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# Rush Revere And The Star-Spangled Banner



## Synopsis

IT'S THE DAWN OF AN IMPORTANT NEW DAY IN AMERICA. YOUNG READERS, GRAB THE REINS AND JOIN RUSH REVERE, LIBERTY THE HORSE, AND THE WHOLE TIME-TRAVELING CREW IN THIS PATRIOTIC HISTORICAL ADVENTURE THAT TAKES YOU ON AN EXCITING TRIP TO THE PAST TO SEE OUR REMARKABLE NATION'S MOST ICONIC SYMBOLS UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL!

Rush Revere here, along with my chatty horse, Liberty! Wait a minute . . . Liberty? Where did he go? • • Reporting for duty, Captain Revere! • • Liberty, where did you get that spinach smoothie? • \*Slurp\* Well, he certainly didn't get it from 1787—that's where we're rush, rush, rushing off to next with our enthusiastic young friends in the Time-Traveling Crew (but not before causing a major security incident at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.!) A funny case of mistaken identity and a wild chase through the busy streets of Philadelphia will lead us to the famously introverted Father of our Constitution, James Madison, and the heated secret debates over the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Fast-forward a few years, and we'll help his brave wife, Dolley, risk her life to save an important portrait from the White House as the British set Washington afire! What greater symbol of our exceptional nation's hard-won freedoms than the Star-Spangled Banner, sewn by American icon Betsy Ross? Perhaps Francis Scott Key can explain what inspired him to pay tribute to our glorious flag by writing our beautiful national anthem. But watch out for the bombs bursting in air, because when we reach 1814, we'll be front and center at a major battle to defend our liberty. Jump back in the saddle with me, Rush Revere, and the Time-Traveling Crew, as my trusty horse, Liberty, takes us on another flying leap through American history into a past teeming with heroes and extraordinary citizens who have so much to teach us about patriotism. All you need to bring is your curiosity about the birth of our democracy—we've got plenty of tricornered hats for everyone!

## Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Rush Limbaugh is host of The Rush Limbaugh Showâ”the nationâ”s highest-rated talk radio program, with an audience of more than twenty-five millionâ”andâ” the #1 New York Times bestselling author of Rush Revere and the Brave Pilgrims, Rush Revere and the First Patriots, Rush Revere and the American Revolution, Rush Revere and the Star-Spangled Banner, and Rush Revere and the Presidency. Visit [RushLimbaugh.com](http://RushLimbaugh.com) and [RushRevere.com](http://RushRevere.com).

Rush Revere and the Star Spangled Banner 2> Shouting and yells could be heard in the distant blackness. Washington City was barely visible as Liberty and I made our way down a winding dirt road. âœLiberty, I hope you can see better than I can,â • I said. âœI forgot there are no street lights in 1814.â • âœNo worries, Revere. Horses can see very well in the dark,â • Liberty said. âœAnd I can smell better, too. Well, not just in the dark but all the time. In fact,â • Liberty sniffed, âœit smells like someone is cooking dinner. Mmm, a nice carrot and onion stew sounds reallyâ”whoa!â • Liberty yelled and reared up, flailing his front legs. The sound of a woman screaming came from somewhere directly in front of us. I hung tight to Libertyâ”s neck until his front hooves were once again on the dirt road. âœWhat was that all about,â • I said. âœSorry, but those people spooked me. I didnâ”t see them until the last second,â • Liberty replied. âœI thought you could see well in the dark,â • I said with sarcasm. âœI can. But I had my eyes closed when I was smelling that delicious . . . oh, never mind. We have company,â • whispered Liberty. A woman and toddler briskly walked to the other side of the road, moving fast and away from us and the city. They appeared to be carrying their household belongings. Both were covered in dirt and looked exhausted. âœAre you okay?â • I asked, concerned. âœIâ”m sorry my horse spooked you.â • âœAll is well, thank you,â • the woman replied. âœWe are tired but we are faring as well as possible under the circumstances.â • The young girl beside her looked to be around seven years old

with long brown hair and a high-collared dress. Her tired eyes brightened when she saw Liberty.

“Your horse is so pretty!” she exclaimed. “Can I pet his nose?” “Of course you may. He loves that almost as much as he loves carrots,” I said. Liberty leaned down and snuggled into the girl’s nose.

“You are very kind, sir,” the woman said in a weary tone. “Please be careful. The British are on the edge of the city. We were told to evacuate. There are rumors that four thousand Redcoats are marching toward Washington. They plan to burn the city in revenge for their defeat at York.”

“Thank you for the warning. We will be on the lookout,” I replied, putting a hand to the edge of my tricornered hat to bid them farewell.

“Bye-bye, horsey,” the little girl said as they walked away into the dark night.

“Revere, I thought we were going to see the White House,” Liberty said, as we pressed forward on the dusty road.

“We are, but I’m a bit disoriented,” I replied. I looked down at my map of Washington City in 1814. The Capitol was being built, and the White House is where it still stands today in Washington, D.C. On August 23, 1814, however, the city was still under construction. As we continued to walk we noticed building materials all along the road.

“I think I can help,” said Liberty. “After all, I do have Spidey-sense for all things American history.” Liberty paused, closed his eyes, and sniffed the air.

“Well?” I asked. “Which way do we go?” “I don’t know,” Liberty said. “The only thing I’m getting is the smell of roasted vegetables and boy, does it smell good!” I rolled my eyes.

“Look over there,” I said. “I think that’s the dome of the Capitol Building. We’re almost there.”

