

Betsy Ross: A Revolutionary Icon

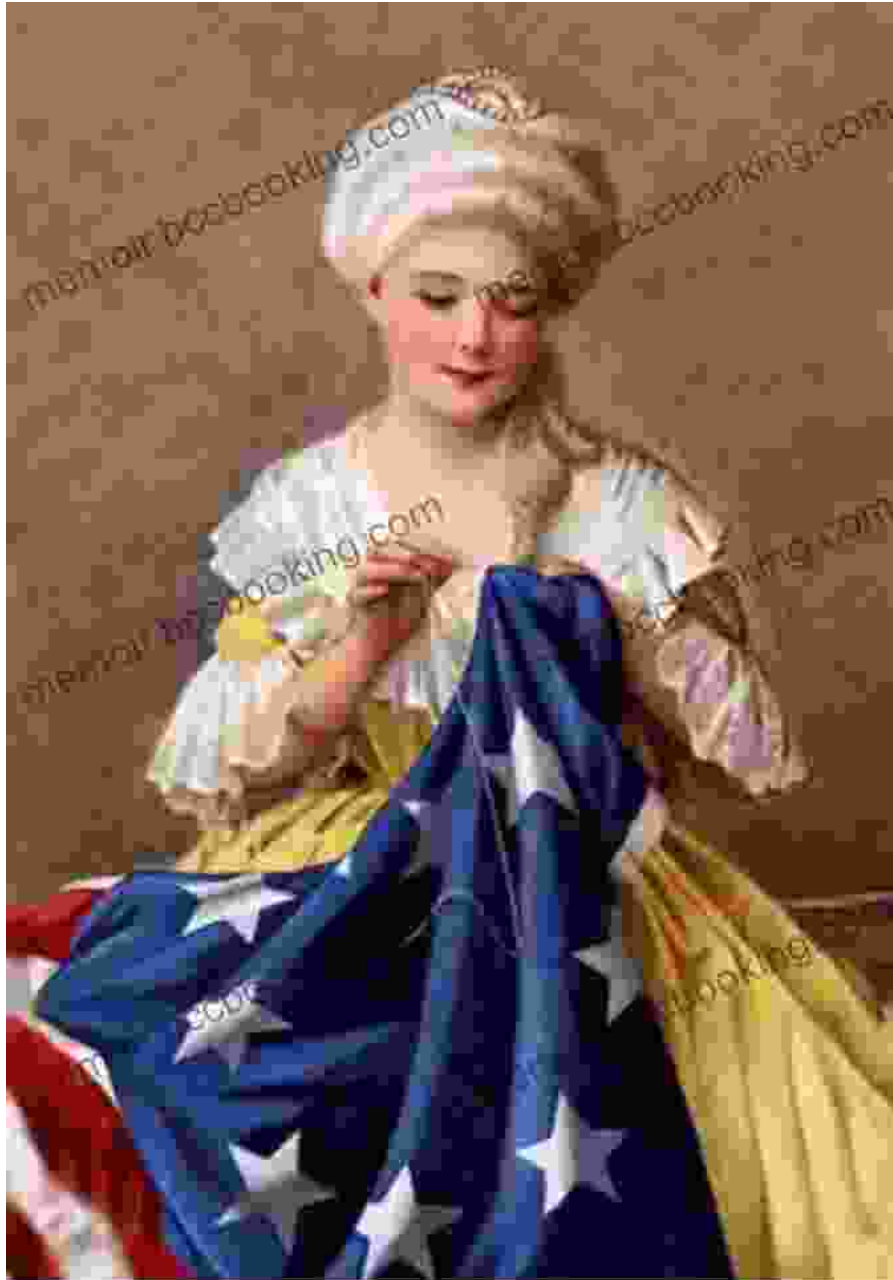


Betsy Ross (History's All-Stars) by Ann Weil

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

- Language : English
- File size : 17967 KB
- Text-to-Speech : Enabled
- Screen Reader : Supported
- Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
- Word Wise : Enabled
- Print length : 209 pages

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Betsy Ross, born Elizabeth Griscom in 1752, is an iconic figure in American history. Known as the woman who stitched the first American flag, her legacy extends far beyond this single act. Betsy Ross played a vital role in the American Revolution, supporting the cause of independence and using her skills as a seamstress to contribute to the war effort. Her story is an inspiring tale of patriotism, courage, and determination.

Early Life and Marriage

Betsy Ross was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, into a Quaker family. Her father was a ship's carpenter, and her mother was a homemaker. Betsy received a basic education and learned the trade of upholstery from her mother. In 1773, at the age of 21, she married John Ross, an upholsterer. The couple had two daughters, but John died suddenly in 1776, leaving Betsy a widow with two young children.

The Birth of the American Flag

In June 1776, Betsy Ross received a visit from three prominent figures in the American Revolution: George Washington, Robert Morris, and George Ross (no relation to Betsy's late husband). They requested her assistance in designing and sewing a flag for the new nation. Betsy worked tirelessly, using her skills as a seamstress to create the first American flag. The design featured 13 stars representing the 13 colonies and 13 alternating red and white stripes. Betsy Ross's flag became the official flag of the United States in 1777.

Supporting the Revolution

Betsy Ross's contributions to the American Revolution extended beyond the creation of the flag. She used her skills as a seamstress to make uniforms for soldiers and other supplies for the Continental Army. She also provided financial support to the cause of independence. Her patriotism and dedication to the Revolution were unwavering.

Later Life and Legacy

After the war, Betsy Ross continued to work as a seamstress in Philadelphia. She remarried in 1783 to Joseph Ashburn, but he died just

four years later. In 1789, she married John Claypoole, a prominent Quaker. The couple had five children together. Betsy Ross died in Philadelphia in 1836 at the age of 84. She is buried in the Friends Burial Ground in Philadelphia.

Betsy Ross's legacy as a patriot and a symbol of American independence lives on. Her story is an inspiration to all Americans, reminding us of the sacrifices made by those who fought for our freedom. The Betsy Ross House, where she lived and worked during the Revolution, is now a museum dedicated to her life and work. Betsy Ross's image has been featured on stamps, coins, and other memorabilia, and her name is synonymous with the American flag.

Betsy Ross was an extraordinary woman who played a pivotal role in American history. Her creation of the first American flag is a lasting symbol of the nation's independence. Her patriotism, courage, and determination are an inspiration to all Americans. Betsy Ross's legacy as a Revolutionary icon continues to inspire generations of Americans.



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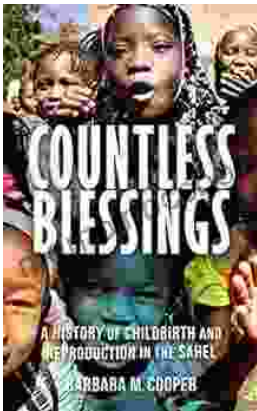
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