Horrors Of History: Ocean Of Fire: The Burning Of Columbia, 1865

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Synopsis

Based on the actual fire that swept through Columbia, South Carolina, after the city surrendered to General Sherman’s Union troops, Ocean of Fire details life in the South at the end of the American Civil War. Supported by thorough research, narrative accounts of actual historical persons as well as fictionalized characters comprise the novel. Follow 17-year-old Emma, her family, and potential Confederate spy, Charles Davis, as a chaotic community tries to survive a blazing firestorm. The second book in the Horrors of History series, Ocean of Fire makes history accessible, questioning who could have started this controversial fire and exploring how the closing weeks of the war affected citizens and slaves alike.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 890L (What’s this?)
Series: Horrors of History
Hardcover: 176 pages
Publisher: Charlesbridge (February 11, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1580895166
Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 0.8 x 9.3 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)
Best Sellers Rank: #1,334,826 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #55 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > United States > Civil War Period #84 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > United States > Civil War Period #142 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > United States > 19th Century
Age Range: 12 and up
Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

I received the author’s first book, Horrors of History: City of the Dead from LibraryThing Early Reviewers, not realizing it was written as a juvenile book, somewhere in the middle-school to high school range. It was a fictionalized account of the 1900 Galveston hurricane and included lots of true historical details and actual photographs so that, even if the writing was a little simplified for teenagers, I still enjoyed reading it. So I sought out this book, the second in the author’s...
Horrors of History series, and was not disappointed. This is the story of the burning of Columbia, South Carolina during the Civil War, centering mainly on one family living in Columbia. The author writes that it is based on actual written accounts of the events, and maps and pictures are included. I think of this series as "History for Dummies" and have learned a lot from these two books. I look forward to the next book about the 1918 flu epidemic.

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