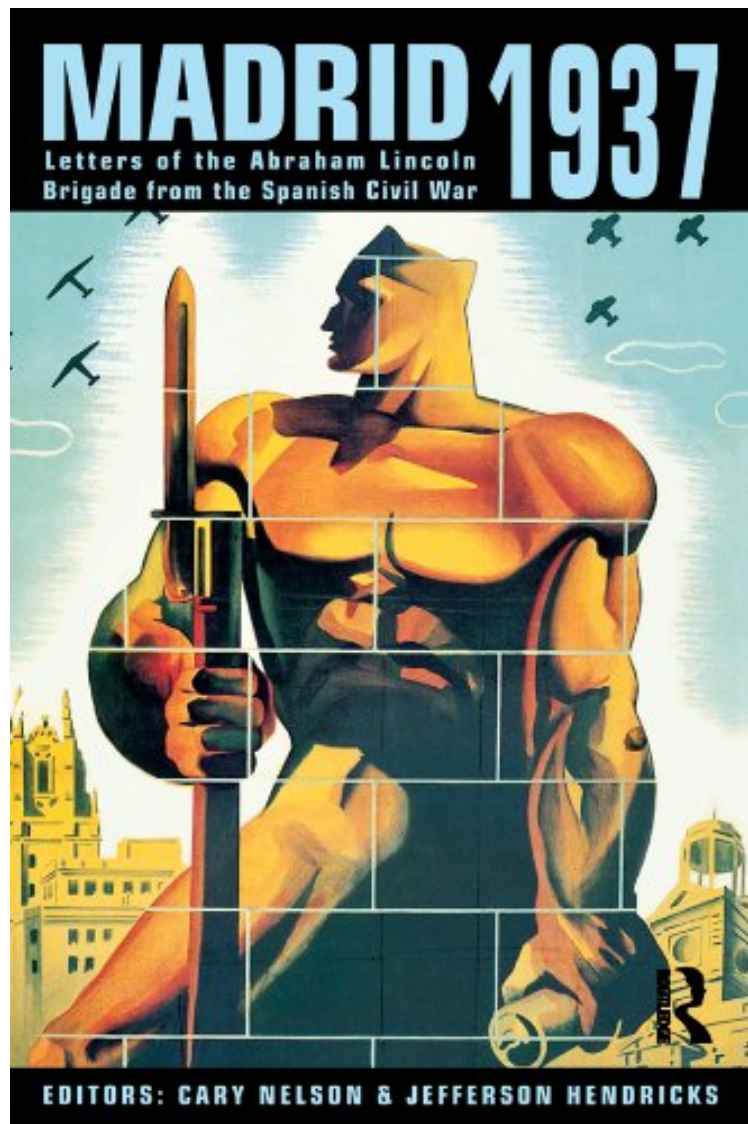


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## Madrid 1937: Letters of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade From the Spanish Civil War

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**Cary Nelson : Madrid 1937: Letters of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade From the Spanish Civil War** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Madrid 1937: Letters of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade From the Spanish Civil War:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Grandfathers honorable history remembered By D. Zilm This book preserves an amazing part of my Grandfathers' and Great Uncles' (George and Albert Foucek) history. This book captures what they and their fellow comrades felt and did in a way that I could never put to words for my children.

First Published in 1996. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor Francis, an informa company.

From Library Journal  
The Spanish Civil War (1936-39) was a bloody dress rehearsal for World War II, but few Americans realized it at the time. Over 2800 Americans volunteered to fight for Spain's democratically elected government against the Fascists, who were supported by German and Italian troops, planes, and tanks. The Americans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade came from all social classes and occupations. Few had any military skills and training, but all possessed a desire to fight the rising tide of Fascism. The editors, both college professors, have collected hundreds of letters from the American veterans and their families. Organized chronologically by subject, these letters reveal the American volunteers to be idealistic about politics and naive about war. Covering training, battles, and hardships, the letters reveal the volunteers' patriotic fervor, hope, fatigue, despair, and friendships, as well as the numbing fear of artillery and air attack and the chilling terror of close combat. Historically concise and humanly real, this book is a superb companion to Peter Wyden's *The Passionate War* (1983). For the general reader and history buff.  
Col. William D. Bushnell, USMC (ret.), Brunswick, Me. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"Madrid 1937 is a crowning achievement. Not only are the letters living documents, palimpsests of flesh and blood and spirit, they are tender and wild flowers awakening our sense to the past and also to the present." - *The Nation*, 11/4/96  
"The Lincoln Brigade was the only American Fighting force in this century made up entirely of volunteers... These letters from survivors and non-survivors reveal the fears and frustrations and hardships, the surprises, the ironies and the heroics, of any military front... What makes these letters special is that they were all written by men and women who had freely chosen to risk their lives in a cause they believed was worth it." - Ring Lardner, Jr.  
"These letters are the real thing: heroism and idealism from the folks who volunteered to fight Hitler and Mussolini before it was popular to do so." - Pete Seeger  
"The[se] letters are poignant, powerful, unforgettable." - Howard Zinn  
"We usually talk about war from the standpoint of Generals, but as these letters written from the field by Lincoln Brigade members show, the words of ordinary people who were actually involved are much more meaningful--both emotionally and historically." - Stephen Jay Gould  
From the Back Cover  
These letters will lift your spirit and break your heart. They will take you back to a time when 2,800 Americans took up arms and confronted Hitler's Condor Legion, Mussolini's Black Shirts, and Franco's fascist cavalry on the battlefields of Spain. Here are the actual letters that Abraham Lincoln Brigade members wrote home from 1936 to 1939. Here are accounts of their combat experiences, the love letters they wrote under fire, tales of the friendships they formed among themselves and with their Spanish comrades, and their reports of history's first saturation bombing of civilian targets in Madrid and Barcelona. It was the eve of World War II, and these men and women saw clearly the danger the world was facing. Now, both those who died and those who lived tell us their stories for the first time.