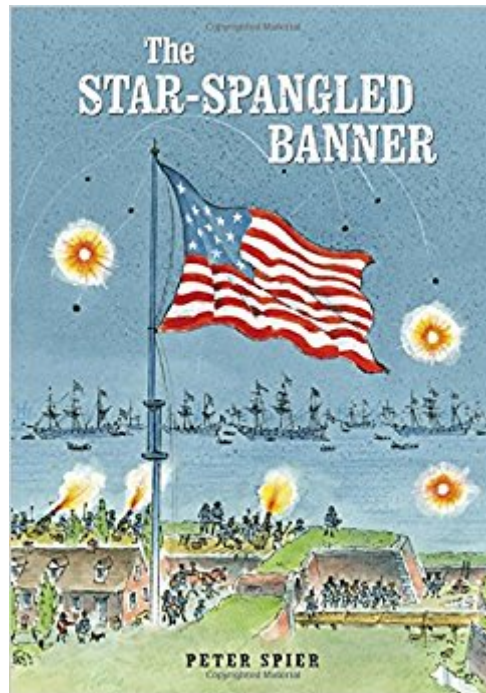




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The Star-Spangled Banner



Synopsis

Never before has the riveting American saga of "The Star-Spangled Banner" been so beautifully and thoroughly presented. This info-packed story of our national anthem includes illustrated lyrics; the fascinating history of the War of 1812 and the battle that inspired Francis Scott Key to pen the words; musical notation; historical photographs; plus a reproduction of Key's original manuscript. Back in print in hardcover—re-designed, historically updated, and with a glorious new cover—Caldecott Medalist Peter Spier's magnificent tribute takes readers from our anthem's turbulent origins at the Battle of Baltimore through the flag's significance in modern-day America.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0590 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 56 pages

Publisher: Doubleday Books for Young Readers; Updated edition (May 27, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385376189

ISBN-13: 978-0385376181

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 11.5 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 36 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #514,293 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > History #66 in Books > History > Military > War of 1812 #286 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

Spier brings the words of the national anthem to life, from the battle that inspired Key's composition, to modern day American monuments and marching bands. PW found the anthem "beautifully illustrated by the award-winning artist. His faithfulness to authentic detail enlivens the familiar text." Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Due to careful research, Spier's artwork depicts "the dawn's early light" and "the rocket's red glare"

with remarkable authenticity and detail in this celebratory book. Among the highlights: a brief history of the anthem, a reproduction of Francis Scott Key's original manuscript, music for guitar and piano chords and many photographs. A Child Study Children's Book Committee: Children's Book of the Year, An American Bookseller Pick of the Lists. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

My children love searching for the flag on each page. I enjoy the history recap and we all enjoy learning our National Anthem (and understanding it better!). Peter Spier is always a favorite.

This beautiful and well-illustrated book includes all four verses of the national anthem. Informative, fun to look at. Great gift idea for your favorite teacher's classroom library.

Many years ago, when this book was first released around 1973 to 1974, my mother bought it for me to read. I can still remember reading this book as a youngster, studying the pictures and text to learn what happened at that time in United States history. It inspired me in my quest to understand history better which has lasted a lifetime. Many years later, after seeing a special on The War of 1812, I recalled this book and reordered it, remembering how important it was in my development. What a delight! The artistry is phenomenal (albeit the images are small, they are almost panoramic in scope and achievement). I was really amazed at the use of light and colors. His images are very powerful and awe-inspiring. The perspectives are taken from inside the fort (Fort McHenry) during the battle/invasion as well as from the decks of the British warships. After the main story is told, there are images of this great country and all of her beauty including more than just those of Fort McHenry (which in and of itself had an incredible history if you ever decide to visit it in Baltimore, Maryland). The drawings/paintings include a broad sweep of America from Hawaii to Washington, D. C., from San Francisco to our naval ships on the high seas defending the United States shores, from the small town main street to the fields and valleys of our heartland. There are images of monuments like the Lincoln monument to the Capitol Building, and displays of our American potential and might as an aerospace giant and industrial powerhouse. Even somber tones of a cemetery with an American flag waving to relate that freedom is not free is next to images of our religious heritage. What patriotic glimpses that the author has crafted for the reader. (No wonder as a small child I was so inspired). Subsequently, are the musical notations of "The Star-Spangled Banner" followed by a very brief history of the War of 1812, followed by the history of the Star-Spangled Banner" and the flag's "journey" from its original owner to the Smithsonian Museum.

This is all placed between the inside covers in which many of the flags of the United States, past and present, are adorned for the reader to peruse. Peter Spier, the author of this book, did something wonderful here. It stands, no it shines, as a labor of love and a gift for a wonderful country to be respected, loved and admired. His storytelling brings to life one of our founding moments and is done in a truly beautiful and amazing way. Thank you for the years of enjoyment. Simply incredible.

I wouldn't teach children about the history of our national anthem without this book! The illustrations truly help young students picture the setting for the penning of the lyrics to the Star Spangled Banner. The additional information and illustrations in the back of the book are an excellent resource for any music or classroom teacher. This is the second time I have purchased this book... I loved using the first copy in my elementary music classroom for years but needed my own copy when I retired. There are many books illustrating the lyrics; I feel this is superior.

Very pleased!

Very good presentation of our history for young ones.

My boy learned at 4 to sing the first verse of the National Anthem by himself. So many people were impressed! All verses are beautifully illustrated, making the Battle of Fort McHenry meaningful. There's a page showing pictures of many churches, representing various religions in America. It's educational in that the battle is illustrated on a map, and all versions of the American flag are shown. If you are a strong American patriot, this book is a must!

I thought it was great! It was a book I had selected to give my NINE year old great grandson who was learning to play the SSB on the piano and thought he would enjoy reading the extra stanzas and the history, etc. He has not been thrilled with it so far, but, perhaps he will find it more interesting in another six months to a year or so.

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