



Diary of a Drummer Boy

MARLENE TARG BRILL ★ Illustrations by Michael Garland

He was only a drummer boy, but Orion Howe's courage under fire helped General Sherman break the Rebel hold on Vicksburg.

It is April, 1861, and there is talk of war in the Howes' Illinois home. When President Lincoln asks for more soldiers, Orion's father and brother enlist. Hating to be left behind, twelve-year-old Orion soon joins them to be a drummer boy in the Union Army.

As the war wears on, Orion bravely endures hunger, sickness, and fatigue, facing battles with nothing but his drum and sticks. But the biggest test of his courage is yet to come.

Diary of a Drummer Boy is a fictionalized diary based on the true story of Orion Howe, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor. A beautifully illustrated introduction to the Civil War for students too young for more graphic depictions.

About the Author

Marlene Targ Brill is the author of over 70 award-winning books. She most enjoys writing about children and their accomplishments. Marlene has a bachelor's degree in special education, a master's degree in early childhood education, and has worked in the education field as a teacher, consultant, and curriculum specialist. She and her husband reside near Chicago in Wilmette, Illinois.

About the Illustrator

Michael Garland is a best-selling author and illustrator of children's picture books. He has illustrated for celebrity authors like James Patterson and Gloria Estefan on their best-selling children's books. He is both author and illustrator of thirty-nine children's picture books and illustrator for more than forty books by other authors.



Orion P. Howe

Lyston D. Howe

From reviews of a previous edition:

School Library Journal: "This imagined journal...has the tone of nonfiction. Garland's full-page illustrations are simply stunning...This picture book is perfect for students too young for more graphic depictions of the Civil War..."

Booklist: "[This] book will serve as a lively, vivid introduction to the Civil War, particularly as a short book to read aloud or have students read aloud in classrooms."

A National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)/Children's Book Council (CBC) Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

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