

for cause and comrades free

for cause and comrades free is a phrase that resonates deeply with those interested in the historical and social impact of war, especially as explored in James M. McPherson's influential work "For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War." This comprehensive article delves into the themes, motivations, and historical significance behind the book, while also discussing how readers can access information about it for free. We explore the powerful narratives that shaped the soldiers' experiences, analyze the author's approach, and offer insights into why the book remains a vital resource for scholars and enthusiasts today. Whether you are searching for a summary, analysis, or ways to engage with "For Cause and Comrades" without cost, this article provides a thorough and SEO-optimized overview. Read on to discover the enduring relevance of this classic Civil War study, the key findings within its pages, and practical advice for those seeking "for cause and comrades free" resources.

- Understanding "For Cause and Comrades"
- Key Themes and Motivations in the Book
- Major Findings and Historical Insights
- Accessing "For Cause and Comrades" for Free
- Impact on Civil War Scholarship
- Frequently Asked Questions

Understanding "For Cause and Comrades"

"For Cause and Comrades" is a seminal work by historian James M. McPherson, published in 1997, that examines the personal motivations of soldiers during the American Civil War. Drawing upon thousands of letters and diaries from Union and Confederate soldiers, McPherson provides a rare and intimate look into the minds of those who fought, exploring not just the historical context but also the emotional and ideological drives behind their commitment. The book is highly regarded for its rigorous research and its ability to humanize history, making it a valuable resource for educators, students, and history enthusiasts alike. The phrase "for cause and comrades free" often leads readers to search for free versions, summaries, or analyses online, reflecting the enduring popularity of McPherson's work.

Key Themes and Motivations in the Book

The Role of Ideology

One of the central themes in "For Cause and Comrades" is the powerful influence of ideology on Civil War soldiers. McPherson demonstrates that many fighters from both the Union and Confederate sides were motivated by deeply held beliefs, including patriotism, duty, and the defense of liberty or property. Ideological commitment was often expressed in personal correspondence and became the foundation for many soldiers' resilience during the hardships of war.

Comradeship and Group Loyalty

Another major theme is the bond between soldiers and their comrades. McPherson shows how group loyalty and shared experience fostered a sense of belonging and mutual responsibility. Soldiers often risked their lives not only for abstract causes but also for the men fighting beside them. This camaraderie helped sustain morale and contributed to the willingness to endure extreme adversity.

Personal Sacrifice and Duty

The concept of duty is intricately explored throughout the book. Letters and diaries reveal that many soldiers felt a moral obligation to their families, communities, and nation. This sense of sacrifice went beyond self-preservation, with individuals expressing a readiness to die for their beliefs and comrades. The interplay between personal duty and collective cause forms a core thread in McPherson's analysis.

- Patriotism and national identity
- Loyalty to comrades and regiments
- Religious convictions and moral duty
- Desire for adventure and personal glory
- Fear of shame and dishonor

Major Findings and Historical Insights

Union vs. Confederate Motivations

McPherson's research reveals notable differences and similarities in the motivations of Union and Confederate soldiers. While both groups were driven by a combination of ideological and personal factors, Union soldiers frequently cited the preservation of the nation and the ideals of liberty as their

primary motivations. Confederate soldiers, on the other hand, were often motivated by the defense of home, state rights, and personal honor.

The Significance of Letters and Diaries

The book relies extensively on primary sources such as letters and diaries, which provide an authentic glimpse into the soldiers' minds. These documents are invaluable for understanding the emotional landscape of the Civil War, revealing not only what soldiers fought for but also how they coped with the realities of combat and loss.

Changing Perspectives Over Time

McPherson notes that motivations could evolve during the course of the war. Early enthusiasm sometimes gave way to disillusionment, yet many soldiers maintained their commitment to cause and comrades throughout the conflict. The shift in perspective is critical for understanding the psychological resilience of those who served.

Accessing "For Cause and Comrades" for Free

Free Summaries and Analyses

Numerous educational platforms and academic resources provide free summaries and analyses of "For Cause and Comrades." These materials help readers grasp the main arguments and historical context without requiring purchase. Summaries typically highlight major themes, key findings, and representative quotes from the book.

Public Libraries and Digital Archives

Public libraries often offer free access to "For Cause and Comrades" in both physical and digital formats. Some libraries provide e-book lending services, enabling readers to borrow the book at no cost. Additionally, digital archives such as university repositories may host scholarly articles and excerpts related to the book's content.

Open Educational Resources

Open educational resources (OER) may include study guides, lecture notes, and discussion questions based on McPherson's work. These resources are designed to support learning and research, making them valuable tools for students and teachers seeking "for cause and comrades free" information.

1. Check local and university libraries for free access.
2. Search for open-source study guides and academic papers.
3. Utilize educational websites for summaries and reviews.
4. Look for public domain material or authorized excerpts.

Impact on Civil War Scholarship

Influence on Historical Research

"For Cause and Comrades" has had a profound impact on the field of Civil War studies. By prioritizing the voices of individual soldiers, McPherson shifted scholarly focus toward personal experience and motivation, encouraging subsequent historians to incorporate similar methodologies. The book remains a touchstone for research on military psychology and social history.

Educational Value

Educators frequently use "For Cause and Comrades" to teach students about the complexities of war and the importance of primary sources. Its accessible narrative and rich documentation make it an ideal text for high school and college courses. The availability of free resources further enhances its educational value.

Popular Interest and Enduring Legacy

The enduring popularity of "For Cause and Comrades" is reflected in continued demand for free summaries, analyses, and discussions. The book's ability to humanize historical events ensures its relevance to new generations of readers. Its legacy is evident in ongoing debates about the nature of motivation, sacrifice, and camaraderie in military history.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the main focus of "For Cause and Comrades"?

A: The main focus is to explore the motivations and experiences of Civil War soldiers using personal letters and diaries to reveal why they fought and what sustained them.

