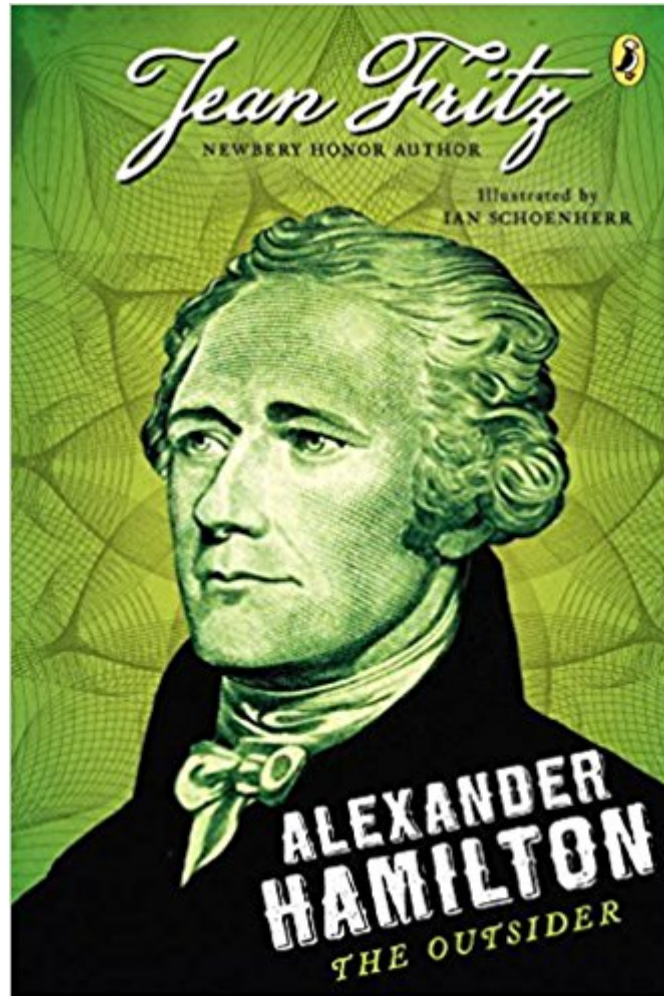




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Alexander Hamilton: The Outsider



Synopsis

The perfect chapter book biography for young fans of the Hamilton musical! Most people know that Alexander Hamilton was killed in a duel with Aaron Burr, and that his face is on the ten dollar bill. But he was much more than that! Born in the West Indies, Hamilton arrived in New York as an immigrant, an outsider. He fought in the American Revolution and became George Washington's most valuable aide-de-camp. As one of America's Founding Fathers, he was there for the writing of the Constitution and became the first Secretary of the Treasury. Jean Fritz's award-winning talent for bringing history to life shines as she shares the true story of Alexander Hamilton, a man of action who was honorable, ambitious, and fiercely loyal to his adopted country.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1030 (What's this?)

Paperback: 144 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Gr 6-9-Fritz covers a lot of territory in this slim biography. She recounts the facts of Hamilton's life from his birth to unwed parents in Nevis, West Indies, in 1755 (or 1757) to his death in New York in 1804 in a duel with Aaron Burr. The book is divided into five parts: "Beginnings," "Soldier," "Aide-de-Camp," "Statesman," and "Endings," and highlights Hamilton's talents as an essayist and his influence in the creation of the early federal government, especially its financial infrastructure. Illustrations, period reproductions, and maps all add to the wealth of historical events brought to life

by this knowledgeable author. For teachers looking for an independent read that supports curriculum, the book provides a richly detailed and eye-opening account of this important American's personal history. Its length and the illustrations suggest a young audience, but the language, amount of information, and organization of the text may require more mature readers or eager students of American history.-Karen Elliott, Grafton High School, WI (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Starred Review Fritz, a notable biographer of the Revolutionary War period for young people, provides a brisk, well-written account introducing Founding Father Alexander Hamilton as an outsider to America. Raised in the West Indies, Hamilton traveled to New York for his education in 1773 and became immersed in the political turmoil that led to the Revolutionary War. Joining the army as an artillery captain, he became an aide-de-camp to General Washington and led an attack at Yorktown. After the war, he served in Congress, at the Constitutional Convention, and as the first secretary of the treasury before sustaining a mortal wound in a duel with his longtime rival, Aaron Burr. Fast moving and engaging, this straightforward biography acknowledges Hamilton's flaws while portraying him as an intelligent, energetic man who rose to the challenge of his times. In addition to the black-and-white reproductions of period paintings and prints that illustrate the text, Schoenherr's striking, engraving-like images of Hamilton as scholar, soldier, aide-de-camp, statesman, and duelist introduce each section. The appended section of notes deals with historical background information, rather than sources for facts or quotes, but a source bibliography is included. This lively biography sheds light on Hamilton's character and his place at the nation's beginnings. Grades 5-8. --Carolyn Phelan --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Third grade grandson read 2 chapters while we were waiting for dinner at a restaurant. He seemed very absorbed in the book & had difficulty putting it down.

My 9-year old used this as background for her school report. She is an avid reader and found this helpful.

Our 9 year old wanted to learn more about Hamilton and thought this book was great. Tied in very closely with the musical so he was able to draw a number of comparisons. We are reading more of

her books on the American Revolution now. He also learned a ton of great vocab. words he didn't know.

My 8 year old son and 10 year old nephew both loved it. They, of course, learned of Hamilton from the musical, and this book helped them add dimension and context to their understanding of early American history and its figureheads.

Well written and easy to read. I learned much and suffered very little. Recommended for anyone interested in the lives and relationships of the founding fathers.

great copy of a fine book.

Short version of the life of Alexander Hamilton. I read it as background for attending an upcoming performance of Hamilton. It provided a well-written overview of his life. I did not have the time to read a long biography. I plan to share it next with my middle school grandson.

Kid loves musical theatre and Hamilton is at the top of the List! Seems to be enjoying it as he tells me how the book jives with the music from Hamilton!

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