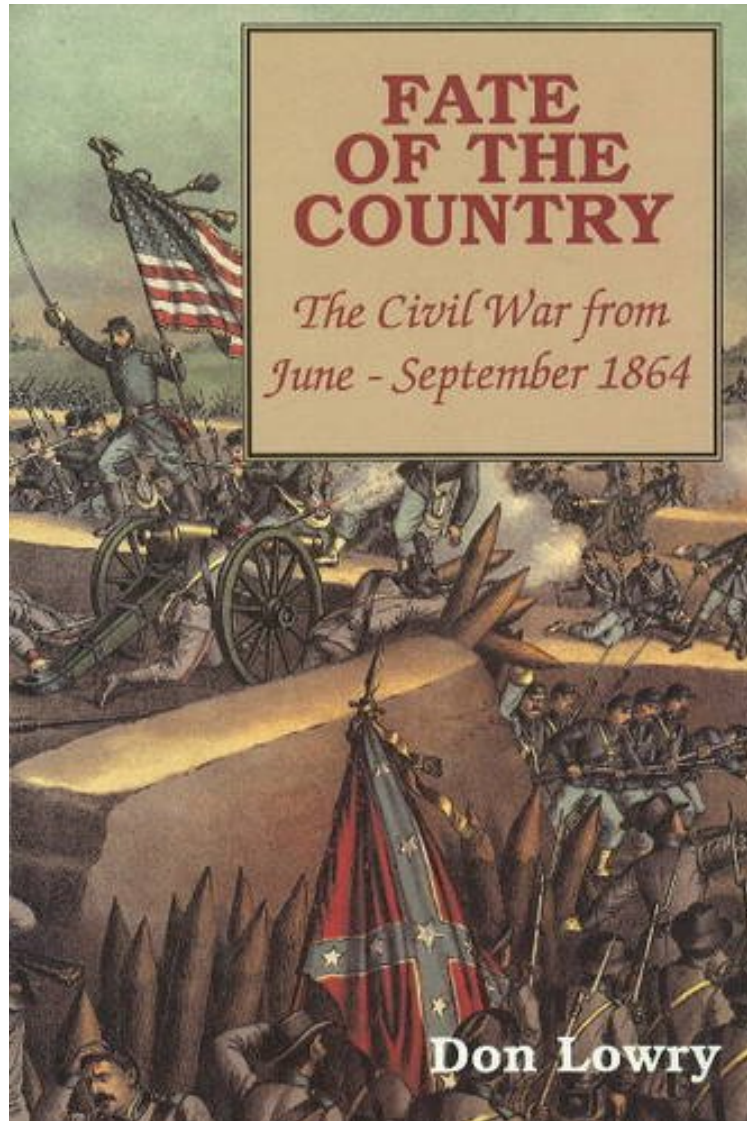


## Fate of the Country: The Civil War from June to September 1864

Don Lowry

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**Don Lowry : Fate of the Country: The Civil War from June to September 1864** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fate of the Country: The Civil War from June to September 1864:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Edwin G. HerrickGood book2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Chronology of the Civil War during Summer, 1864By Steven PetersonThis is the second of a four volume set of books, authored by Don Lowry. Each book covers about three months or so of the final year of the Civil War. The wrinkle that he adds to these books is that they are written in a strict chronological fashion. If

several events happened on a specific day, he would cover all in one chapter, rather than the normal approach of finishing one story without interruption and then turning to another. So, events sometimes come in a jumble, as several important things would occur and all would be mixed together. On the other hand, this does provide a much better sense of the order of events. Major events covered in this volume: the Siege of Petersburg, the battle in the Shenandoah Valley, the campaign of Sherman to take Atlanta. Other events are also covered, such as the effort by General A. J. Smith and his troops to create problems for Nathan Forrest and the sea battle between the Kearsarge and the Alabama, just off France. There were major Union catastrophes, such as the debacle at the Crater outside Petersburg. The picture often appeared grim for Abraham Lincoln's re-election. With Sherman's capture of Atlanta, however, the picture began to brighten. This is not an especially well written book, but it is chock full of details, and the chronological ordering of matters is an interesting effort.

The Civil War from June-September 1864, 468 pp., illus., index, hardcover, dj.

From Library Journal In this second volume of four, Lowry roams from Grant's strategy of besieging Petersburg and letting Sherman march through Georgia to Union-Confederate naval battles in Europe and Confederate efforts to threaten Lincoln's reelection. Lowry, a war-game journal and newspaper editor, reconstructs the battles and the intrigues with commentary and details collected from the various published sources. His frame-by-frame chronology succeeds in heightening the natural drama of the events. It's unclear whether he's writing a popular history--in which case his careful footnotes are unnecessary--or whether he presents this as a scholarly effort, which it is not. The text ranges from polished to awkward; he supplies a "Military Organizations" appendix, but using it regularly grows wearing. Better editing would have streamlined the text and let the author's thoughts shine through. Nevertheless, this will be enjoyed most by avid Civil War readers.- Robert C. Moore, DuPont Merck Pharmaceutical Co. Information Svcs., North Billerica, Mass. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.