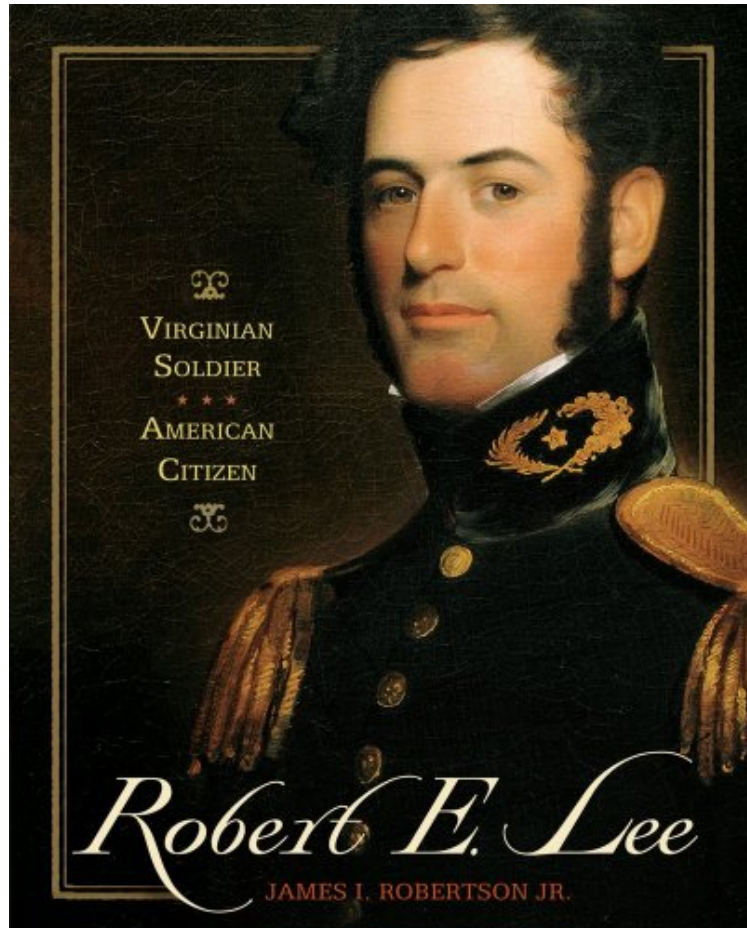


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Robert E. Lee: Virginian Soldier, American Citizen

James I. Robertson Jr.

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James I. Robertson Jr. : Robert E. Lee: Virginian Soldier, American Citizen before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Robert E. Lee: Virginian Soldier, American Citizen:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy ChrisGreat book and does a great job at pointing out what a great man he was.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CassivellaunusAn excellent book to combat the lies your kids will be taught at school.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Educational and informativeBy MamaSMY 11 year-old grandson thought this was a good book even though there were not many pictures.It covers all of Lee's life, not just the war years.

To some, Robert E. Lee is a beloved general, held in the highest regard. To others, he is one of history's most paradoxical heroes. He fought passionately to defend his homeland and was one of the nation's greatest soldiers, yet his name is often inextricably linked with slavery and secession. In 1861 Lee was Lincoln's first choice to lead the Union troops in the Civil War. But a strong loyalty to Virginia held Lee back. Instead he chose to become the

commanding officer of the Confederacy. Lee had great success in battle by spitting his forces and unleashing surprise attacks. His victory at Chancellorsville, where his troops soundly defeated an enemy twice their size, remains the most astonishing. However, only when he surrendered in 1865 did the nation understand the kind of man Robert E. Lee truly was. He was kind and loving, giving all of himself to a reconciliation between the North and the South. In this meticulously researched biography, James I. Robertson explores the life of one of the most revered -- and misunderstood -- Civil War Generals.

From School Library Journal Grade 6 Up—A solid portrait of a complex man. The clearly written text describes Lee's birth into an aristocratic family and childhood spent in genteel poverty. Inspired by George Washington, he chose a military career, graduating from West Point. The Mexican War turned him into a hero and gave him insight into what leads to success in battle. Following postings as head of the U.S. Military Academy and on the frontier, he returned home to his Virginia plantation and eventually freed his slaves. As war approached, he declined to lead the Federal forces, instead accepting command of the Army of Virginia. Robertson conveys Lee's war tactics, tracing both his triumphs and failures, and his admirable character and dedication to the cause. Readers will gain a greater understanding not only of his life and contributions but also of the Civil War. Extensive primary-source quotes, black-and-white reproductions, and maps bring the narrative to life. A useful resource for reports, this book will also attract history buffs.—Jane G. Connor, South Carolina State Library, Columbia Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Gr. 7-10. This balanced, detailed portrait of Lee puts particular emphasis on his life during the Civil War years but provides plenty of information on his youth, his early military career, and his postwar years at Washington College. The author of *Standing Like a Stone Wall* (2001) and a professor at Virginia Tech, Robertson comes to the subject with a firm grasp of the social milieu and the politics, strategy, and progress of the Civil War, which he communicates clearly through a narrative text studded with quotations from letters, diaries, and other records as well as books about Lee and his contemporaries. Illustrations include reproductions of period paintings, photographs, drawings, prints, and maps. The book ends with source notes for facts as well as quotes and a bibliography of cited works. Useful for reports and interesting in its own right, this well-researched biography will be a solid addition to library collections. Carolyn Phelan Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved. Manassas, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Appomattox. Any good biography of Robert E. Lee will inevitably cover a big slice of the Civil War and recreate one of the most dramatic tales in American history. Lee was the general who "led a revolution against a nation" and failed. Following his excellent *Standing like a Stone Wall: The Life of General Thomas J. Jackson* (2001), Robertson here offers a solid, if overly reverential, account of Lee, calling him "America's most respected historical figure" next to George Washington and Abraham Lincoln—a questionable thesis. The lively prose style well matches the drama of the subject, and the volume is chock full of maps, archival photographs and illustrations. Formal footnotes and a solid bibliography are provided, though few sources for young readers are offered. Good for Civil War collections. (Nonfiction. 12+) (Kirkus s)