

# The True Story of Caroline Pickersgill: The Woman Who Sewed the Star-Spangled Banner



In the annals of American history, the Star-Spangled Banner stands as a timeless symbol of patriotism and freedom. This iconic flag, which inspired the national anthem, was meticulously sewn by a remarkable woman named Caroline Pickersgill.

**Long May She Wave: The True Story of Caroline Pickersgill and Her Star-Spangled Creation** by Kristen Fulton



★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

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Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 18 pages



## Caroline's Early Life

Caroline Pickersgill was born on January 1, 1786, in Baltimore, Maryland. Her parents, Quaker merchants Rebecca and Robert Holliday, instilled in her a strong work ethic and a deep love for her country.

From a young age, Caroline displayed a remarkable talent for sewing. She studied under the tutelage of her mother, who was renowned for her exceptional needlework.

## The Commission

In 1813, as the War of 1812 raged, the United States was in desperate need of a new flag for Fort McHenry, a strategic fortification in Baltimore harbor.

The task of creating this new flag was entrusted to Mary Young Pickersgill, a friend and neighbor of Caroline. However, due to her declining health, Mary delegated the project to her daughter, Caroline.

## Meticulous Craftsmanship

Caroline embraced the challenge with unwavering determination. She gathered the finest wool and linen fabrics, meticulously choosing the exact

shades of red, white, and blue.

Over the next several weeks, Caroline worked tirelessly, stitch by stitch, creating the massive flag. It measured 30 feet by 40 feet and consisted of approximately 15,000 stars. Each star was cut from a single piece of cloth, and the stitching was so precise that it resembled machine sewing.

### **The Battle of Baltimore**

On September 13, 1814, British forces launched a massive attack on Baltimore harbor. For 25 hours, the Star-Spangled Banner flew proudly over Fort McHenry, defying the relentless bombardment.

The sight of the flag still flying after the battle inspired Francis Scott Key to write the poem that would later become the national anthem. The Star-Spangled Banner became a rallying cry for American troops and a symbol of the nation's resilience.



## **Caroline's Legacy**

Caroline Pickersgill's contribution to American history cannot be overstated. Her unwavering patriotism, meticulous craftsmanship, and indomitable spirit ensured that the Star-Spangled Banner would forever be etched in the nation's collective memory.

In 1859, Caroline sold the Star-Spangled Banner to the Smithsonian Institution for \$10,000. Today, it is housed at the National Museum of

American History in Washington, D.C., where millions of visitors come each year to witness its grandeur and marvel at the story behind its creation.

## **The True Story of Caroline Pickersgill**

The life of Caroline Pickersgill is a testament to the extraordinary impact that ordinary individuals can have on the course of history. Her story is not only about the creation of an iconic symbol but also about the indomitable spirit and unwavering patriotism that have shaped the American character.

In this captivating book, we delve into the fascinating life of Caroline Pickersgill, shedding new light on her motivations, her meticulous craftsmanship, and the legacy that she left behind.

With captivating prose and captivating illustrations, this book brings Caroline's story to life, offering a fresh perspective on this unsung heroine of American history.

## **Free Download Your Copy Today!**

Discover the true story of Caroline Pickersgill and the Star-Spangled Banner. This book is a must-read for anyone fascinated by American history, the art of sewing, and the extraordinary lives of remarkable women.

Free Download your copy today and be inspired by the indomitable spirit of Caroline Pickersgill, the woman who stitched her way into the annals of American history.

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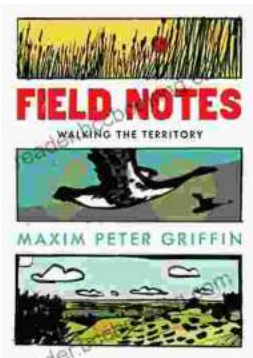
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