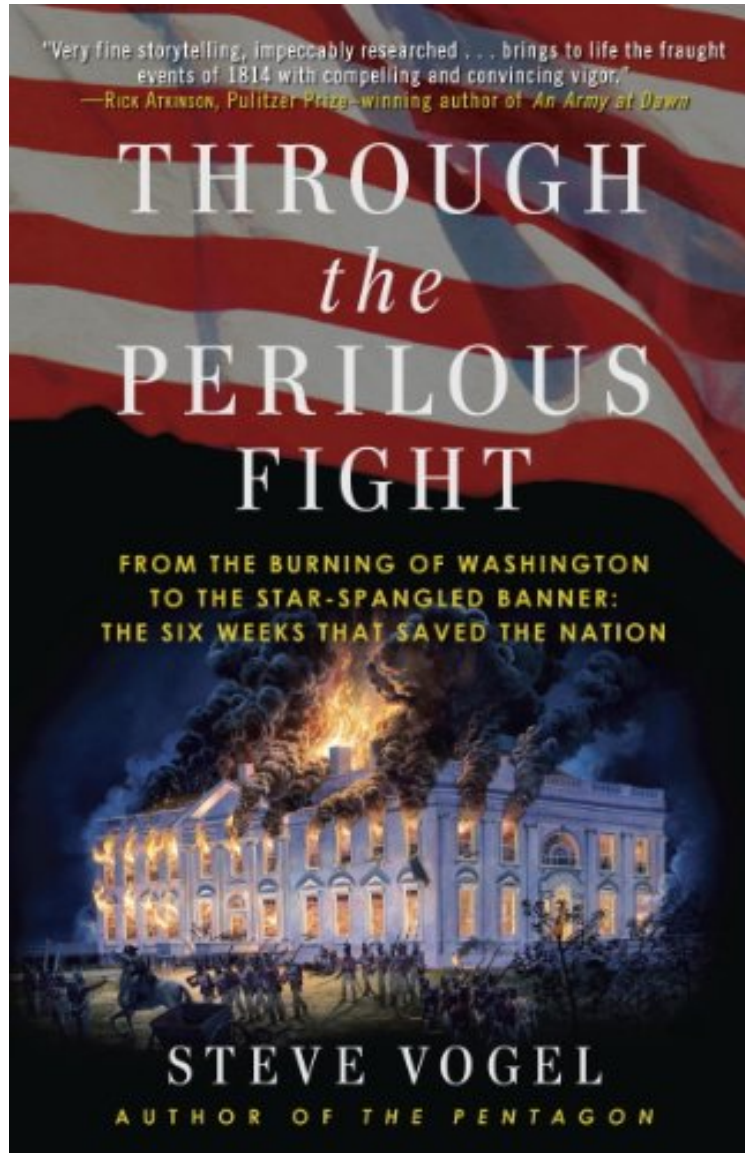


[Get free] Through the Perilous Fight: Six Weeks That Saved the Nation

## Through the Perilous Fight: Six Weeks That Saved the Nation

Von Steve Vogel

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**Von Steve Vogel : Through the Perilous Fight: Six Weeks That Saved the Nation** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Through the Perilous Fight: Six Weeks That Saved the Nation:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fire And DeliveranceVon James GallenThe War of 1812 is a segment of our history mostly remembered for the Star Spangled Banner and the Battle of New Orleans. Behind the color and the music it was a time of mortal danger for our then still

young republic. Through the Perilous Fight is the story of that time when the Chesapeake was invaded, the White House and other government buildings in Washington burned and the surge was stopped at Fort McHenry under the stars of Old Glory. Although it was a time when the country was in great danger, as the subtitle suggests, it was six weeks that saved the nation. The cast of characters is epic: Adm. Sir George Cockburn who, well burned hatred into the heart of the nation he sought to break; James Monroe, the Secretary of State who wanted to be a soldier in the worst way and was. Francis Scott Key, the lawyer-poet who penned a national anthem in a burst of patriotic eloquence; James Madison, the president run out of his mansion and capital who recovered to secure his place as the president who rallied his country to a new level of unity and Dolly, his socialite wife who saved General Washington's portrait before fleeing before the British. The book gives the background to the war, its causes, Free Trade and Sailors Rights, its first rounds, standoffs along the Niagara and Detroit fronts and the shifting of the offensive to Britain when the defeat of Napoleon permitted the transfer of battle-hardened units to America. The focus of this work is the Cockburn campaign of 1813-1814 that was intended to draw American forces from Canada and bring down the government, neither of which succeeded, and to show the dangers of attacking the lion of Britain, in which a measure of success was achieved. The first year consisted of raids against Bay side towns. 1814 saw the establishment of the Colonial Marines, consisting of slaves who responded to offers of freedom to those who fled to the British. Author Steve Vogel does an excellent job of telling the day by day story of the march and attack on Washington. He tells of the uncertainty of the British moves and goals, the disorganized American defenses in contrast to the proficiency of the Colonial Marine attacks and torching of federal buildings, allegedly in retaliation for the American burning and looting of York, capital of Upper Canada. Vogel points out how even in their mayhem, the British showed restraint. Only government buildings were destroyed while private property was protected, even to the point of preservation of the patent office due to the privately owned models stored there. Treasures were burnt, and small souvenirs taken but looting was not permitted. The burning of Washington was the high point of the British invasion. The feeble defense of the capitol was redeemed in the stiff resistance in Baltimore. Organized by regulars and militia the tide receded when Fort McHenry's banner was seen in the dawn's early light. On these pages the reader learns of the six weeks that saved the nation when, just as the government American experiment was about to falter, British offensives were stopped at Plattsburgh, New York, Baltimore and New Orleans. Through the Perilous Fight provides a survey course on the War of 1812 but focuses on the part of most interest to Americans. Whether you have a general understanding of the War and want to know about its end or read this as a stand-alone history this is a read you will appreciate.

