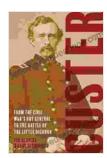
# From The Civil War Boy General To The Battle Of The Little Bighorn

George Armstrong Custer was one of the most famous and controversial figures in American history. He was a brilliant cavalry commander who fought in the Civil War and the Indian Wars. He is best known for his defeat at the Battle of the Little Bighorn, where he and his entire command were wiped out by a force of Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne warriors.



## Custer: From the Civil War's Boy General to the Battle of the Little Bighorn by Gary L. Bloomfield

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.3 out of 5 Language : English File size : 59278 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled : Enabled Word Wise Print length : 255 pages Lending : Enabled



Custer was born in New Rumley, Ohio, in 1839. He was the son of a blacksmith and a schoolteacher. Custer was a bright and ambitious child, and he excelled in school. He attended West Point Military Academy, where he graduated at the top of his class in 1861.

The Civil War broke out shortly after Custer graduated from West Point. Custer joined the Union Army and quickly rose through the ranks. He became a brigadier general at the age of 23, making him one of the youngest generals in the war. Custer fought in many of the major battles of the Civil War, including Gettysburg and Antietam. He was known for his bravery and his aggressive tactics.

After the Civil War, Custer was sent to the West to fight in the Indian Wars. He led several campaigns against the Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne, and he was involved in several massacres of Native Americans. Custer's most famous battle was the Battle of the Little Bighorn, which took place in 1876. Custer and his command were surrounded by a force of Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne warriors, and they were all killed.

Custer's death was a major blow to the United States Army, and it helped to fuel the Indian Wars. Custer remains a controversial figure today, but there is no doubt that he was one of the most important and influential figures in American history.

#### **Custer's Early Life**

George Armstrong Custer was born in New Rumley, Ohio, on December 5, 1839. He was the son of Emanuel Henry Custer, a blacksmith, and Maria Ward Kirkpatrick Custer, a schoolteacher. Custer had two older sisters, Lydia and Elizabeth, and a younger brother, Thomas.

Custer's father was a strict disciplinarian, and he instilled in his son a strong sense of patriotism and duty. Custer's mother was a devout Christian, and she taught her son the importance of faith and morality.

Custer was a bright and ambitious child. He excelled in school, and he was always eager to learn new things. Custer was also a natural leader, and he

quickly became popular with his classmates and friends.

In 1857, Custer entered West Point Military Academy. He graduated at the top of his class in 1861, and he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army.

#### **Custer's Civil War Service**

The Civil War broke out shortly after Custer graduated from West Point. Custer joined the Union Army and quickly rose through the ranks. He became a brigadier general at the age of 23, making him one of the youngest generals in the war.

Custer fought in many of the major battles of the Civil War, including Gettysburg and Antietam. He was known for his bravery and his aggressive tactics. Custer was also a controversial figure, and he was often criticized for his recklessness.

In 1864, Custer was given command of the 3rd Cavalry Division. He led his division on a number of successful raids against Confederate forces. Custer's most famous raid was the Battle of Trevilian Station, which took place in June 1864. Custer's division attacked a Confederate force that was twice its size, and they routed the enemy. The Battle of Trevilian Station was a major victory for the Union Army, and it helped to secure the Union victory in the Civil War.

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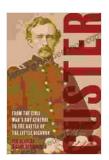
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#### **Custer's Legacy**

Custer's legacy is complex and controversial. He was a brilliant military commander who won many victories, but he was also responsible for the deaths of many Native Americans.

Custer's legacy is also one of tragedy. He was a young man with a promising future, but he was killed in battle at the age of 36. Custer's death was a reminder of the dangers of war, and it helped to fuel the movement for peace.

Custer remains a popular figure in American culture. He has been the subject of numerous books, movies, and television shows. Custer's story is a reminder of the complexities of American history, and it is a story that continues to fascinate and inspire people today.

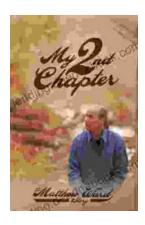


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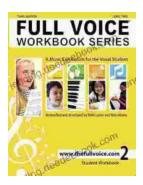
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