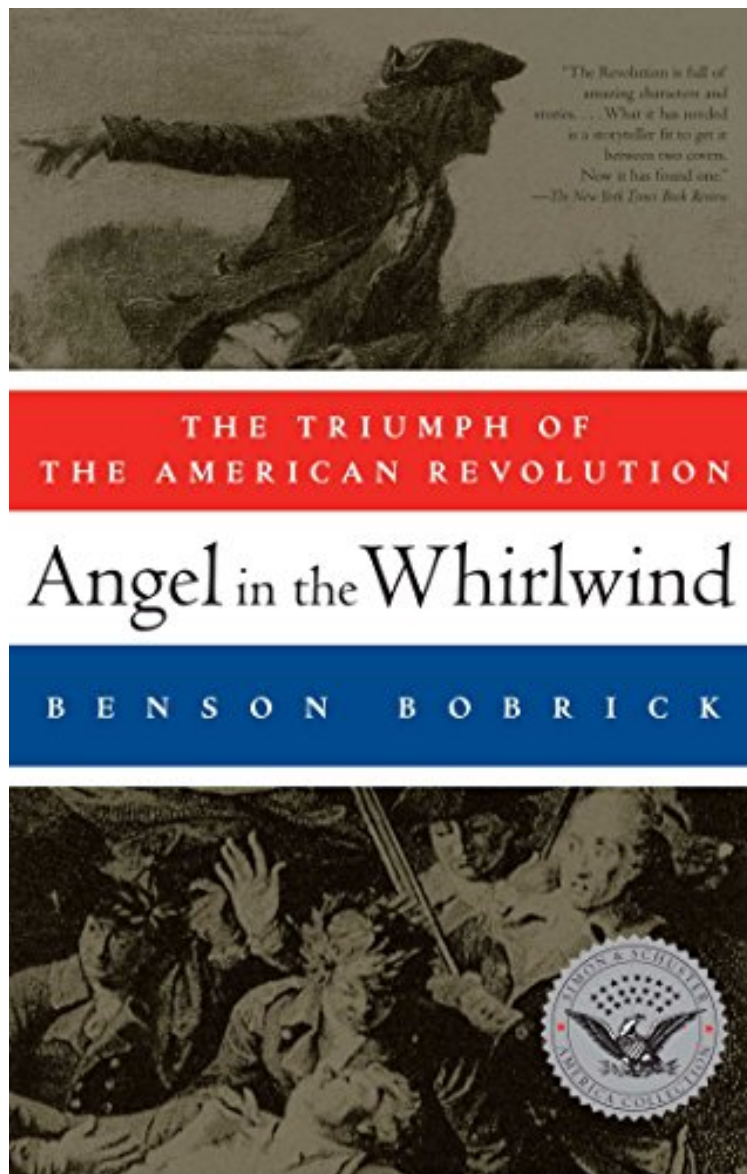


[FREE] Angel in the Whirlwind: The Triumph of the American Revolution (Simon Schuster America Collection)

## Angel in the Whirlwind: The Triumph of the American Revolution (Simon Schuster America Collection)

*Benson Bobrick*

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**Benson Bobrick : Angel in the Whirlwind: The Triumph of the American Revolution (Simon Schuster America Collection)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Angel in the Whirlwind: The Triumph of the American Revolution (Simon Schuster America Collection):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Book! By Jo Urquhart The best macro history of the American Revolution I have ever read. There are hundreds of great books out there that will focus on specific facets of this incredible story. This book gives a competent exploration of them all, which encourages the reader to dig deeper on the parts that interested them in future reading. If you are going to read one book on the American Revolution read this one. It will give you a full snapshot of the event, and when you're finished I bet you'll be wanting to drill down more.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The best book about the Revolutionary War written By Brenda Redding The best book about the Revolutionary War written, and done with poetry and a deep understanding of what went on on both sides of the Atlantic, in the minds of those that orchestrated this War. Book was in new and mint condition. Given as gifts.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. History the easy way By Howard J. Williams I discovered this book years ago and regard it the best history book I have ever read. I have been giving copies of it to friends and family for a long time. This time I bought three copies for my dentist and her staff - she asked me what I liked in books and when I got home I went right to my computer. Needless to say, they liked the gifts and I was happy to spread a great story done right.