Q: Can I find "For Cause and Comrades" for free?

A: While the full book may not be freely available due to copyright, many libraries offer free access, and numerous educational platforms provide summaries, analyses, and study guides at no cost.

Q: What are the central themes in "For Cause and Comrades"?

A: Central themes include ideological commitment, comradeship, duty, personal sacrifice, and the psychological resilience of soldiers.

Q: How does the book use primary sources?

A: The book relies heavily on letters and diaries from Civil War soldiers, providing an authentic view into their thoughts, motivations, and experiences.

Q: What differences existed between Union and Confederate soldiers' motivations?

A: Union soldiers were often motivated by the preservation of the nation and liberty, while Confederate soldiers focused on defending their homes, state rights, and personal honor.

Q: Are there open educational resources related to "For Cause and Comrades"?

A: Yes, many open educational resources offer study guides, lecture notes, and discussion materials based on the book's content.

Q: Why is "For Cause and Comrades" important for Civil War scholarship?

A: The book shifted focus toward personal experience and motivation, influencing how historians study military psychology and the social aspects of war.

Q: How can I use this book in my studies?

A: You can use it as a primary source for essays, research projects, or classroom discussions, drawing on its rich documentation and analysis.

Q: What makes "For Cause and Comrades" accessible to general readers?

A: The clear narrative style, use of personal stories, and availability of free summaries and analyses make it accessible to a wide audience.

Q: Is "For Cause and Comrades" recommended for high school and college courses?

A: Yes, it is widely recommended due to its educational value, use of primary sources, and relevance to understanding the complexities of war.

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For Cause and Comrades Free: Exploring the Power of Collective Action

Have you ever felt the surge of energy, the unwavering conviction, that comes from fighting for something bigger than yourself? The feeling of solidarity, of shared purpose, with like-minded individuals? This is the essence of "For Cause and Comrades Free," a concept that explores the profound impact of collective action fueled by shared ideals and unwavering commitment. This post will delve into the historical context of this powerful phrase, examine its modern interpretations, and uncover the strategies and principles behind successful collective movements. We'll look at the benefits, the challenges, and the enduring legacy of fighting "for cause and comrades free."

H2: A Historical Perspective: Understanding the Roots of "For Cause and Comrades Free"

The phrase itself hints at a rich history, echoing sentiments found across various revolutionary and social movements. While the exact origins are difficult to pinpoint, the underlying meaning resonates strongly with the struggles for liberation, justice, and equality throughout human history. Think of the American Revolution, fueled by a shared desire for freedom from oppressive rule; the abolitionist movement, driven by a commitment to eradicating slavery; or the Suffragette movement, demanding equal rights for women. Each movement, distinct in its goals, shared a common thread: the unwavering belief in a cause, and the strength found in comradeship. These movements highlight the power of collective action when individuals unite for a shared purpose, sacrificing personal comfort and even risking safety for the greater good.

H2: Modern Interpretations: Applying the Principle Today

The principle of "for cause and comrades free" remains strikingly relevant in the 21st century. We see its echoes in modern social justice movements, environmental activism, and the fight for global human rights. From the #MeToo movement challenging sexual harassment and assault to climate change protests demanding urgent action, individuals are banding together, recognizing the power of collective voice and action. This modern interpretation expands beyond traditional political

activism, encompassing various forms of community engagement, volunteering, and collaborative projects focused on social good.

H3: The Importance of Shared Values and Vision

Successful collective action hinges on a shared vision and set of values. Without a common goal, a clear understanding of the problem, and a unified strategy, efforts become fragmented and ineffective. This shared understanding forms the bedrock of comradeship, fostering trust, collaboration, and mutual support among participants.

H3: Strategies for Effective Collective Action

Building a powerful movement requires more than just passion; it requires effective strategies. This involves:

H4: Strategic Planning & Organization: Defining clear objectives, developing achievable milestones, and establishing effective communication channels are crucial.

H4: Resource Mobilization: Securing the necessary resources, including funding, volunteers, and technological tools, is essential for sustaining the movement.

H4: Building Alliances & Partnerships: Collaborating with other organizations and individuals expands reach and amplifies the impact of the collective effort.

H4: Effective Communication & Advocacy: Communicating the cause clearly and persuasively to a wider audience is critical for garnering support and influencing policy.

H2: Challenges and Obstacles: Navigating the Difficulties

The path to achieving a cause is rarely smooth. Collective action often faces significant challenges:

H3: Internal Conflicts & Disagreements: Diverse groups may hold differing opinions and approaches, leading to internal conflicts that can hinder progress.

H3: Opposition & Repression: Powerful interests often resist social change, leading to opposition and even repression of the movement.

H3: Maintaining Momentum & Engagement: Sustaining enthusiasm and participation over the long term requires consistent effort and effective leadership.

H2: The Enduring Legacy: The Power of Collective Action

Despite the challenges, the legacy of movements that have fought "for cause and comrades free" is undeniable. They have brought about significant social, political, and economic changes, improving the lives of countless individuals and shaping the world we live in today. The collective action of individuals, bound together by a shared belief and unwavering commitment, has the power to transform societies and create a more just and equitable future.

Conclusion:

The concept of "for cause and comrades free" encapsulates the enduring power of collective action. It speaks to the human need for connection, purpose, and the drive to create positive change in the world. By understanding the historical context, applying effective strategies, and navigating the inevitable challenges, we can harness this power to build stronger, more just communities, and work

towards a brighter future for all.

