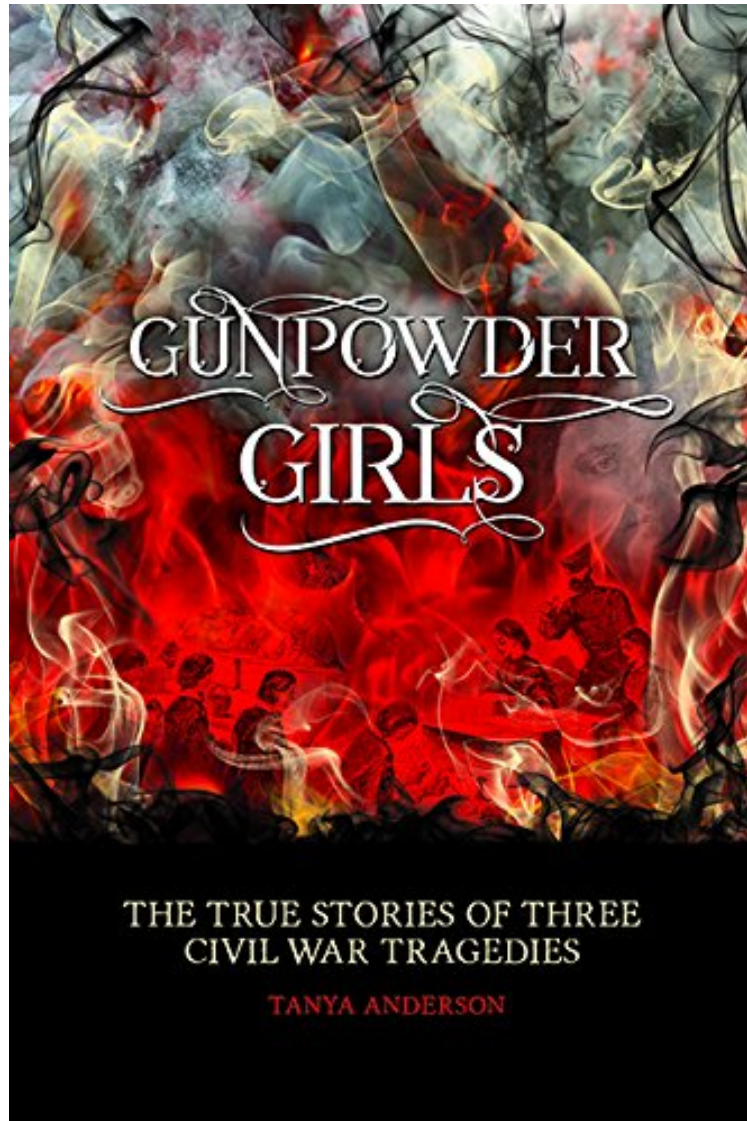


(Mobile book) Gunpowder Girls: The True Stories of Three Civil War Tragedies

Gunpowder Girls: The True Stories of Three Civil War Tragedies

Tanya Anderson

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Tanya Anderson : Gunpowder Girls: The True Stories of Three Civil War Tragedies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gunpowder Girls: The True Stories of Three Civil War Tragedies:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Way History Books Should ReadBy Jane KiseThere is nothing boring about history--except how it is taught and/or written about all too often. Instead of teaching students to dread learning about the past, why not unearth the stories that make history come alive, as Anderson has done in both this volume and [book:Tillie Pierce: Teen Eyewitness to the Battle of Gettysburg|15948944]?Meticulously researched,

filled with anecdotes and photos to make the events come alive, and completed with ties to historical and ongoing struggles for women's rights, this book is well worth the read for anyone, but especially as a classroom centerpiece to help students understand why they should crave studying and researching history. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A much needed book By crkA part of history that is often overlooked--the contribution of women and young girls during wartime in the United States. Very informative and well written. I highly recommend it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Three Civil War Era Disasters By Clif This book is an account of three major disasters that occurred during the American Civil War that resulted in the deaths of a large number of young women. War causes death, and the Civil War certainly caused many thousands of deaths. But these stories of mostly poor and young immigrant women working long hours at the assembly of ammunition cartridges are especially sad and tragic. These young women were assembling cartridges for use in muskets and rifles. In all three instances covered by this book the gunpowder with which they were working was accidentally set off into horrific explosions. The locations and dates of the three explosions covered by this book and the resulting number of deaths are listed below: Allegheny Arsenal.....78 deaths Lawrenceville, PA September 17, 1862 Confederate States Laboratory.....45 deaths Richmond, VA March 13, 1863 Washington Arsenal.....21 deaths Washington, D.C. June 17, 1864 This book is targeted toward a young adult readership and is well illustrated. It contains numerous interesting sidebar snippets of information. The personal stories about some of the victims are particularly poignant. I believe it is the sort of book that YA's will find to be interesting and educational.

