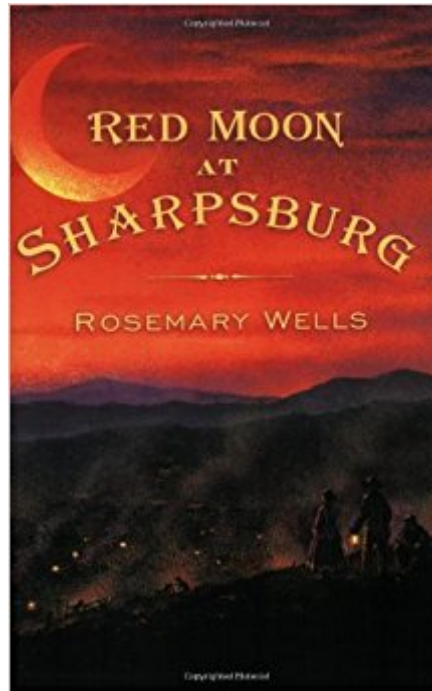




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Red Moon At Sharpsburg



Synopsis

When the Civil War breaks out, life in the South is transformed and nothing remains the same. India Moody must summon the courage she didn't know she had to plunge into one of the war's most tragic and terrifying events—the Battle of Antietam, known in the South as Sharpsburg—in order to get medicine to her desperately sick father. As she struggles for survival during the Union's brutal occupation, India gets an education in love and loss, the senseless devastation of war, and the triumph of hope in the face of despair.

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 7 Up •One word describes 13-year-old India

Moody—perseverance. She has heard of a college in Ohio that accepts women and is determined to go there, an unthinkable dream for a girl in 1862. She is tutored by her neighbor, Emory Trimble, an eccentric scientist who teaches her about biology and chemistry, and with whom she later forms a romantic relationship. When her father, an ambulance wagon driver for the Confederate Army, is missing in action, she sets off to find him, ending up in the middle of the Battle of Antietam, one of the bloodiest of the war. She faces danger as the Union Army advances toward her home in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley and sees soldiers leave her town and not return. She

witnesses Micah and Ester, slaves and friends of the Trimbles, harbor an injured Yankee soldier, putting their own lives in danger. Wells has created a sense of what the North and the South endured during the Civil War by interweaving stories from both sides, and gives a horrifying picture of medical practices and superstitions of the times. This powerful novel is unflinching in its depiction of war and the devastation it causes, yet shows the resilience and hope that can follow such a tragedy. India is a memorable, thoroughly believable character who faces many losses, yet readers are confident that she will follow her dream and attend Oberlin College. --Shannon Seglin, Chantilly Regional Library, Fairfax County, VA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Her school shuttered at the outbreak of the Civil War, India Moody, a 12-year-old Southerner, receives tutoring in natural sciences from progressive Emory Trimble, who encourages the smart, restless girl to aim for college. Soon enough, though, India must set aside her ambitions to shoulder the traditional burdens of women in wartime--nursing the wounded, comforting the grieving, stoically enduring even as her "heart tears down its middle seam." India's fierce hopes and restrained romance with Emory will hold readers, as will images etched by Wells' poetic, forceful writing, including unflinching scenes of the battlefield at Antietam, where bodies "blacken and bloat like sausages." An author's note and bibliographic note conclude, although neither address one unforgettable moment of magical realism in which green lights rise from the chests of dead soldiers: "Emerald stars . . . spill from the fallen men as far as a person can see." In a novel so clearly grounded in historical accuracy, readers will certainly wonder if this vivid scene has any factual basis. The overall impact of the novel is a potent call for peace and decency in any era, as well as a welcome representation of the Southern civilian experience for young adults. Jennifer Mattson Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Rosemary Wells has long been a favorite of mine from reading "Morris's Disappearing Bag" and "Stanley and Rhoda" to my now 27 and 25 year old sons to reading "Mary on Horseback" to my 7th grade class last year. Her newly published "Red Moon at Sharpsburg" is possibly her best work so far. Told from the point of view of a young Southern girl during the Civil War, it offers a realistic view of the effect this bloody war had on the lives of the people whose emotions go from total optimism that the South would win in less than 90 days to the realization that the Southern way of life has

disappeared forever. The characters are three dimensional and neither side comes across as noble. Rather, all aspects of war are well developed and described in almost poetic if sometimes graphic terms. I highly recommend this novel to all readers grade 7 on up. P.S. Teachers of US History might want to incorporate this into a unit on the Civil War.

LOVED this book. We live in Nebraska and this book was on the Golden Sower list to read. If you are a Civil War lover as we are you'll enjoy this story. My daughter and I read this book we are hoping the author writes a new book to let us know what happens to the characters.

Received as described.

Great story of life during the civil war.

My daughter (13, 8th grade) loves to read. She reads a couple of hours every day and has read several historical novels and novels set in war time (Slaughterhouse Five, The Boy with the Striped Pajamas, The Diary of Anne Frank, even Calico Captive). One year it seemed that most books on the Battle of the Books list was about various wars. In all of that reading, this is the first book (required reading for school), that she's had difficulty forcing herself to get through. She says it's probably one of the most dull books she has ever picked up. Coming from an avid reader who will read just about anything, I take this as a definite sign that this is a book that should be skipped.

Book was brand new or appeared to be. Thanks!!!

Who's bright idea this was to make it other required reading for 8th grader? North Carolina Wake County Public School System Teachers of course. Do not recommend as required reading. If you are into depressing stories, by all means buy it and read it.

Since the teacher didn't have enough books for every student, that's why we purchase the book from your company so our granddaughter can make good grades, and be up on what the teacher questions them the next day.

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