FAQs:

1. What are some examples of modern movements operating under the principle of "for cause and comrades free"? The Black Lives Matter movement, various environmental activist groups (e.g., Extinction Rebellion), and movements advocating for LGBTQ+ rights are all strong examples.
2. How can I find a cause to support and get involved? Research organizations aligned with your values, volunteer your time, donate to reputable charities, or join local activist groups.
3. What are the potential downsides of collective action? Internal conflicts, burnout, and facing opposition or even repression are all potential challenges.
4. How can I contribute effectively to a collective action movement? Identify your skills and passions, and find ways to use them to support the cause. This could range from fundraising and organizing to advocacy and public awareness campaigns.
5. Is collective action always effective? While not always guaranteed to achieve immediate success, collective action plays a vital role in raising awareness, influencing policy, and ultimately bringing about long-term change. Persistence and adaptability are key.

for cause and comrades free: *For Cause and Comrades* James M. McPherson, 1997-04-03
General John A. Wickham, commander of the famous 101st Airborne Division in the 1970s and subsequently Army Chief of Staff, once visited Antietam battlefield. Gazing at Bloody Lane where, in 1862, several Union assaults were brutally repulsed before they finally broke through, he marveled, You couldn't get American soldiers today to make an attack like that. Why did those men risk certain death, over and over again, through countless bloody battles and four long, awful years ? Why did the conventional wisdom -- that soldiers become increasingly cynical and disillusioned as war progresses -- not hold true in the Civil War? It is to this question--why did they fight--that James McPherson, America's preeminent Civil War historian, now turns his attention. He shows that, contrary to what many scholars believe, the soldiers of the Civil War remained powerfully convinced of the ideals for which they fought throughout the conflict. Motivated by duty and honor, and often by religious faith, these men wrote frequently of their firm belief in the cause for which they fought: the principles of liberty, freedom, justice, and patriotism. Soldiers on both sides harkened back to the Founding Fathers, and the ideals of the American Revolution. They fought to defend their country, either the Union--the best Government ever made--or the Confederate states, where their very homes and families were under siege. And they fought to defend their honor and manhood. I should not like to go home with the name of a coward, one Massachusetts private wrote, and another private from Ohio said, My wife would sooner hear of my death than my disgrace. Even after three years of bloody battles, more than half of the Union soldiers reenlisted voluntarily. While duty calls me here and my country demands my services I should be willing to make the sacrifice, one man wrote to his protesting parents. And another soldier said simply, I still love my country. McPherson draws on more than 25,000 letters and nearly 250 private diaries from men on both sides. Civil War soldiers were among the most literate soldiers in history, and most of them wrote home frequently, as it was the only way for them to keep in touch with homes that many of them had left for the first time in their lives. Significantly, their letters were also uncensored by military authorities, and are uniquely frank in their criticism and detailed in their reports of marches and battles, relations between officers and men, political debates, and morale. *For Cause and Comrades* lets these soldiers

tell their own stories in their own words to create an account that is both deeply moving and far truer than most books on war. *Battle Cry of Freedom*, McPherson's Pulitzer Prize-winning account of the Civil War, was a national bestseller that Hugh Brogan, in *The New York Times*, called history writing of the highest order. *For Cause and Comrades* deserves similar accolades, as McPherson's masterful prose and the soldiers' own words combine to create both an important book on an often-overlooked aspect of our bloody Civil War, and a powerfully moving account of the men who fought it.

for cause and comrades free: *The Illustrated Battle Cry of Freedom* James M. McPherson, 2003-12-11 Filled with fresh interpretations and information, puncturing old myths and challenging new ones, *Battle Cry of Freedom* will unquestionably become the standard one-volume history of the Civil War. James McPherson's fast-paced narrative fully integrates the political, social, and military events that crowded the two decades from the outbreak of one war in Mexico to the ending of another at Appomattox. Packed with drama and analytical insight, the book vividly recounts the momentous episodes that preceded the Civil War--the Dred Scott decision, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry--and then moves into a masterful chronicle of the war itself--the battles, the strategic maneuvering on both sides, the politics, and the personalities. Particularly notable are McPherson's new views on such matters as the slavery expansion issue in the 1850s, the origins of the Republican Party, the causes of secession, internal dissent and anti-war opposition in the North and the South, and the reasons for the Union's victory. The book's title refers to the sentiments that informed both the Northern and Southern views of the conflict: the South seceded in the name of that freedom of self-determination and self-government for which their fathers had fought in 1776, while the North stood fast in defense of the Union founded by those fathers as the bulwark of American liberty. Eventually, the North had to grapple with the underlying cause of the war--slavery--and adopt a policy of emancipation as a second war aim. This new birth of freedom, as Lincoln called it, constitutes the proudest legacy of America's bloodiest conflict. This authoritative volume makes sense of that vast and confusing second American Revolution we call the Civil War, a war that transformed a nation and expanded our heritage of liberty.

for cause and comrades free: What They Fought For, 1861-1865 George Henry Davis '86 Professor of American History James M McPherson, James M. McPherson, 1995-03 For use in schools and libraries only. An analysis of the Civil War, drawing on letters and diaries by more than one thousand soldiers, gives voice to the personal reasons behind the war, offering insight into the ideology that shaped both sides.

for cause and comrades free: *Crossroads of Freedom* James M. McPherson, 2002-09-12 The Battle of Antietam, fought on September 17, 1862, was the bloodiest single day in American history, with more than 6,000 soldiers killed--four times the number lost on D-Day, and twice the number killed in the September 11th terrorist attacks. In *Crossroads of Freedom*, America's most eminent Civil War historian, James M. McPherson, paints a masterful account of this pivotal battle, the events that led up to it, and its aftermath. As McPherson shows, by September 1862 the survival of the United States was in doubt. The Union had suffered a string of defeats, and Robert E. Lee's army was in Maryland, poised to threaten Washington. The British government was openly talking of recognizing the Confederacy and brokering a peace between North and South. Northern armies and voters were demoralized. And Lincoln had shelved his proposed edict of emancipation months before, waiting for a victory that had not come--that some thought would never come. Both Confederate and Union troops knew the war was at a crossroads, that they were marching toward a decisive battle. It came along the ridges and in the woods and cornfields between Antietam Creek and the Potomac River. Valor, misjudgment, and astonishing coincidence all played a role in the outcome. McPherson vividly describes a day of savage fighting in locales that became forever famous--The Cornfield, the Dunkard Church, the West Woods, and Bloody Lane. Lee's battered army escaped to fight another day, but Antietam was a critical victory for the Union. It restored morale in the North and kept Lincoln's party in control of Congress. It crushed Confederate hopes of British intervention. And it freed Lincoln to deliver the Emancipation Proclamation, which instantly changed

the character of the war. McPherson brilliantly weaves these strands of diplomatic, political, and military history into a compact, swift-moving narrative that shows why America's bloodiest day is, indeed, a turning point in our history.

