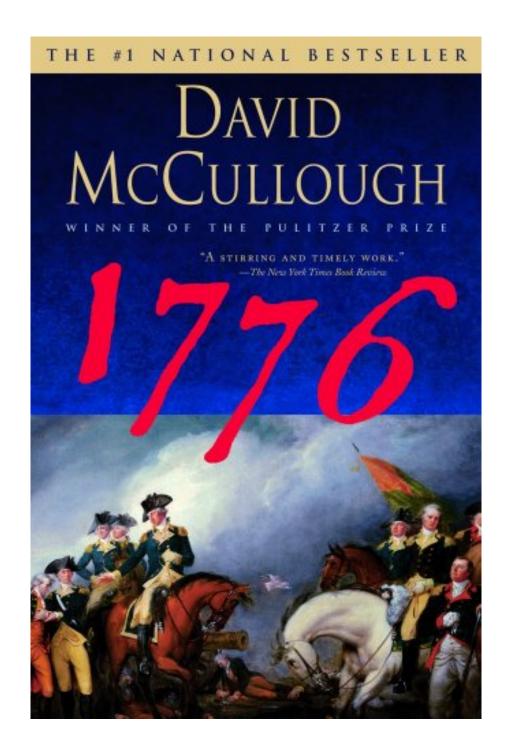


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Not for the faint of heart

By born too late

McCullough weaves together historical data and excerpts from letters and journals to create a narrative of this crucial year in American history. Beware that it is not for the faint of heart. This is not the glossed over history you learned in school. To be sure, it includes many proud and heroic moments, but it also shows Washington and his extremely ragtag army as human beings with all the faults and frailities. In this book we get not just the triumphs, but also the mistakes. This is not a case of trying to make anyone look bad, but it's probably a more unbiased view that most of us were raised with. You might want to be sitting down when you read this next bit ... Washington was not a god. He was hampered in this first year by a lack of officers with any real experience (seriously, one of his best and brightest, Nathanael Greene, was a very young, former bookseller with NO previous military experience), and little practical backing by the Continental Congress. But even so this account includes some painful mistakes. Still, the victories were very sweet, and those moments when the rebels rose to the occasion are glorious.

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A more-than-compelling history lesson

By barefootguy

As a proud American who, I'm ashamed to admit, knew next to nothing about the details of the Revolutionary War, McCullough's "1776" was a much-needed history lesson for me. Written lucidly and grippingly throughout, "1776" provides a strong foundation for one's study of this most critical period of our nation's history, and has inspired me to continue my own studies by reading as much as I can about the

revolution and its meaning, both then and now. One also comes away with a sense of awe toward General (and later President) George Washington. The extensive bibliography that McCullough has provided is more than enough for a lifetime of study.

I think that those Americans who read this book will, like me, feel more strongly patriotic and value more greatly the selflessness of those who fought for our country in its infancy. And I think that non-Americans who read it will better understand what it means to be an American, and hopefully see our country in a more favorable light. Yes, I realize that America has its problems, both currently and historically, and that we're certainly not beloved by everyone throughout the world, but it's nonetheless moving to at least try and perceive what we mean when we talk about the "American spirit": that feeling of unbounded liberty that allows us to truly pursue happiness. "1776" offers a path.

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Would like to contact David McCullough - In chapter 1 he ...

By James A. Becker

Would like to contact David McCullough - In chapter 1 he details how the House of Lords and the House of Commons both did not want to support King George and his proposed attack on America. The reason that they did not support it could have been Masonic. Prior to the Revolution the Masonic Ritual contained a "MISSION". Since King George was not Masonic, those who understood could not have uttered a word of the ritual to explain their vote. This "MISSION" was deleted in 1832 from the Masonic Ritual because it was complete. No Mason would have even known about who learned the ritual after 1832. Learned about it due to the member of my lodge having ancestors of who were members after the Lodge was built in 1814 and knew of this as part of the lodge history learned from those members who went who were made members prior to 1832. This change could have been part of the reason that the anti-masonic riots erupted in 1832. The published history of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge demonstrate how very unexplained events and meeting took place in thru 1778 in Philadelphia. This also correlates with the Grand Lodge of England removing the Grand Master who had to be a Stewart, and replacing him with one from the Hanover linage.

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This is an 1832 event.

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