

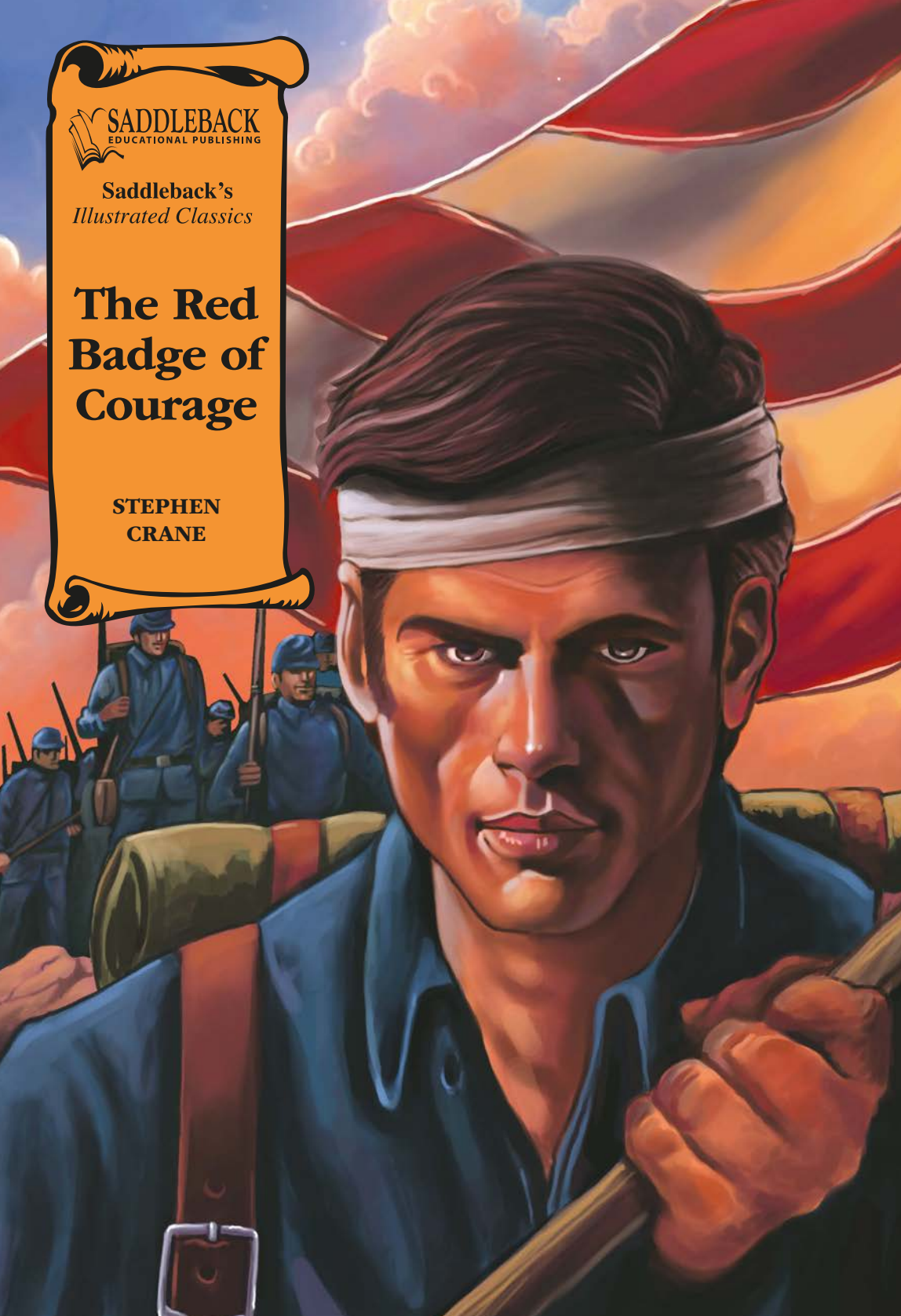


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The Red Badge of Courage

**STEPHEN
CRANE**



Stephen Crane

Stephen Crane, an American novelist, short-story writer, poet, and journalist, was born in Newark, New Jersey, in 1871. The 14th child in his family, he briefly attended college but left to work as a newspaper writer in New York City.

Work as a war correspondent later took Crane to Greece, Cuba, and Mexico. On one trip his boat was shipwrecked, and he and his fellow passengers spent four days adrift at sea before they were rescued.

Like many writers, Crane drew on his experiences in his work. His observations of New York City's slums were the basis for his first novel. The frightening shipwreck episode became his great short story, "The Open Boat." But his most famous novel, *The Red Badge of Courage: An Episode of the American Civil War*, was based on conversations with war veterans, historic accounts of military battles, and his own vivid imagination. It was not until after it was published that Crane, the war correspondent, saw the horrors he had so movingly described.

Crane died of tuberculosis in 1900. Although he was only 28 when he died, he left a large and pioneering body of work.

