

(Mobile ebook) Rabble in Arms

Rabble in Arms

Kenneth Roberts

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Kenneth Roberts : Rabble in Arms before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rabble in Arms:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Must read for anyone interested in the American Revolution By J. Tully This is probably my favorite of Roberts' novels. This starts with the retreat from Canada and ends with the American victory at Saratoga. In between Roberts manages to tell a good historical narrative of the woes of the American (Patriot) military troubles from Quebec down Lake Champlain and into the Hudson Valley. His description

of the military leaders and the Congress that was unable or too inept to keep its Army supplied with necessary supplies and then places leaders over them that have no business leading a military campaign are very good. Many of the names of people we take for villains are actually responsible for the creation of the US while those we often think of as heroes are far from it. Roberts is on a drive to make Benedict Arnold out to be a hero. And if Arnold had been killed at Saratoga we would probably celebrate his name today. Instead Roberts tries to make him into the savior of the Northern Army. Arnold was most probably the leading combat general on the Patriot side but, like George Patton, he was a terrible politician and this lack of political insight was his demise. Believing his on the field exploits should be sufficient to gain him public acclaim and advanced rank from Congress he was shocked to find foreign officers advanced above him. But the story actually hinges on the exploits of the men from a small town in Maine. Roberts interweaves these men's loves and struggles against the backdrop of the northern campaign. Both of which suffer numerous setbacks. To anyone wishing to know more about how the American Revolution was almost lost and the major characters that simply wouldn't say surrender this is a great way to find it out without taking History 214. Highly recommend, the history may be a bit bent at times but the accuracy of the events actually happening is spot on. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book on how we beat the British at Saratoga! By JLSI wanted to re-read this treasure (read a paperback years ago) and found it is out of print, and no local libraries had it for release to the public. Found a used copy on , and was very happy. This book gives a true flavor for what went on in the first stages of the American Revolution, the horrible decisions by our fledgling Congress, the egos, the many many mistakes made. It is of particular interest to me, as we live in upstate NY and visit the Saratoga Battlefield Park several times a year. If it weren't for Benedict Arnold and several other patriots with vision, we would be flying the Union Jack. It covers the events leading up to and including the Battle of Saratoga, including the founding of the US Navy at Skenesboro (now Whitehall, NY). A great read for those interested in American history. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. american history that is fun to read By audrey frances Going through the US school system, both public and private, I thought American history was the most boring of subjects. In college I started to read James Michener's books, and was surprised to find that our history was actually pretty interesting. Now I consider myself fortunate to have discovered the works of Kenneth Roberts -- a magnificent writer who brings the Revolution to life and makes me angry at a school system that couldn't spark my interest. Why is it that a novelist can teach me more in one book than what I gleaned from years of tedious instruction? Rant aside, let me say that Roberts' work is as compelling as Michener's but differs in scope. The latter's books sweep across aeons and generations, plucking and delving into personal stories, while Roberts stays within a brief span of years but sweeps broadly, at the same time telling the story believably through one person's experience. Roberts is a gifted writer relating an account of the Patriots' Northern army through the first-person narration of Peter Merrill, a sea captain from Arundel, Maine, who has joined the army with his brother and finds himself a scout under the command of the brilliant and volatile, pre-treasonous General Benedict Arnold. The narrative of this sequel to Roberts' novel ARUNDEL is immediately interesting. At first I was disappointed that the narrator was not the same as that in the previous book, Steven Nason, but I came to enjoy Merrill's voice as well, and was very happy that characters from the previous novel were also here -- Nason, Cap Huff, Phoebe, Natanis and of course Marie de Sabrevois (aka Mary) -- as well as interesting new characters like Doc Means and Verriuel. I disagree with other reviewers in some respects. Against all past experience and inclination, I find I actually enjoy the outspoken buffoon Cap Huff who, in his way, captures a rough-and-ready spirit and is resilient in any situation. I also think that Marie is an intriguing character but that her distance from the narrative recreates the mystery and consternation that these characters would feel about her. This book makes you realize that Congress hasn't changed much in over 200 years. A map helps you place the action, and if you are on the fence about whether or not to read this or any other Kenneth Roberts book, please take the plunge. You won't be sorry. Highly recommended.

The second of Roberts's epic novels of the American Revolution, *Rabble in Arms* was hailed by one critic as the greatest historical novel written about America upon its publication in 1933. Love, treachery, ambition, and idealism motivate an unforgettable cast of characters in a magnificent novel renowned not only for the beauty and horror of its story but also for its historical accuracy.