After a few minutes, we arrived at our destination. The light from nearby torches reflected off the white walls of the White House. We picked up our pace as we approached. There was nothing around the building except a road in front and dirt and grass surrounding it. A small gate was left open and we were able to enter the grounds without being stopped. A man approached us carrying small items.

“President Madison has already left, sir, and I suggest you do the same,” the man said as he brushed past.

“I am starting to think the same thing, Revere,” Liberty said. “Except that delicious smell is coming from the White House. I’m sure of it. Maybe they’re expecting us for dinner?”

“Liberty, our mission is to find Dolley Madison, the First Lady.”

“Right, I know,” said Liberty. “I’m just saying if she invites us to dinner it would be rude to say no.”

“It’s true that Dolley Madison was said to be an incredible hostess, but that’s not why we’re here.”

As we turned a corner behind the White House we saw two men helping a woman roll up a large canvas painting. I knew it was the rare and priceless portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart.

“That’s her!” I exclaimed. “The First Lady of the United States of America.”

As we approached I saw Dolley place the rolled-up portrait into the hands of a young African-American man.

“You there, come help us with this painting,”

Mrs. Madison said. I knew it was the First Lady because I had studied a painting of her before we left modern day. She had dark hair, dark eyes, and pale skin. She continued to dart back and forth as she gathered and boxed other documents. "Yes, Mrs. Madison," I said, "we are certainly happy to help." "Thank you," she said. "Help us roll this painting so that it is not damaged." I jumped off Liberty and helped the others carefully roll the giant canvas. "The President has gone to the battlefield, and everyone is exhausted. I thank you for your help. I suspect the British will be here soon to destroy Washington City, so we are removing the items that are most valuable to the country. It is a small thing, perhaps, but I think it is important," Mrs. Madison said. "Why is the portrait of George Washington so important?" I asked.

My family is learning so much as we have listened to all four books in this audio series (This is the 4th.) I admit that I kind of loathe celebrity children's books and was reluctant to look at these but these books are well-written, funny and informative. He presents lots of well-researched information about American History (in this case the War of 1812 and the story of our national anthem) in the context of students who time travel with their teacher and a talking horse named Liberty. He also weaves in other contemporary themes such as having a parent deployed in the military, bullying and having a loved one with a terminal illness. My son, a bright but reluctant reader, began listening to these last year in 3rd grade and was laughing out loud. Loved them! He actually wanted to know more about Henry Knox and read a biography after listening to the 2nd book. These books are wonderful! (I am learning things, too!) Rush Limbaugh's audio performance of his work is charming as well. (He's very funny!)

My granddaughter already had the first three books of this series, so I purchased (but have not given the 4th book to her yet). Her mom told me that she absolutely loved the first three so that's why I ordered this book for her. Since many schools do not teach accurate history to students I thought this book might fill in the blanks for her. She's in the 4th grade and according to our daughter she sat down and read each book in one sitting.

My 11 year old daughter absolutely loves this series. She isn't a lover of reading, but has requested each book of this series. She loves the humor and especially the talking horse Liberty. I know she is also gaining very important American history knowledge as well. It is definitely worth the purchase.

My 10 year old son has read every book in this series, with this being the latest one. The character

development is weak overall and rather cliché. The unifying theme of this book is not as coherent as the other titles in this series. Also, the constant references to texting, etc., seem to pander to the idea of young people being unable to find interest in anything absent technology and social media. They are so constant that at times they detract and distract from the purpose of the story. Why four stars then? My son loves to read and his reading ability is significantly above this lexile level, but he seldom finds history interesting. I struggle to find books about history in which he can get lost, like he does in pure fiction titles. This is a great summer read- easy, engaging, with enough of a dose of history that he can actually learn something along the way and perhaps get a bit more out of our trips to historical sites. Not every book has to be a Caldecott winner to be worth reading.

I bought this book for my 9 year old granddaughter last Winter. She finally got around to reading it this Spring and absolutely loved it! She loved it so much that she asked me if I knew of more books similar to this one that she could read. So I went ahead and bought the other three of Rush Revere's book series for her!

Rush Limbaugh tells another story in his series of time traveling adventures as Rush Revere. This time Liberty, his time traveling horse, takes he and his young students back to the days of the writing of the Star Spangled Banner. But before he does this he travels to Washington DC in real time, visiting many of the historic places in our nations capital. Limbaugh's research into these places brings the places alive to the reader. His knowledge and fondness for all things patriotic is commendable. As I have enjoyed his previous stories of adventure I expected more of the same and an improved writing style. I gave his 4 stars only because I felt that it did not quite live up to the quality of his other stories in this series. Still, it was a joy to read; captivating; hard to put down. I guess I feel that Revere spent too much time bantering on Liberty's incessant fondness for food. After a while it just got old. Recommended? Yes!

As a grandparent, I think it's critical that children are taught American history -- but NOT the anti-American "America-is-bad" perspective that seems to be so widespread these days. I bought these books but my grandson isn't a big reader (unlike my granddaughter) so I purchased the cds also. LOVE Rush's stuff for kids!

Having bought the first three books before they came out for the grandchildren (and myself), I immediately ordered this edition as soon as it was available and I ordered four copies! WHY???

These books are first and foremost, more understandable and historically accurate about our national history than any other children's (or adult) book. The story line is unique and very easy to read, the quality of the paper is most excellent and will last for many years. Whether you like Rush Limbaugh's politics or not, these historically accurate four books make an outstanding children's series that any grandparent, parent, or teacher should consider giving for the holidays or just any time. Keep them coming Rush!!!

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