil War.

- Sales Rank: #80650 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Childrens Pr
- Published on: 2013-01-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x 8.25" w x .25" l, .40 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 32 pages

## Features

- Used Book in Good Condition

## Most helpful customer reviews

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful.

Flawed, but an original approach

By Wesley Clark

The good: I liked the approach, "You wouldn't want to be a Civil War soldier - a war you'd rather not fight." After 35+ years of reading about the subject, I have come to the same conclusion. I also liked the humorous style. It seems wholly original to me.

The bad: It's flawed in a number of places...

The cover - Are those modern rifle \*cartridges\* flying through the air, not the bullets? I suspect the artist, David Antram, has never fired a real gun or he'd know better! The minie ball is an important part of Civil War knowledge - why not depict it?

Page 5: A Confederate naval ensign (the rectangular flag) is shown crossed with the Union flag. More accurate to show a Confederate battle flag, which was square.

Page 7: The protagonist is shown wearing Ambrose Burnside "wraparound" sideburns and mustache. This is very atypical facial hair in the Civil War. Better to show a full beard - or, since the reader is likely to be a child - no facial hair.

Page 12 and page 21: Black men are shown in white Union army regiments. In fact, they were segregated.

This, I suspect, is a nod towards political correctness.

Page 17: The Battle of Antietam is depicted in mud or brown dirt with fortifications. In fact, the battle was fought on farmland - no fortifications.

Page 19: The Gettysburg hand-to-hand combat was fought in the woods, not on a dirt field as depicted.

Page 20: I wear wool uniforms when I reenact the Civil War. They are not itchy.

Page 20: Robert E. Lee is shown with dark hair. In fact, it was white.

By the way... on pages 22 and 23 there is lots of blood shown in a hospital scene. In fact, in the library copy I used, somebody (parent? librarian?) taped the pages shut. Naturally, I untaped them. I think this belongs in this children's book but apparently others didn't think so.

Last note: This is a British series, with a British artist and series creator. Normally the Brits are much better with military facts.

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

Not up to the standards of this series

By Ori Pomerantz

The "you wouldn't want to ..." series is great to teach children history, because it shows what life was like. How gladiators trained, how knights fought, and so on. This is very interesting for children.

This book only mentions a few details of daily life. Instead, it is a list of battles with their dates and a few details. That makes it boring and irrelevant to the target audience.

Save your money for something really good, such as *You Wouldn't Want to Live in a Wild West Town!* (*You Wouldn't Want to...*) or *You Wouldn't Want to Be an American Pioneer!* (*You Wouldn't Want to...*)

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

An entertaining, historically solid introduction to the Civil War for 4th graders and over (a history teacher's review)

By DWD's Reviews

I just discovered this series and I've been reading a few of them for fun this summer.

"You Wouldn't Want to Be a Civil War Soldier..." is entertaining and it contains solid, accurate history presented in a visually interesting format.

While I've been looking a few of these over for my own personal entertainment, my almost 4th grade daughter has been sneaking them out of the stack and reading them without any encouragement from me. Imagine! Kids surreptitiously reading history!

The only complaint I have about the book is the total lack of African American faces in the drawings. The book notes that 179,000 African American soldiers served in the war, which is good but fails to include a single African American in the drawings. While it mostly makes sense due to the strict segregation of the army (the book follows one soldier from Connecticut who joins before the First Battle of Bull Run and stays until Appomattox), if I had been the editor I would have insisted on including African Americans on pages 26 & 27, the pages that talk about the siege of Petersburg and the Battle of the Crater. African Americans made up the bulk of the Union troops in the first wave of the Battle of the Crater and it would have been a

great place to include some different faces in the art.

See all 20 customer reviews...

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