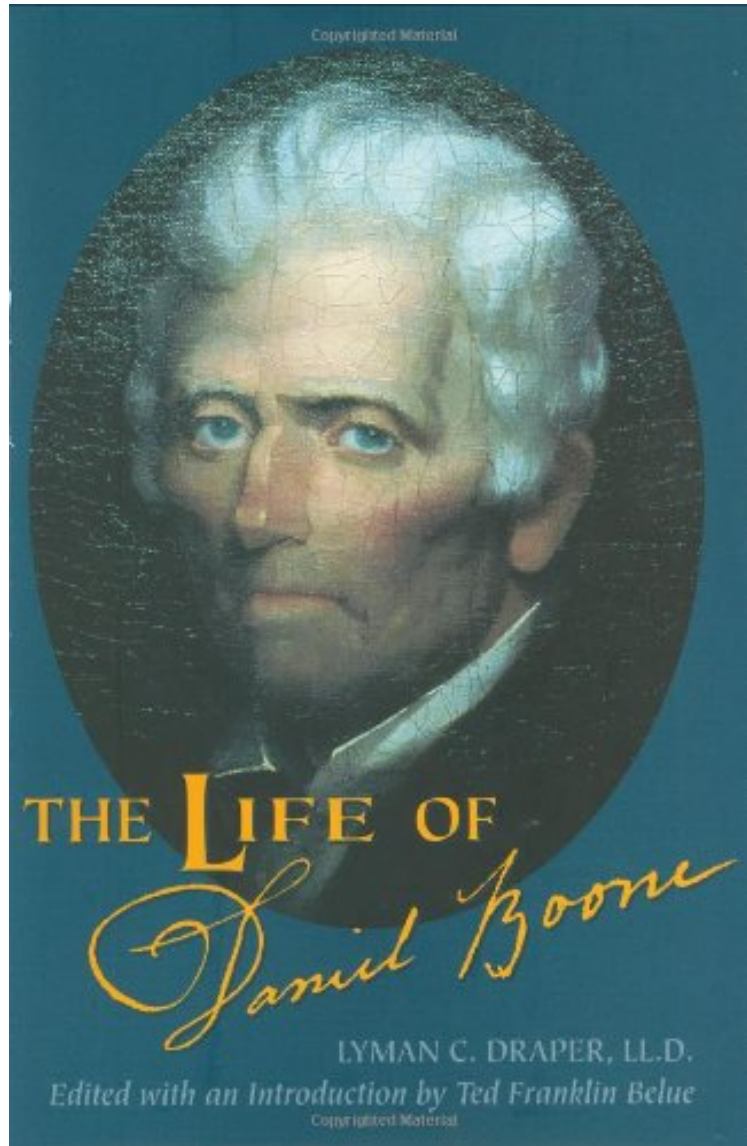


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The Life of Daniel Boone

Lyman C. Draper

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Lyman C. Draper : The Life of Daniel Boone before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Life of Daniel Boone:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Massive. Makes 580 Pages Read Like 2000By David Uri Ben CarmelThis book is the result of Lyman Draper's inexhaustible efforts at information gathering, his inability to filter what he collected, and Ted Belue's work to make the collected information available to the public. The information is valuable and interesting. But, while there is much to learn in here, this is not a comfortable book for a recreational

reading. Draper has a verbose writing style that makes for slow going for a 21st century reader. At this point, I've read 182 pages (enough to be confident in this review), and plan to finish the balance over the next two years. But there is no way that I can make this the only book on my nightstand - it is just too slow. An additional comment: I continue to be puzzled by the reviews of Boone biographies. (The other I have reviewed is "Frontiersman: Daniel Boone and the Making of America," the other reviews of which are so much baloney.) Here, many of the reviews are from 1998 and 1999, i.e., almost immediately after the book was published, and these are almost entirely 5 star reviews. The best I can presume is that these reviews were written by professional historians, Kentucky history junkies or Boone-aphiles. I am none of those, just interested in early American history. My review is intended for people like me. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The book was in great shape. The description was accurate. By Robert Bryant The book was in great shape. The description was accurate. I am in the process of reading it now. Thanks!! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Life of Daniel Boone By Clyde W. Causey This book arrived timely and was exactly as described on your web site. Lyman C. Draper wrote to my kin for information about Daniel Boone and King's Mountain. I have copies of his original letters. I was very excited to see the book published, even if it was long after Lyman. C. Draper died. Lyman was very thorough in his analysis and documentation. What a wonderful piece of history.

The definitive biography of America's foremost frontiersman, with little-known information on Boone's family, long hunting, the fur trade, and the trans-Allegheny West. "No collection of Americana should be without this long-missing volume." --Booklist

From Publishers Weekly When he died in 1891, historian Draper left unfinished this massive biography of legendary Kentucky frontier hero Daniel Boone (1734-1820). Now Belue, who teaches history at Murray State University in Kentucky, has transcribed and annotated Draper's rambling manuscript, whose florid, hagiographic prose should not deter readers from some real merits. First, Draper, an indefatigable researcher, drew upon thousands of documents as well as interviews with white, Native American and black frontier dwellers to re-create Boone's colorful exploits, including his blazing of a trail through the Cumberland Gap; his construction of Boonesborough, the first permanent settlement in the "Far West"; and his dramatic rescue of his daughter Jemima and two other girls from Indians. Second, Draper's tome is a treasure trove of early Americana, covering Indian-Anglo wars and relations, the fur trade, the British presence and trans-Appalachian life, flora and fauna. Third, the 76 period drawings, engravings, photographs and maps offer revealing glimpses of both whites and Native Americans. And finally, Belue's entertaining and informative chapter notes diligently correct Draper's romanticization, offering instead a lifelong wanderer from home and family, a failed land speculator, an adventurer who watched his son tortured to death by Cherokees but who still sought accommodation with the Indians. Regrettably, Draper's text breaks off in 1778, but a chronology, epilogue and appendix sketch Boone's later exploits. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Daniel Boone was one of America's earliest frontiersmen, a legend in his own lifetime. Born in Pennsylvania in 1734, he was without schooling; but he learned to read and write phonetically, and he gained enough knowledge of mathematics to do survey work. He began exploring Kentucky in 1769, when he was first guided through the Cumberland Gap by trader John Findley. He helped lay out the Wilderness Road and served as an agent of land development, scout, militia commander, county representative, and judge. An in-depth biography of Boone has never existed until now. Draper, first secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, set out to write this definitive biography in the early 1850s, but after 40 years' work he was unable to finish the task. A century later, Ted Franklin Belue revived the manuscript, edited it, and annotated it. Boone emerges as a genuine leader whose word was his bond, an adopted member of the Shawnee, and a good husband and father. No collection of Americana should be without this long-missing volume. Fred Egloff