Stephen Crane

The Red Badge of Courage



Mother



Jim Conklin



Wilson



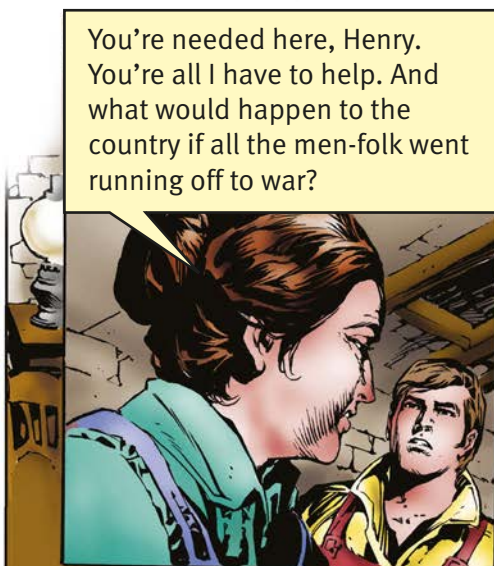
Henry Fleming

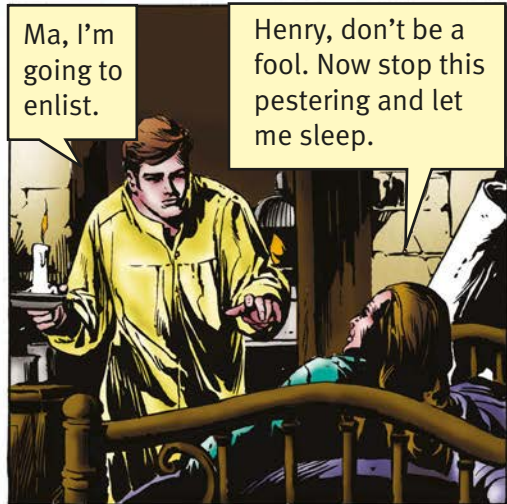


General



Less than a hundred years after the United States became a new country, there was a terrible war, bloody and horrible. Henry Fleming, a farm boy in New York State, dreamed of how he would join the army and become a great hero. This is the story of what happened to Henry's dreams.





Henry wondered: Was that all Ma was going to say? But when he was ready to leave for camp....



Do your duty, child. If there comes a time when you have to be killed or do a mean thing, why Henry, don't think of anything except what's right. The Lord will take care of us all.



Don't forget the socks I knit you, and your shirts. I've put a cup of blackberry jam with your bundle because I know you like it above all things. Good-bye, Henry. Watch out, and be a good boy.

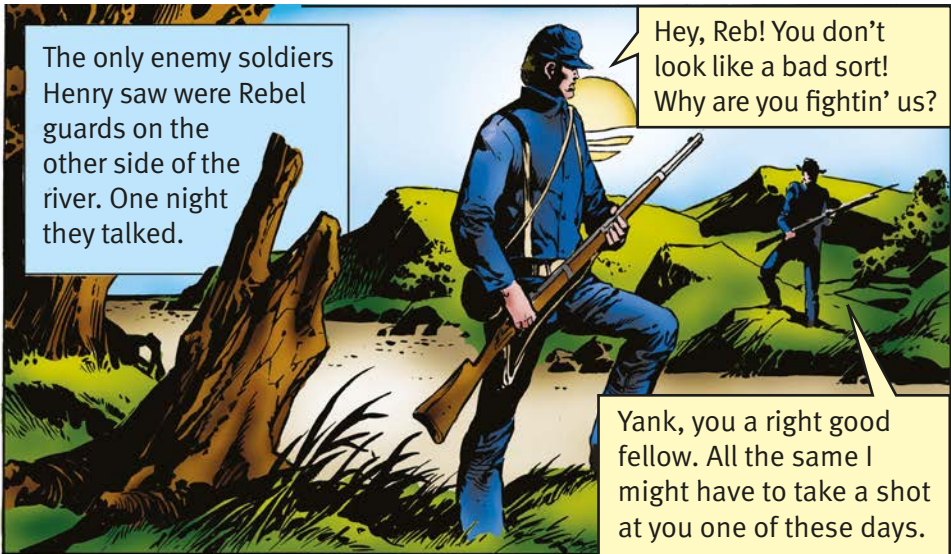


Good-bye, Ma.









Then after weeks of waiting...

I'll tell you, we'll be fighting tomorrow!

I'll believe it when I see it, Conklin!

Is there going to be a big battle, Jim?

Of course, one of the biggest! The cavalry left this morning, going to Richmond, while we fight here!



The Red Badge of Courage

When young Henry Fleming joins the Union army, he dreams of becoming a great hero. But after running in terror from battle, he must face his cowardice and fight bravely to win back his self-respect.

Filled with vivid battle scenes, *The Red Badge of Courage* is considered a masterpiece of literature about war.



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