**Kurzbeschreibung** In a rousing account of one of the critical turning points in American history, Through the Perilous Fight tells the gripping story of the burning of Washington and the improbable last stand at Baltimore that helped save the nation and inspired its National Anthem. In the summer of 1814, the United States of America teetered on the brink of disaster. The war it had declared against Great Britain two years earlier appeared headed toward inglorious American defeat. The young nation's most implacable nemesis, the ruthless British Admiral George Cockburn, launched an invasion of Washington in a daring attempt to decapitate the government and crush the American spirit. The British succeeded spectacularly, burning down most of the city's landmarks including the White House and the Capitol and driving President James Madison from the area. As looters ransacked federal buildings and panic gripped the citizens of Washington, beleaguered American forces were forced to regroup for a last-ditch defense of Baltimore. The outcome of that perilous fight would help change the outcome of the war and with it, the fate of the fledgling American republic. In a fast-paced, character-driven narrative, Steve Vogel tells the story of this titanic struggle from the perspective of both sides. Like an epic novel, Through the Perilous Fight abounds with heroes, villains, and astounding feats of derring-do. The vindictive Cockburn emerges from these pages as a pioneer in the art of total warfare, ordering his men to knock down, burn, and destroy everything in their path. While President Madison dithers on how to protect the capital, Secretary of State James Monroe personally organizes the American defenses, with disastrous results. Meanwhile, a prominent Washington lawyer named Francis Scott Key embarks on a mission of mercy to negotiate the release of an American prisoner. His journey will place him with the British fleet during the climactic Battle for Baltimore, and culminate in the creation of one of the most enduring compositions in the annals of patriotic song: The Star-Spangled Banner. Like Pearl Harbor or 9/11, the burning of Washington was a devastating national tragedy that ultimately united America and renewed its sense of purpose. Through the Perilous Fight combines bravura storytelling with brilliantly rendered character sketches to recreate the thrilling six-week period when Americans rallied from the ashes to overcome their oldest adversary and win themselves a new birth of freedom. Praise for Through the Perilous Fight Very fine storytelling, impeccably researched . . . brings to life the fraught events of 1814 with compelling and convincing vigor. Rick Atkinson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of An Army at Dawn Probably the best piece of military history that I have read or reviewed in the past five years. . . . This well-researched and superbly written history has all the trappings of a good novel. . . . No one who hears the national anthem at a ballgame will ever think of it the same way after reading this book. Gary Anderson, The Washington

Times [Steve] Vogel does a superb job. . . . [A] fast-paced narrative with lively vignettes. Joyce Appleby, The Washington Post Before 9/11 was 1814, the year the enemy burned the nations capital. . . . A splendid account of the uncertainty, the peril, and the valor of those days. Richard Brookhiser, author of James Madison A swift, vibrant account of the accidents, intricacies and insanities of war. Kirkus sFrom the Hardcover edition. Pressestimmen [A] fine study . . . Steve Vogel does a superb job of bringing this woeful tale to life. He leavens his fast-paced narrative with lively vignettes of the principal participants. . . . Vogel meticulously sets the stage for the ensuing debacle. Joyce Appleby, The Washington Post The Perilous Fight is probably the best piece of military history that I have read or reviewed in the past five years. . . . This well-researched and superbly written history has all the trappings of a good novel. There is great heroism, treacherous self-interest, cowardice and intrigue. . . . No one who hears the national anthem at a ballgame will ever think of it the same way after reading this book, nor want the national anthem changed. Gary Anderson, The Washington Times Complementing Donald R. Hickey's War of 1812 and Alan Taylor's The Civil War of 1812, this title will contribute to making this war no longer one of our forgotten conflicts. Library Journal Vogel . . . superbly dramatizes a campaign whose legacy is The Star-Spangled Banner, both the anthem and the flag for which it stands, today displayed in Washington. Booklist The experienced author knows how to write about the military and its human and martial conflicts. . . . A swift, vibrant account of the accidents, intricacies and insanities of war. Kirkus sVery fine storytelling, impeccably researched . . . Through the Perilous Fight brings to life the fraught events of 1814 with compelling and convincing vigor. Rick Atkinson, Pulitzer Prizewinning author of An Army at Dawn Before 9/11 was 1814 the year the enemy burned the nations capital. Steve Vogel gives a splendid account, fast-paced and detailed, of the uncertainty, the peril, and the valor of those days. Richard Brookhiser, author of James Madison The War of 1812 remains one of the most important and least appreciated events in American history. In these engaging pages, Steve Vogel does much to rectify that, telling the story of a critical episode of the conflict with eloquence and insight. Jon Meacham, Pulitzer Prizewinning author of Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power Kurzbeschreibung In a rousing account of one of the critical turning points in American history, Through the Perilous Fight tells the gripping story of the burning of Washington and the improbable last stand at Baltimore that helped save the nation and inspired its National Anthem. In the summer of 1814, the United States of America teetered on the brink of disaster. 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