for cause and comrades free: *Fields of Fury* James M. McPherson, 2002-10 Examines the events and effects of the American Civil War.

for cause and comrades free: *They Fought Like Demons* DeAnne Blanton, Lauren Cook Wike, 2002-09-01 Popular images of women during the American Civil War include self-sacrificing nurses, romantic spies, and brave ladies maintaining hearth and home in the absence of their men. However, as DeAnne Blanton and Lauren M. Cook show in their remarkable new study, that conventional picture does not tell the entire story. Hundreds of women assumed male aliases, disguised themselves in men's uniforms, and charged into battle as Union and Confederate soldiers—facing down not only the guns of the adversary but also the gender prejudices of society. *They Fought Like Demons* is the first book to fully explore and explain these women, their experiences as combatants, and the controversial issues surrounding their military service. Relying on more than a decade of research in primary sources, Blanton and Cook document over 240 women in uniform and find that their reasons for fighting mirrored those of men—patriotism, honor, heritage, and a desire for excitement. Some enlisted to remain with husbands or brothers, while others had dressed as men before the war. Some so enjoyed being freed from traditional women's roles that they continued their masquerade well after 1865. The authors describe how Yankee and Rebel women soldiers eluded detection, some for many years, and even merited promotion. Their comrades often did not discover the deception until the “young boy” in their company was wounded, killed, or gave birth. In addition to examining the details of everyday military life and the harsh challenges of -warfare for these women—which included injury, capture, and imprisonment—Blanton and Cook discuss the female warrior as an icon in nineteenth-century popular culture and why twentieth-century historians and society ignored women soldiers' contributions. Shattering the negative assumptions long held about Civil War distaff soldiers, this sophisticated and dynamic work sheds much-needed light on an unusual and overlooked facet of the Civil War experience.

for cause and comrades free: *Apostles of Disunion* Charles B. Dew, 2017-02-03 Charles Dew's *Apostles of Disunion* has established itself as a modern classic and an indispensable account of the Southern states' secession from the Union. Addressing topics still hotly debated among historians and the public at large more than a century and a half after the Civil War, the book offers a compelling and clearly substantiated argument that slavery and race were at the heart of our great national crisis. The fifteen years since the original publication of *Apostles of Disunion* have seen an intensification of debates surrounding the Confederate flag and Civil War monuments. In a powerful new afterword to this anniversary edition, Dew situates the book in relation to these recent controversies and factors in the role of vast financial interests tied to the internal slave trade in pushing Virginia and other upper South states toward secession and war.

for cause and comrades free: *War on the Waters* James M. McPherson, 2012-09-17 Although previously undervalued for their strategic impact because they represented only a small percentage of total forces, the Union and Confederate navies were crucial to the outcome of the Civil War. In *War on the Waters*, James M. McPherson has crafted an enlightening, at times harrowing, and ultimately thrilling account of the war's naval campaigns and their military leaders. McPherson recounts how the Union navy's blockade of the Confederate coast, leaky as a sieve in the war's early months, became increasingly effective as it choked off vital imports and exports. Meanwhile, the Confederate navy, dwarfed by its giant adversary, demonstrated daring and military innovation. Commerce raiders sank Union ships and drove the American merchant marine from the high seas. Southern ironclads sent several Union warships to the bottom, naval mines sank many more, and the Confederates deployed the world's first submarine to sink an enemy vessel. But in the end, it was the Union navy that won some of the war's most important strategic victories—as an essential partner to the army on the ground at Fort Donelson, Vicksburg, Port Hudson, Mobile Bay, and Fort Fisher, and all by itself at Port Royal, Fort Henry, New Orleans, and Memphis.

for cause and comrades free: The War That Forged a Nation James M. McPherson, 2015-02-12 More than 140 years ago, Mark Twain observed that the Civil War had uprooted institutions that were centuries old, changed the politics of a people, transformed the social life of half the country, and wrought so profoundly upon the entire national character that the influence cannot be measured short of two or three generations. In fact, five generations have passed, and Americans are still trying to measure the influence of the immense fratricidal conflict that nearly tore the nation apart. In *The War that Forged a Nation*, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian James M. McPherson considers why the Civil War remains so deeply embedded in our national psyche and identity. The drama and tragedy of the war, from its scope and size--an estimated death toll of 750,000, far more than the rest of the country's wars combined--to the nearly mythical individuals involved--Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson--help explain why the Civil War remains a topic of interest. But the legacy of the war extends far beyond historical interest or scholarly attention. Here, McPherson draws upon his work over the past fifty years to illuminate the war's continuing resonance across many dimensions of American life. Touching upon themes that include the war's causes and consequences; the naval war; slavery and its abolition; and Lincoln as commander in chief, McPherson ultimately proves the impossibility of understanding the issues of our own time unless we first understand their roots in the era of the Civil War. From racial inequality and conflict between the North and South to questions of state sovereignty or the role of government in social change--these issues, McPherson shows, are as salient and controversial today as they were in the 1860s. Thoughtful, provocative, and authoritative, *The War that Forged a Nation* looks anew at the reasons America's civil war has remained a subject of intense interest for the past century and a half, and affirms the enduring relevance of the conflict for America today.

