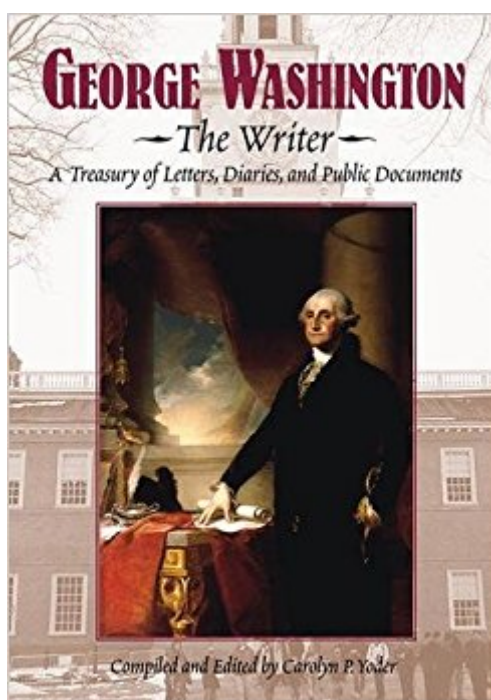


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# George Washington, The Writer: A Treasury Of Letters, Diaries, And Public Documents



## Synopsis

Besides being a great soldier, farmer, politician, and president, George Washington liked to write. Washington kept journals and diaries, wrote letters, and prepared speeches and official documents throughout his life. His writings fill volumes and number in the thousands. Here is a selection of Washington's writings that follow his life from an entry in his journal written as a teenager to his last diary entry written the day before he died. Some of the writings are personal, expressing love and concern for his family, friends, and home. Some of the writings are national in focus. Each Washington selection is accompanied by an introduction that provides historical background. By being introduced to Washington's words, readers will get to know a man who was not superhuman--only dedicated to family, friends, home, and the country he helped shape.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 144 pages

Publisher: Calkins Creek; 1 edition (February 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1563971992

ISBN-13: 978-1563971990

Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 6.8 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,190,167 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #102 in [Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary Periods](#) #370 in [Books > Teens > Biographies > Historical](#)

## Customer Reviews

Grade 8 Up-Yoder uses a unique approach in this biography of the first president of the United States. Through excerpts from letters, addresses, speeches, and his will, Washington's opinions, thoughts, and personality are vividly portrayed. The book begins with a brief biography, which gives students a focus and an overview of the man's life. Each chapter opens with a short description of Washington during a particular time period beginning with his career as a young military officer and ending with his life in retirement at Mount Vernon. In describing his frustrations with his troops, he wrote, "I am wearied to death all day with a variety of perplexing circumstances-disturbed at the conduct of the militia, whose behavior and want of discipline has done great injury to the other troops-." He did, however, sympathize with his troops' situation by writing to Congress, "-that it is in

vain to think an Army can be kept together much longer, under such a variety of sufferings as ours has experienced-." Small black-and-white photos and reproductions appear throughout. Lana Miles, Duchesne Academy, Houston, TX Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 7-10. Similar to the publisher's Abraham Lincoln: The Writer: A Treasury of His Greatest Speeches and Letters (2000), this book follows the life of Washington through his letters, speeches, diaries, and even his will. It begins with the 16-year-old Washington's reflections on a surveying trip in 1748 and ends with a diary entry written the night before his death in 1799. Readers will find Yoder's text very helpful in understanding the writings in the context of Washington's life and times. Though many of the selections are excerpts, they are long enough to give a sense of the occasion, the writer's purpose, and, in some cases, his personality. Among the black-and-white illustrations are a few photos of sites and many reproductions of paintings and prints from various periods. Appendixes include a detailed chronology, credits for text and pictures, and long lists of recommended books, magazine articles, teacher materials, videotapes, and historic sites. A useful resource and an intriguing way to find out about the man. Carolyn Phelan Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Reading this was like talking to George Washington. His voice was clear. Amazing that he only had a high school education. He was very adroit and scholarly. I think he was very practical and cared a lot about the country. He had more to lose than most of us. His only flaw was his stance on slavery. He should have let his slaves go after 1776. I think his heart was in the right place as he let them go when he died. He said it always bothered him. The Virginians ruled those early years of the Presidency except Adams. Jefferson, Monroe, Madison. They had something good going on there. GW was huge. As a Mason I put him in the top 5 presidents all time. His writings expose his thoughts to you like never before. A great read worth every minute of reading.

Carolyn Yoder is extremely knowledgeable about history and weaves her knowledge and interest into this wonderful book about our first president. I look forward to reading her John Adams edition as well, and plan to use them both as teaching tools for children of different ages. Thank you Carolyn, for writing and editing a book that I know I can count on for accuracy and for a way to make history come alive! Please keep them coming...

This is a very well-written, thoroughly researched book that keeps your interest throughout. A

fascinating look into the thoughts and mind of our first President through his own writings.

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