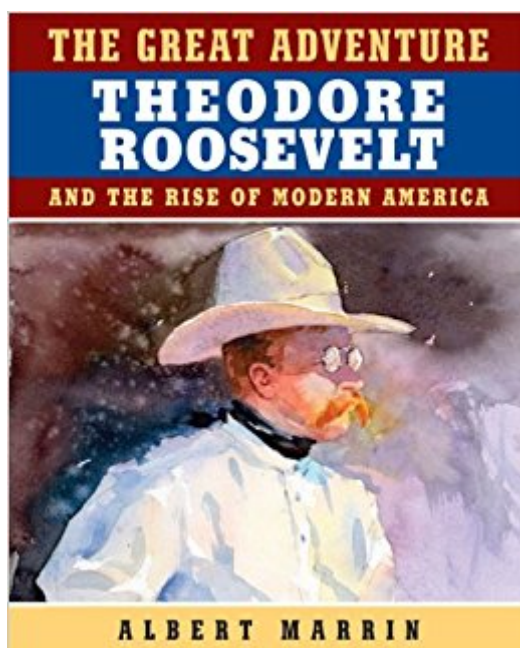


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The Great Adventure: Theodore Roosevelt And The Rise Of Modern America



Synopsis

We knew toil and hardship and hunger and thirst . . . but we felt the hardy life in our veins, and ours was the glory of work and the joy of living. Theodore Roosevelt Theodore Roosevelt is one of America's liveliest and most influential figures. He was a scholar, cowboy, war hero, explorer, and a brilliant politician. As president, Roosevelt's far-reaching policies abroad and at home forever changed both our nation's place in the world and the life of every modern American. Fascinating details and an intimate, fast-paced narrative explore the heroic life and complex world of an American icon.

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Along the lines of his *George Washington and the Founding of a Nation* (2001), Marrin offers a twin portrait of American society in a time of profound change and the life of a figure so dominant in the politics and self-image of the time that he has become an enduring symbol. A polymath who published some 18 million words and was the first American to receive a Nobel Prize, Roosevelt (no one who knew him well called him "Teddy") was also given to dancing exultantly around the big game he slaughtered, and to blasting (in print) the presidents who succeeded him. Marrin gives him "a place in the front rank of our country's heroes," particularly for his achievements in environmental conservation, but also shows him acting badly—for example in the shameful Brownsville

incident. Numerous endnotes and contemporary photos and prints add to this scholarly profile, which, like Betsy Harvey Kraft's *Theodore Roosevelt: Champion of the American Spirit* (2003), will give serious history students a solid grounding in the man's times, career, and forceful character.

Peters, John

Albert Marrin is a much-decorated historian and writer whose most recent book, *Terror of the Spanish Main*, was called "addictive reading" in *The Horn Book*. He lives in Riverdale, New York.

Really interesting book! We homeschool and read this book as part of our history curriculum. It does a great job of explaining the historical context of Theodore Roosevelt's life so you really get a history lesson about the times as well as the man. The author also points out connections between this history and its influence on our modern politics and laws which is fascinating because so much of our modern life is rooted in the ideals and ideas of Theodore Roosevelt's era. You'll laugh along with and at Roosevelt (he was a man who loved to laugh), his humor and idiosyncrasies are skillfully illustrated and brought to life for the reader. But the book doesn't sugar coat "the Colonel" (his preferred title in his post-presidential years) but explores his flaws and mistakes as well as his successes and redemptions. The book even brought me close to tears towards the end as Roosevelt dealt with the death of his son who was killed in World War I. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in learning more about Theodore Roosevelt and the Gilded Age in America. It is a great read for adults and young adults alike.

Albert Marrin is a wonderful writer and he brings history to life. I have read several of his books and he has never failed to be informative and interesting. By the time you have finished the book, you feel as though you have met the person you are reading about. Unlike most biographies, he doesn't waste a lot of space on idle information. He gets to the point and gives you the important points while keeping the reader wanting more. I suggest all his books

Very good book for the history and presidential study buff.

Once again Albert Marrin serves up a birds-eye view of American History. It entertains and informs us, as we learn more about Teddy Roosevelt, arguably one of our country's most colorful presidents.

Excellent!

I have read a lot about Roosevelt and didn't expect to learn much new, but being an Albert Marrin fan, decided to read the book anyway. Well, being an Albert Marrin fan, I should have known I would be learning a lot even if I had read a lot about Roosevelt. The reason being, he doesn't just focus on TR, he also talks a lot about the times in which he lived and the people around TR. This would be an excellent read for a high schooler studying US history or the 20th century. I would make any of Albert Marrin's works must reading for those in honor classes or AP.

Not the book I expected

In this interesting biography, author and historian Professor Albert Marrin presents the life and times of Theodore Roosevelt. Beginning with a look at mid-nineteenth century Manhattan and Theodore Roosevelt's parents, the author then goes through the history of the United States, and the life of Roosevelt, as the one affected the other and vice versa. Overall, I found this to be a very interesting book. The author did a very good job of presenting President Roosevelt's life and the history of America in a brief yet informative manner, giving the reader a good understanding of who Theodore Roosevelt was and what he accomplished. My biggest gripe against this book, however, is that the author often seems to be talking down to the reader, as if a young reader needs to be told not just what the facts are but also what to think about them. After a short period of time I began to find it rather irritating. But, that said, I do think that this is an interesting read, and a good biography of the twenty-sixth President of the United States.

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