for cause and comrades free: Comrade Jodi Dean, 2019-10-01 When people say "comrade," they change the world In the twentieth century, millions of people across the globe addressed each other as "comrade." Now, among the left, it's more common to hear talk of "allies." In *Comrade*, Jodi Dean insists that this shift exemplifies the key problem with the contemporary left: the substitution of political identity for a relationship of political belonging that must be built, sustained, and defended. Dean offers a theory of the comrade. Comrades are equals on the same side of a political struggle. Voluntarily coming together in the struggle for justice, their relationship is characterized by discipline, joy, courage, and enthusiasm. Considering the egalitarianism of the comrade in light of differences of race and gender, Dean draws from an array of historical and literary examples such as Harry Haywood, C.L.R. James, Alexandra Kollontai, and Doris Lessing. She argues that if we are to be a left at all, we have to be comrades.

for cause and comrades free: Tried by War James M. McPherson, 2008-10-07 James M. McPherson's *Tried by War* is a perfect primer . . . for anyone who wishes to understand the evolution of the president's role as commander in chief. Few historians write as well as McPherson, and none evoke the sound of battle with greater clarity. —The New York Times Book Review The Pulitzer Prize-winning author reveals how Lincoln won the Civil War and invented the role of commander in chief as we know it As we celebrate the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth, this study by preeminent, bestselling Civil War historian James M. McPherson provides a rare, fresh take on one of the most enigmatic figures in American history. *Tried by War* offers a revelatory (and timely) portrait of leadership during the greatest crisis our nation has ever endured. Suspenseful and inspiring, this is the story of how Lincoln, with almost no previous military experience before entering the White House, assumed the powers associated with the role of commander in chief, and through his strategic insight and will to fight changed the course of the war and saved the Union.

for cause and comrades free: Abraham Lincoln and the Second American Revolution James M. McPherson, 1992-06-04 James McPherson has emerged as one of America's finest historians. *Battle Cry of Freedom*, his Pulitzer Prize-winning account of the Civil War, was a national bestseller that Hugh Brogan, in *The New York Times Book Review*, called history writing of the highest order. In that volume, McPherson gathered in the broad sweep of events, the political, social, and cultural forces at work during the Civil War era. Now, in *Abraham Lincoln and the*

Second American Revolution, he offers a series of thoughtful and engaging essays on aspects of Lincoln and the war that have rarely been discussed in depth. McPherson again displays his keen insight and sterling prose as he examines several critical themes in American history. He looks closely at the President's role as Commander-in-Chief of the Union forces, showing how Lincoln forged a national military strategy for victory. He explores the importance of Lincoln's great rhetorical skills, uncovering how--through parables and figurative language--he was uniquely able to communicate both the purpose of the war and a new meaning of liberty to the people of the North. In another section, McPherson examines the Civil War as a Second American Revolution, describing how the Republican Congress elected in 1860 passed an astonishing blitz of new laws (rivaling the first hundred days of the New Deal), and how the war not only destroyed the social structure of the old South, but radically altered the balance of power in America, ending 70 years of Southern power in the national government. The Civil War was the single most transforming and defining experience in American history, and Abraham Lincoln remains the most important figure in the pantheon of our mythology. These graceful essays, written by one of America's leading historians, offer fresh and unusual perspectives on both.

for cause and comrades free: Fighting for the Confederacy Gary W. Gallagher, 2000-11-09 Originally published by UNC Press in 1989, *Fighting for the Confederacy* is one of the richest personal accounts in all of the vast literature on the Civil War. Alexander was involved in nearly all of the great battles of the East, from First Manassas through Appomattox, and his duties brought him into frequent contact with most of the high command of the Army of Northern Virginia, including Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and James Longstreet. No other Civil War veteran of his stature matched Alexander's ability to discuss operations in penetrating detail-- this is especially true of his description of Gettysburg. His narrative is also remarkable for its utterly candid appraisals of leaders on both sides.

for cause and comrades free: Why Comrades Go to War Philip G. Roessler, Harry Verhoeven, 2016 An account of the AFDL's rise in 1996, crushing the dictatorship within Zaire/Congo and their subsequent collapse only months later as the Pan-Africanist alliance fell apart

for cause and comrades free: *Fighting Means Killing* Jonathan M. Steplyk, 2020-10-05 "War means fighting, and fighting means killing," Confederate cavalry commander Nathan Bedford Forrest famously declared. The Civil War was fundamentally a matter of Americans killing Americans. This undeniable reality is what Jonathan Steplyk explores in *Fighting Means Killing*, the first book-length study of Union and Confederate soldiers' attitudes toward, and experiences of, killing in the Civil War. Drawing upon letters, diaries, and postwar reminiscences, Steplyk examines what soldiers and veterans thought about killing before, during, and after the war. How did these soldiers view sharpshooters? How about hand-to-hand combat? What language did they use to describe killing in combat? What cultural and societal factors influenced their attitudes? And what was the impact of race in battlefield atrocities and bitter clashes between white Confederates and black Federals? These are the questions that Steplyk seeks to answer in *Fighting Means Killing*, a work that bridges the gap between military and social history—and that shifts the focus on the tragedy of the Civil War from fighting and dying for cause and country to fighting and killing.

for cause and comrades free: *The Negro's Civil War* James M. McPherson, 1965 Uses excerpts from speeches, letters, articles, and official documents to point out the military and political contributions and the feelings of Afro-Americans during the Civil War.