*Angel in the Whirlwind* is the epic tale of the American Revolution, from its roots among tax-weary colonists to the triumphant Declaration of Independence and eventual victory and liberty, recounted by Benson Bobrick, lauded by *The New York Times* as perhaps the most interesting historian writing in America today. Overwhelmed with debt following its victory in the French and Indian Wars, England began imposing harsh new tariffs and taxes on its colonists in the 1760s. Rebellion against these measures soon erupted into war. Bobrick thrillingly describes all the major battles, from Lexington and Concord to the dramatic siege of Yorktown, when the British flag was finally lowered before patriot guns. At the same time he weaves together social and political history along with the military history, bringing to life not only the charismatic leaders of the independence movement, but also their lesser-known compatriots, both patriot and loyalist, English and American, whose voices vividly convey the urgency of war. Illuminated by fresh insight, *Angel in the Whirlwind* is a dramatic narrative of our nation's birth, in all its passion and glory.

.com George Washington at Valley Forge, Benedict Arnold's treason at West Point, Cornwallis's defeat at Yorktown--these are the characters and events most Americans remember from their high-school history lessons about the Revolutionary War. Yet the war itself is so removed from us in time, its villains and heroes so remote, that it fails to grasp the place in popular imagination occupied by the Civil War, the two World Wars, or even Vietnam. Benson Bobrick's fresh account of the Revolutionary War, *Angel in the Whirlwind*, might just change all that. The secret to Bobrick's success lies in his entertaining, lively prose, and--more importantly--in his choice of focus: this account of the American Revolution weaves the fortunes of two of its more fascinating participants, George Washington and Benedict Arnold, into its larger story. Washington's fascination is rooted in his military genius and talent for leadership, Arnold's in his flawed character. At once a fearless soldier and a greedy opportunist, Arnold's perfidy makes an interesting counterpoint to Washington's heroism. Bobrick does a fine job of covering the ins and outs of this extraordinary war, giving readers enough background to understand the complexities of the issues that led to the Declaration of Independence by taking them through the war years leading to Washington's inauguration. Better yet, he creates a sense of the times in which these stirring events occurred, limning the details of the common people's lives and attitudes to add a sense of immediacy. *Angel in the Whirlwind* is popular history at its best; George Washington would be proud.

From *Library Journal* Bobrick (Knotted Tongues, LJ 2/15/95) offers here a glorious retelling of the American Revolution, comparable to Don Cook's *The Long Fuse* (Grove, 1994). It brings to life the major characters of the revolution and gives readers an excellent glimpse of life in Colonial America. The scope is broad and sweeping, ranging from the end of the French and Indian War to the end of the Revolutionary War, with brief coverage of the framing of the Constitution and the inauguration of Washington. No new historical revelations are to be found here, but the work is a superb dramatic narrative and is most certainly an encouraged purchase.

?Robert A. Curtis, Taylor Memorial P.L., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From *Booklist* A sweepingly grand narrative of the Revolutionary War, this book is equal in stature to the events it describes. Bobrick's practiced hand at large theme books, previously applied to Russian history, chronicles the familiar antecedents to "the shot heard 'round the world," namely the ineptly pursued British policy of taxing the colonists. He also persuasively analyzes deeper causes of the war--the tax issue symbolized a raw power struggle with Britain--and he sets forth the attributes of a literate, prewar society that after the Great Awakening was receptive to the ideology of liberty and equality. Colonial assemblies used to their autonomy were alarmed by the crackdown in Massachusetts, and the fight was on for eight long years. Bobrick engrossingly recounts the war story, and no reader who starts at Lexington Green will stop before Cornwallis hoists the white flag at Yorktown. By then, not only will the indispensable man and the odious traitor have marked down their places in history, but Bobrick will have individualized them, and dozens of people less famed than George Washington or infamous as Benedict Arnold, through their hopes, plans, dreams, and fears over those stormy years. Beneath the leaders, there were patriots and loyalists, and who was what was not always clear, a

fact of the conflict Bobrick highlights particularly well. A great anchor in any library. Gilbert Taylor