

The Cedar



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From settling in the newly founded colonies in the 17th century through the pinnacle of the Civil War, The Cedar is an adventurous tale of the trials and triumphs of human endeavor, a broad canvas of emotion, and an epic tale of struggle and strength. A story that is at times heartwarming, at others heartbreaking, we are introduced to generations of the Bodes family and those close to them as they struggle against enemies, the challenges of the new world, and personal conflict.

The Cedar Details

Date : Published November 23rd 2016 by D. E. Campbelle Literary Works

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Author : Carmen Butler

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Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction

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From Reader Review The Cedar for online ebook

Linda Gutierrez says

One of a kind

This book is a gem that will stay with you long after you have read the last word. It reaches back to the infancy of America and informs as it entertains. The story of immigrants and native Americans that takes us on a journey of a family with all the secrets that can never be told in their lifetimes. Well worth your interest.

Patsy says

A story of love and families in the 17th century through the 1960's spanning numerous generations. A Frenchman came to America in the 17th century, he found a lovely spot in South Carolina to build a modest home and opened it up for travelers to have a meal and a bed for the night to rest. This home was passed from generation to generation each one making improvements on it, keeping it open for any travellers. The home became a large plantation in South Carolina named 'The Cedar' owners were the Bodes Family.

Their first encounter was the Indians, then as the Plantation grew, there were slaves to help, and house servants. In 1840 a time for love and family, this saga is filled with adventures, emotions, drama throughout, struggles, heartbreak, forgiveness and twists and turns throughout the years. The Civil War was well researched and written in vivid detail, I learned so much about the Civil War in South Carolina.

A wonderful written book which was well researched and published about 50 years ago. This is the only book that Carmen Butler had ever written. The characters and setting were well defined in vivid detail. The plot was outstanding, I loved the book from the beginning to the end. I enjoyed every chapter in the saga. A book I will remember for a long time, I recommend this book to those who love historical fiction.

Deborah says

Terrible writing

A compelling plot and interesting characters can't quite redeem the stilted mess of the narrative. The clumsy attempt at the slaves' dialect is embarrassing. The author misuses words and makes countless errors of grammar and syntax. Too bad, because in the hands even a competent writer, this could have been really good book.

Tracy Ramone says

Brilliant

When I look for historical fiction, this is what I hope for but rarely find. As thoroughly researched as it is

fascinating, this story spans generations and wars in a way that keeps the reader engaged and never bored. I'm only sad to know this was Ms. Butler's only published work.

Robyn Echols says

Quite the Story

This long and wordy novel is reminiscent of books of an earlier era. At times I wished it to move a little faster, however reading the progress of the dysfunctional relationship between Vesper and Elizabeth, and curiosity to learn the answers to some of the mysteries alluded to held my interest. The final scenes involving Sherman's March into Columbia and the destruction that took place there made the book for me.

kathi Driskell says

Great Historical Book

This book surprises more of my historical senses than Any I've read recently.. Starting with indian native american ancestors thru the civil war. The writing and descriptions were superb

Cynthia Scott says

I really joyed reading this book, a saga set in South Carolina from the earliest settlement by Europeans, thorough a visit by an elderly descendent in the 1960's. One underlying current in the book was the early mixing of French and Native American blood in the back country and the resulting strengths and weaknesses of the main characters as a result.

The primary focus of the book is one couple who meet in the 1840's and have a very tempestuous relationship for many years. The Cedar is the plantation which has been in the family for generations and has also served as a kind of Inn for travelers because it was so remote for many years.

The book was written about 50 years ago, was very well researched and accurate in its portrayal of this small but significant part of the South. This is the only book ever written by this author who devoted her energies to its accuracy. Beautifully written!

The importance of South Carolina in the Civil War is an important part of later years of the story which was very informative for me.

Gaye says

This is a long saga similar in some ways to Gone With The Wind. There is so much rich history with slavery, the Native Americans, and the immigrants who were settling South Carolina. It ends with the Civil War. It was over 600 pages but I was sad when it ended. Can't believe he author has not written more books. Very

well written with lots of adventure and surprises. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Kathy says

Wonderful!!!!

This is a long book and it took me three days of on and off again reading. I'll always remember the characters and the stories within. Carmen Butler was an outstanding writer and it's a shame that this is her only book. But what a great historical read - even if it is fiction, it's simply amazing. I highly recommend this book.

Cindy Woods says

Long

This is an overlong account of the Bodes Family dynasty of South Carolina that covers several generations. The book is much too long...dialogue it repeated many times. A good editing would have really been helpful as much of the story is interesting. A lot of historical events are covered throughout in blase fashion and interspersed boringly. At times the characters use modern day vernacular and some rather outrageous things begin happening well into the book. There are moments of side storytelling that goes nowhere and I wonder why it was even added. I can tell it's a book that probably took a very long time to write and sadly ended without and resolution to the situations of the characters involved. I wouldn't recommend....wasted my time.

Lorna Timoll says

Awesome

This book was one of the best books I have ever read. I didn't want it to end. I was hoping that Elisabeth and Vesper would finally have an heir to the Cedar, but it was not meant to be. Also I wanted to know what happens to Elisabeth after the war ended. Despite those disappointments I enjoyed the book and would recommend it

donna k says

I loved her writing style. Telling about the people after reading about them.

I love reading stories about the Civil War and family sagas. Kept me coming back to read a few more chapters. Sorry when it ended. She has the talent to become a successful author.

Sandra Barnett says

Interesting

First, I must say the language was a disappointment. The story alone was interesting without the cussing. However, the historical points was excellent. All while reading this book, I kept wondering what about the true God! How can it be called the good old days! No side was without shame! Slavery is still the heavy fog over this country! After finishing this book I leave these scriptures, It's appointed into man once to die then the judgment! If you confess with the mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved! For with the heart one believes and is justified and with the mouth one confess and is saved Romans 10: 9-10

Bambi Rathman says

Civil War saga

This book for me was a Gone With the Windish type of book. It was a very long novel and the type of book I enjoy. I like historical novels and this one fits that description me. The characters were interesting and the family history developed by the author kept me want to find out what happens as the story progresses. I think the ending tied it together but left the secrets untold forever. Great story that I enjoyed very much.

Phyllis Dodzweit says

This is the best book that I have ever read about the civil war. It personalities the conflict between the North and South and keeps you interest ed in reading to see how the stormy will play out.

I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested in the plight of the slaves and their lives during the civil war.