for cause and comrades free: *Lincoln's Mercenaries* William Marvel, 2018-11-06 In *Lincoln's Mercenaries*, renowned Civil War historian William Marvel considers whether poor northern men bore the highest burden of military service during the American Civil War. Examining data on median family wealth from the 1860 United States Census, Marvel reveals the economic conditions of the earliest volunteers from each northern state during the seven major recruitment and conscription periods of the war. The results consistently support the conclusion that the majority of these soldiers came from the poorer half of their respective states' population, especially during the first year of fighting. Marvel further suggests that the largely forgotten economic

depression of 1860 and 1861 contributed in part to the disproportionate participation in the war of men from chronically impoverished occupations. During this fiscal downturn, thousands lost their jobs, leaving them susceptible to the modest emoluments of military pay and community support for soldiers' families. From newspaper accounts and individual contemporary testimony, he concludes that these early recruits—whom historians have generally regarded as the most patriotic of Lincoln's soldiers—were motivated just as much by money as those who enlisted later for exorbitant bounties, and that those generous bounties were made necessary partly because war production and labor shortages improved economic conditions on the home front. A fascinating, comprehensive study, Lincoln's Mercenaries illustrates how an array of social and economic factors drove poor northern men to rely on military wages to support themselves and their families during the war.

for cause and comrades free: The Vicksburg Campaign Christopher Richard Gabel, 2013
The Vicksburg Campaign, November 1862-July 1863 continues the series of campaign brochures commemorating our national sacrifices during the American Civil War. Author Christopher R. Gabel examines the operations for the control of Vicksburg, Mississippi. President Abraham Lincoln called Vicksburg the key, and indeed it was as control of the Mississippi River depended entirely on the taking of this Confederate stronghold.

for cause and comrades free: The War for the Common Soldier Peter S. Carmichael, 2018-11-02
How did Civil War soldiers endure the brutal and unpredictable existence of army life during the conflict? This question is at the heart of Peter S. Carmichael's sweeping new study of men at war. Based on close examination of the letters and records left behind by individual soldiers from both the North and the South, Carmichael explores the totality of the Civil War experience--the marching, the fighting, the boredom, the idealism, the exhaustion, the punishments, and the frustrations of being away from families who often faced their own dire circumstances. Carmichael focuses not on what soldiers thought but rather how they thought. In doing so, he reveals how, to the shock of most men, well-established notions of duty or disobedience, morality or immorality, loyalty or disloyalty, and bravery or cowardice were blurred by war. Digging deeply into his soldiers' writing, Carmichael resists the idea that there was a common soldier but looks into their own words to find common threads in soldiers' experiences and ways of understanding what was happening around them. In the end, he argues that a pragmatic philosophy of soldiering emerged, guiding members of the rank and file as they struggled to live with the contradictory elements of their violent and volatile world. Soldiering in the Civil War, as Carmichael argues, was never a state of being but a process of becoming.

for cause and comrades free: Searching for Black Confederates Kevin M. Levin, 2019-08-09
More than 150 years after the end of the Civil War, scores of websites, articles, and organizations repeat claims that anywhere between 500 and 100,000 free and enslaved African Americans fought willingly as soldiers in the Confederate army. But as Kevin M. Levin argues in this carefully researched book, such claims would have shocked anyone who served in the army during the war itself. Levin explains that imprecise contemporary accounts, poorly understood primary-source material, and other misrepresentations helped fuel the rise of the black Confederate myth. Moreover, Levin shows that belief in the existence of black Confederate soldiers largely originated in the 1970s, a period that witnessed both a significant shift in how Americans remembered the Civil War and a rising backlash against African Americans' gains in civil rights and other realms. Levin also investigates the roles that African Americans actually performed in the Confederate army, including personal body servants and forced laborers. He demonstrates that regardless of the dangers these men faced in camp, on the march, and on the battlefield, their legal status remained unchanged. Even long after the guns fell silent, Confederate veterans and other writers remembered these men as former slaves and not as soldiers, an important reminder that how the war is remembered often runs counter to history.

for cause and comrades free: Candide By Voltaire, 2019-06-10
Candide is a French satire by Voltaire, a philosopher of the Age of Enlightenment. It begins with a young man, Candide, who is living a sheltered life in an Edenic paradise and being indoctrinated with Leibnizian optimism (or

simply Optimism) by his mentor, Pangloss. The work describes the abrupt cessation of this lifestyle, followed by Candide's slow, painful disillusionment as he witnesses and experiences great hardships in the world. Voltaire concludes with Candide, if not rejecting optimism outright, advocating a deeply practical precept, we must cultivate our garden, in lieu of the Leibnizian mantra of Pangloss, all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds. Candide is characterized by its sarcastic tone, as well as by its erratic, fantastical and fast-moving plot. A picaresque novel it parodies many adventure and romance clichés, the struggles of which are caricatured in a tone that is mordantly matter-of-fact. Still, the events discussed are often based on historical happenings, such as the Seven Years' War and the 1755 Lisbon earthquake. As philosophers of Voltaire's day contended with the problem of evil, so too does Candide in this short novel, albeit more directly and humorously. Voltaire ridicules religion, theologians, governments, armies, philosophies, and philosophers through allegory; most conspicuously, he assaults Leibniz and his optimism. As expected by Voltaire, Candide has enjoyed both great success and great scandal. Immediately after its secretive publication, the book was widely banned because it contained religious blasphemy, political sedition and intellectual hostility hidden under a thin veil of naïveté. However, with its sharp wit and insightful portrayal of the human condition, the novel has since inspired many later authors and artists to mimic and adapt it. Today, Candide is recognized as Voltaire's magnum opus and is often listed as part of the Western canon; it is arguably taught more than any other work of French literature. It was listed as one of The 100 Most Influential Books Ever Written.