A Junior Library Guild Selection. With thousands of men off fighting in the Civil War, the government hired women and girls--some as young as ten--to make millions of rounds of ammunition. Poor immigrant girls and widows paid the price for carelessness at three major arsenals. Many of these workers were killed, blown up and burned beyond recognition. As Steve Sheinkin did with *The Port Chicago 50*, Tanya Anderson in *Gunpowder Girls* tells an amazing war story that finally gives its subjects their due. Hidden history comes alive through primary-source research and page-turning narrative. *Gunpowder Girls* is a story of child labor and immigrant hopes and the cruel, endless demands of an all-consuming war.

From School Library Journal Gr 6 Up During the Civil War, women and girls filled rifle cartridges by hand for the armies of the North and the South. These women and girls, most of whom were immigrants, poured gunpowder, worked with percussion caps, and stacked completed ammunition. Flammable and explosive materials were everywhere one spark spelled disaster. Anderson pieces together the before and after of the deadly explosions that occurred at the Allegheny Arsenal in Lawrenceville, PA; the Confederate States Laboratory in Richmond, VA; and the Washington Arsenal in Washington, DC. Each event is foreshadowed, described in detail, and then investigated. With the help of primary source documents, the author examines life working in an arsenal (including diagrams on how to fill a cartridge) to give shape to the lives of these often forgotten women. Using census records, Anderson identifies the victims of each accident by name and age. Extensive back matter makes this a useful selection for research or reports. Pair this highly readable title with Albert Marrin's *Flesh and Blood So Cheap* for a look at working conditions in U.S. history. VERDICT Recommended for teen history buffs. Lisa Crandall, formerly at the Capital Area District Library, Holt, MI "Told clearly and engagingly, this book is sure to hook young history fans...and maybe create some new ones" -- Sarah Holt, Left Bank Books, St. Louis "Wow! This story is unprecedented. The accounts of the explosions themselves are as harrowing as narrative gets." -- Elizabeth Norton, Commerce Township (Mich.) Community Library "Anderson uncovers the hidden history of the Gunpowder Girls, who made ammunition during the War, through compelling narrative that brings history alive with primary source research." -- Lizz Zitron, Mortvedt Library, Pacific Lutheran University -- s"Outstanding. . . Thoroughly researched and beautifully written, this tragic story of 140 girls and young women killed by gunpowder explosions in three arsenals where they produced ammunition for Civil War armies reveals details previously unfamiliar even to Civil War historians. We can now add their names to the human toll of America's greatest conflict." -- James M. McPherson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* "Clear, engaging prose. . . Extensive backmatter adds gravitas. The employment plight of so many women of the era--few jobs and low pay--is amply illustrated. This grim, enlightening tale is most likely to appeal to those who seek out disaster stories or have an interest in American history." -- Kirkus s, September 2016 issue About the Author Tanya Anderson is an award-winning author and editor of books for young readers. She has worked for more than twenty years in various editorial functions for Pages Publishing Group, Guideposts for Teens, SRA/McGraw-Hill, Darby Creek Publishing, and School Street Media, her own business. Anderson is the author of more than thirty books published in children's and educational book markets. Her book, *Tillie Pierce: Teen Eyewitness to the Battle of Gettysburg*, is also a narrative nonfiction book for young readers. It was a Junior Library Guild Selection and won the 2014 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award for Teen Nonfiction. Anderson lives in Springfield, Ohio, most of the year, but retreats to Palm Harbor, Florida, when it gets too cold. Her website is tanyaandersonbooks.com. She has also created a website to share even more information about this book at

