



Grant Comes East: A Novel of the Civil War

By Newt Gingrich, William R. Forstchen

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*THE BATTLE MAY HAVE BEEN WON,
BUT THE WAR IS FAR FROM OVER.*

Grant Comes East from bestselling authors Newt Gingrich and William R. Forstchen continues the story of a Confederate victory, examining the great "what if" of American history: Could Lee have won the Battle of Gettysburg? A Confederate victory, however, would not necessarily mean that the Southern cause has gained its final triumph and a lasting peace. It is from this departure point that the story continues in *Grant Comes East*, as General Robert E. Lee's marches on Washington, D.C., and launches an assault against one of the largest fortifications in the world.

Beyond a military victory in the field, Lee must also overcome the defiant stand of President Abraham Lincoln, who vows that regardless of the defeat at Gettysburg, his solemn pledge to preserve the Union will be honored at all cost.

At the same time, Lincoln has appointed General Ulysses S. Grant as commander of all Union forces. Grant, fresh from his triumph at Vicksburg, races east, bringing with him his hardened veterans from Mississippi to confront Lee.

What ensues across the next six weeks is a titanic struggle as the surviving Union forces inside the fortifications of Washington fight to hang on, while Grant prepares his counterblow. Spanning the ground from Washington to the banks of the Susquehanna, these factors will come together in a climatic, pivotal struggle.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Former congressman Gingrich and historical fiction writer Forstchen once again collaborate to produce an exciting alternative history of the Civil War (after 2003's bestselling *Gettysburg*). This second volume finds Lee and his victorious army in Maryland, poised to assault Washington, D.C.. The Confederates hope to capture the capital and President Lincoln, bring a sympathetic Maryland into the Confederacy, gain European recognition and force the Union into peace negotiations. The Union is in a desperate situation. The capital is cut off, Northern cities are burning in the bloody draft riots and the nearest intact Union army is General Grant's western force, rushing to the east from Vicksburg. In the midst of the military chaos, sniping and bickering by generals and politicians on both sides hamper Grant and Lee. Most of Lee's tactical and strategic plans succeed, but he miscalculates Lincoln's resolve and Grant's single-mindedness. And then Grant does something so unexpected that suddenly Lee is the one on the run. Building on their strong first volume, Gingrich and Forstchen craft an original, dramatic and historically plausible "what if?" story. Character depictions—of Lincoln, Grant and Lee; of the soldiers who fight and die; and of the civilians who plot and panic—are vivid, detailed and insightful. This is one of the best novels of the Civil War to appear in recent years.

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From [Booklist](#)

Historian and former speaker of the House of Representatives Gingrich and cowriter Forstchen, a veteran author of historical fiction, continue their new alternate-history series. It began with the eminently successful *Gettysburg* (2003), in which the authors reimagined the outcome of that war-turning battle of the Civil War, handing to General Lee the laurels of victory rather than the ignominy of defeat. Now, in this follow-up volume, they put their imaginative heads together to see how, since they freed the Confederates from suffering a major blow at Gettysburg, the Southerners would take advantage of the situation to further their cause on the field of battle. And what the authors come up with is as rivetingly plausible as what they devised in the previous novel. Their "invention" here centers on the Union government's bringing General Grant eastward from his recent victory in Vicksburg; of course, the immediate ramification of Lee's win at Gettysburg (see how easy it is to be seduced by these authors' version of events?) is the threatened safety of Washington, D.C.--and further down the line, the possibility of actual and official recognition of the Confederacy by the European powers. Gingrich and Forstchen's readjustments to history are notably original.

Brad Hooper

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Review

"Ulysses S. Grant is one of my Civil War favorites. I sat down on a weekend morning to read this book and, by night, I was still at it to the last page. Couldn't put it down. This is a very readable story of how President Abraham Lincoln finally put Grant in charge and changed the course of history." ?Liz Smith

"Gingrich and Forstchen have produced a very readable entry into the literature of speculative history. It will be interesting, perhaps even thrilling, to see how the military strategy and political maneuvering plays out in the next installment." ?*Civil War Book Review*

"With each book in their ongoing alternate history cycle, Gingrich and Forstchen have gone from strength to

strength as storytellers. Unabashedly, this is a work of popular historical fiction; it aspires to entertain, first and foremost, but it has passages of genuine depth and poetry which elevate it above many other specimens of its peculiar sub-genre.” ?*William Trotter, The Charlotte Observer*

“Gingrich and Forstchen portray icons like Grant and Lee as very real humans, beset with very real problems demanding decisions... This second volume is every bit as good as the first.” ?*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

“An exciting alternative history of the Civil War. Character depictions are vivid, detailed, and insightful. One of the best novels of the Civil War to appear in recent years.” ?*Publishers Weekly (starred)*

“A good yarn. The authors provide apt historically plausible detail to give substance to the premise. Colorful and imaginative historical fiction.” ?*Washington Times*

“What the authors come up with is as rivetingly plausible as what they devised in the previous novel. Notably original.” ?*Booklist*

“The Gingrich and Forstchen 'what-if' take on the Civil War gathers some steam. The battle scenes continue war-lovingly rendered.” ?*Kirkus*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Daniel Padilla:

Information is provisions for folks to get better life, information these days can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even an issue. What people must be consider if those information which is from the former life are hard to be find than now is taking seriously which one is appropriate to believe or which one the particular resource are convinced. If you obtain the unstable resource then you have it as your main information you will see huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take Grant Comes East: A Novel of the Civil War as the daily resource information.

Sean Bass:

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