for cause and comrades free: Generalship, Its Diseases and Their Cure John Frederick Charles Fuller, 1933

for cause and comrades free: *We the Living* Ayn Rand, 2009-05-05 Ayn Rand's first published novel, a timeless story that explores the struggles of the individual against the state in Soviet Russia. First published in 1936, *We the Living* portrays the impact of the Russian Revolution on three human beings who demand the right to live their own lives and pursue their own happiness. It tells of a young woman's passionate love, held like a fortress against the corrupting evil of a totalitarian state. *We the Living* is not a story of politics, but of the men and women who have to struggle for existence behind the Red banners and slogans. It is a picture of what those slogans do to human beings. What happens to the defiant ones? What happens to those who succumb? Against a vivid panorama of political revolution and personal revolt, Ayn Rand shows what the theory of socialism means in practice. Includes an Introduction and Afterword by Ayn Rand's Philosophical Heir, Leonard Peikoff

for cause and comrades free: *Behave* Robert M. Sapolsky, 2017-05-02 Why do we do the things we do? Over a decade in the making, this game-changing book is Robert Sapolsky's genre-shattering attempt to answer that question as fully as perhaps only he could, looking at it from every angle. Sapolsky's storytelling concept is delightful but it also has a powerful intrinsic logic: he starts by looking at the factors that bear on a person's reaction in the precise moment a behavior occurs, and then hops back in time from there, in stages, ultimately ending up at the deep history of our species and its genetic inheritance. And so the first category of explanation is the neurobiological one. What goes on in a person's brain a second before the behavior happens? Then he pulls out to a slightly larger field of vision, a little earlier in time: What sight, sound, or smell triggers the nervous system to produce that behavior? And then, what hormones act hours to days earlier to change how responsive that individual is to the stimuli which trigger the nervous system? By now, he has increased our field of vision so that we are thinking about neurobiology and the sensory world of our environment and endocrinology in trying to explain what happened. Sapolsky keeps going--next to what features of the environment affected that person's brain, and then back to the childhood of the individual, and then to their genetic makeup. Finally, he expands the view to encompass factors larger than that one individual. How culture has shaped that individual's group, what ecological factors helped shape that culture, and on and on, back to evolutionary factors thousands and even millions of years old. The result is one of the most dazzling tours de horizon of the science of human behavior ever attempted, a majestic synthesis that harvests cutting-edge research across a range of disciplines to provide a subtle and nuanced perspective on why we

ultimately do the things we do...for good and for ill. Sapolsky builds on this understanding to wrestle with some of our deepest and thorniest questions relating to tribalism and xenophobia, hierarchy and competition, morality and free will, and war and peace. Wise, humane, often very funny, *Behave* is a towering achievement, powerfully humanizing, and downright heroic in its own right.

for cause and comrades free: That Greece Might Still be Free William St. Clair, 2008 When in 1821, the Greeks rose in violent revolution against the rule of the Ottoman Turks, waves of sympathy spread across Western Europe and the United States. More than a thousand volunteers set out to fight for the cause. The Philhellenes, whether they set out to recreate the Athens of Pericles, start a new crusade, or make money out of a war, all felt that Greece had unique claim on the sympathy of the world. As Byron wrote, 'I dreamed that Greece might Still be Free'; and he died at Missolonghi trying to translate that dream into reality. William St Clair's meticulously researched and highly readable account of their aspirations and experiences was hailed as definitive when it was first published. Long out of print, it remains the standard account of the Philhellenic movement and essential reading for any students of the Greek War of Independence, Byron, and European Romanticism. Its relevance to more modern ethnic and religious conflicts is becoming increasingly appreciated by scholars worldwide. This new and revised edition includes a new Introduction by Roderick Beaton, an updated Bibliography and many new illustrations.

for cause and comrades free: Mein Kampf Adolf Hitler, 2024-02-26 Madman, tyrant, animal—history has given Adolf Hitler many names. In *Mein Kampf* (My Struggle), often called the Nazi bible, Hitler describes his life, frustrations, ideals, and dreams. Born to an impoverished couple in a small town in Austria, the young Adolf grew up with the fervent desire to become a painter. The death of his parents and outright rejection from art schools in Vienna forced him into underpaid work as a laborer. During the First World War, Hitler served in the infantry and was decorated for bravery. After the war, he became actively involved with socialist political groups and quickly rose to power, establishing himself as Chairman of the National Socialist German Worker's party. In 1924, Hitler led a coalition of nationalist groups in a bid to overthrow the Bavarian government in Munich. The infamous Munich Beer-hall putsch was unsuccessful, and Hitler was arrested. During the nine months he was in prison, an embittered and frustrated Hitler dictated a personal manifesto to his loyal follower Rudolph Hess. He vented his sentiments against communism and the Jewish people in this document, which was to become *Mein Kampf*, the controversial book that is seen as the blue-print for Hitler's political and military campaign. In *Mein Kampf*, Hitler describes his strategy for rebuilding Germany and conquering Europe. It is a glimpse into the mind of a man who destabilized world peace and pursued the genocide now known as the Holocaust.

for cause and comrades free: Ordeal by Fire James M. McPherson, 1982 Written by a leading Civil War historian and Pulitzer Prize winner, this text describes the social, economic, political, and ideological conflicts that led to a unique, tragic, and transitional event in American history. The third edition incorporates recent scholarship and addresses renewed areas of interest in the Civil War/Reconstruction era including the motivations and experiences of common soldiers and the role of women in the war effort.

for cause and comrades free: American War Omar El Akkad, 2017-04-04 Shortlisted for the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize A Globe and Mail Best Book A New York Times Notable Book of the Year A Quill & Quire Best Book of 2017 An audacious and powerful debut novel: a second American Civil War, a devastating plague, and one family caught deep in the middle -- a story that asks what might happen if America were to turn its most devastating policies and deadly weapons upon itself. Sarat Chestnut, born in Louisiana, is only six when the Second American Civil War breaks out in 2074. But even she knows that oil is outlawed, that Louisiana is half underwater, that unmanned drones fill the sky. And when her father is killed and her family is forced into Camp Patience for displaced persons, she quickly begins to be shaped by her particular time and place until, finally, through the influence of a mysterious functionary, she is turned into a deadly instrument of war. Telling her story is her nephew, Benjamin Chestnut, born during war as one of the Miraculous Generation and now an old man confronting the dark secret of his past -- his family's

role in the conflict and, in particular, that of his aunt, a woman who saved his life while destroying untold others.

