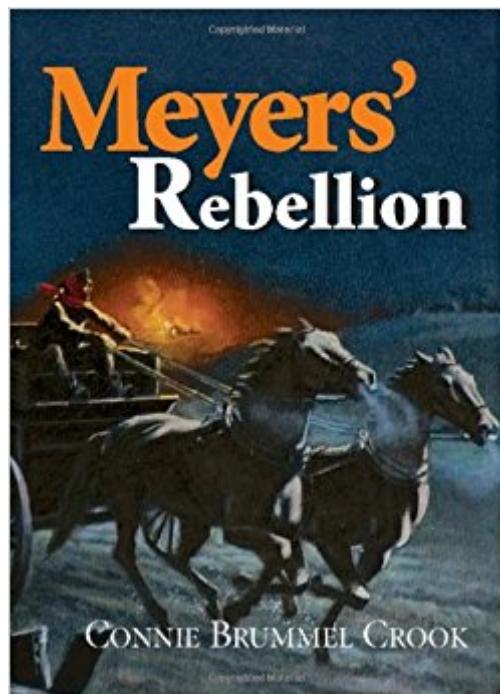


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Meyers' Rebellion



Synopsis

Fifteen-year-old John Meyers is the youngest of the Meyers boys, with a lot to live up to. So when a routine trip to the Toronto farmer's market in the fall of 1837 turns ugly, John doesn't hesitate to jump in. George is captured, and John won't leave without him. Before long he finds himself embroiled in a real-life battle, under the leadership of Little Mac, William Lyon Mackenzie and himself. And it doesn't end when he gets back home. Though Father tries to stop it, one by one all the Meyers boys throw their support on the Reformers' side. John won't let them keep him out of it. So what if fetching and carrying for a lot of crazy farmers armed with nothing but sticks and hoes wasn't exactly battle experience? It's more than his brothers have! With pretty Nan Burditt's help, John is able to follow his brothers to a small island in Canadian/US waters, the site of the rebels' next skirmish. And there they are: one Meyers boy languishing in the Kingston prison while three more, John included, are camouflaged and armed and attempting to capture a steamship. How on earth did I get here? thinks John. Well, when you're a Meyers boy, these things just seem to happen! This humorous story of a boy's exploits during the Upper Canada Rebellion concludes the story of the Meyers family, Loyalists and early Canadian settlers. Word Guild Canadian Christian Writing Award Winner 2007 - Young Adult Book Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction Honour Book, 2007 Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice 2007 finalist

Book Information

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Grade Level: 7 - 6

Customer Reviews

Grade 7 Up
Despite a slow start, this novel offers an interesting glimpse into a pivotal period in Canadian history. It takes place during late 1837 and 1838, a time during which many of the settlers of Upper Canada were demanding a more democratic form of government in the colony and chafing against restrictive British governance. John Meyers, 15, inadvertently gets involved in Upper Canada Rebellion and gives readers an objective perspective as to the righteousness of the cause. He sympathizes with the Reformers' complaints about the lack of self-government and is dismayed by the brutal British attempts to quell the rebellion. Yet he also rejects the example of the American Revolution, preferring a more peaceful and gradual approach to change. And while he is excited by the adventure involved in the movement, he also characterizes the dissenters as a bunch of disorganized hooligans. Interwoven into the tale are numerous Canadian historical personalities, such as John A. MacDonald, William Lyon Mackenzie, and Bishop Strachan, who lend a sense of realism to the narrative. Readers will also appreciate the two major subplots, which include romance and buried treasure. The author's familiarity with both the history and geography of southeastern Ontario is strongly reflected throughout the book.

Robyn Walker, Elgin Court Public School, St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

" . . . this novel offers an interesting glimpse into a pivotal period in Canadian history. . . Interwoven into the tale are numerous Canadian historical personalities, such as John A. MacDonald, William Lyon Mackenzie, and Bishop Strachan, who lend a sense of realism to the narrative. Readers will also appreciate the two major subplots, which include romance and buried treasure. The author's familiarity with both the history and geography of southeastern Ontario is strongly reflected throughout the book." -- School Library Journal "Connie Brummel Crook knows how to tell a good story. . . [Meyers' Rebellion] is very well written, and throughout, the reader is tantalized." -- CM Magazine "Crook brings us an action-packed story full of historical details about real people… The characters are strong and independent, holding to their beliefs as they become involved in the 1837 Rebellion in Upper Canada". -- From the Geoffrey Bilson Award jury "An exciting account of how one family of boys gets involved in the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837, the skirmishes, trying to escape being captured and trying to get a brother out of Kingston prison. Fast moving." -- Burnaby Now

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