for cause and comrades free: Into the West James M. McPherson, 2006 Read about the Old West and its people.

for cause and comrades free: Marching Toward Freedom James M. McPherson, 1991 Using a wide variety of primary sources, examines the role of Afro-Americans in contributing to the Union and Confederacy during the Civil War and the resulting change in their position as citizens.

for cause and comrades free: The Things They Carried Tim O'Brien, 2009-10-13 A classic work of American literature that has not stopped changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene, *The Things They Carried* is a ground-breaking meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling. *The Things They Carried* depicts the men of Alpha Company: Jimmy Cross, Henry Dobbins, Rat Kiley, Mitchell Sanders, Norman Bowker, Kiowa, and the character Tim O'Brien, who has survived his tour in Vietnam to become a father and writer at the age of forty-three. Taught everywhere—from high school classrooms to graduate seminars in creative writing—it has become required reading for any American and continues to challenge readers in their perceptions of fact and fiction, war and peace, courage and fear and longing. *The Things They Carried* won France's prestigious Prix du Meilleur Livre Etranger and the Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize; it was also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

for cause and comrades free: Freedom's Soldiers Ira Berlin, Joseph Patrick Reidy, Leslie S. Rowland, 1998-03-13 *Freedom's Soldiers* tells the story of the 200,000 black men who fought in the Civil War, in their own words and those of eyewitnesses.

for cause and comrades free: Why the Confederacy Lost Gabor S. Boritt, 1992 Five major historians return to the battlefield to explain the South's defeat. Provocatively argued and engagingly written, this work rejects the notion that the Union victory was inevitable and shows the importance of the commanders, strategies, and victories at key moments.

for cause and comrades free: Modern Warfare Roger Trinquier, 1964

for cause and comrades free: Free Comrades Terence S. Kissack, 2008 The political origins of gay liberation in the United States.

for cause and comrades free: Free at Last Ira Berlin, 1997-03-01 Summary: Brings together letters, along with personal testimony, official transcripts, and other records documenting the story of how black Americans achieved their freedom.

for cause and comrades free: All Quiet on the Western Front Erich Maria Remarque, 2024-07-29 This masterpiece of war literature that will change your perspective on life and humanity.** Follow the journey of Paul, a young German soldier who enlists in World War I with his friends, full of enthusiasm and patriotism. But soon, he faces the horrors of the trenches, where death, disease, and despair lurk at every corner. He witnesses the brutality and futility of war, and he vows to resist the hatred that makes him kill his fellow human beings, who are just like him, except for their uniforms. This book is a powerful and moving portrait of the suffering, the courage, and the longing for peace of a generation that was sacrificed for a senseless conflict. It is widely regarded as the best war novel of all time, and it has been adapted into an Oscar-winning movie that you can watch on Netflix.

for cause and comrades free: They Fight Like Soldiers, They Die Like Children Roméo Dallaire, 2011-05-10 It is my hope that through the pages of this remarkable book, you will discover groundbreaking thoughts on building partnerships and networks to enhance the global movement to end child soldiering; you will gain new and holistic insights on what constitutes a child soldier; you will learn more about girl soldiers, who have not been fully considered in the discussion of this issue; you will discover methods on how to influence national policies and the training of security forces; and you will find practical steps that will foster better coordination between security forces and humanitarian efforts.-Ishmael Beah As the leader of the ill-fated United Nations peacekeeping force in Rwanda, Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire came face-to-face with the horrifying reality of child

soldiers during the genocide of 1994. Since then the incidence of child soldiers has proliferated in conflicts around the world: they are cheap, plentiful, expendable, with an incredible capacity, once drugged and brainwashed, for both loyalty and barbarism. The dilemma of the adult soldier who faces them is poignantly expressed in this book's title: when children are shooting at you, they are soldiers, but as soon as they are wounded or killed, they are children once again. Believing that not one of us should tolerate a child being used in this fashion, Dallaire has made it his mission to end the use of child soldiers. Where Ishmael Beah's *A Long Way Gone* gave us wrenching testimony of the devastating experience of being a child soldier, Dallaire offers intellectually daring and enlightened approaches to the child soldier phenomenon, and insightful, empowering solutions to eradicate it.

for cause and comrades free: To Suffer Thy Comrades Robert Francis B. Garcia, 2001

for cause and comrades free: American Military History Volume 1 Army Center of Military History, 2016-06-05 American Military History provides the United States Army-in particular, its young officers, NCOs, and cadets-with a comprehensive but brief account of its past. The Center of Military History first published this work in 1956 as a textbook for senior ROTC courses. Since then it has gone through a number of updates and revisions, but the primary intent has remained the same. Support for military history education has always been a principal mission of the Center, and this new edition of an invaluable history furthers that purpose. The history of an active organization tends to expand rapidly as the organization grows larger and more complex. The period since the Vietnam War, at which point the most recent edition ended, has been a significant one for the Army, a busy period of expanding roles and missions and of fundamental organizational changes. In particular, the explosion of missions and deployments since 11 September 2001 has necessitated the creation of additional, open-ended chapters in the story of the U.S. Army in action. This first volume covers the Army's history from its birth in 1775 to the eve of World War I. By 1917, the United States was already a world power. The Army had sent large expeditionary forces beyond the American hemisphere, and at the beginning of the new century Secretary of War Elihu Root had proposed changes and reforms that within a generation would shape the Army of the future. But world war-global war-was still to come. The second volume of this new edition will take up that story and extend it into the twenty-first century and the early years of the war on terrorism and includes an analysis of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq up to January 2009.

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