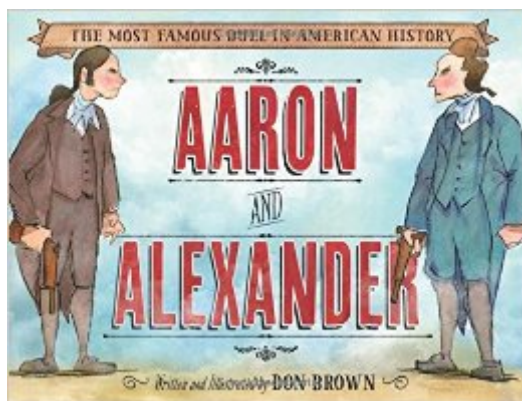


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# Aaron And Alexander: The Most Famous Duel In American History





## Synopsis

The most famous duel in American history dramatized by leading nonfiction picture book illustrator, Don Brown. Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton were both fierce patriots during the Revolutionary War, but the politics of the young United States of America put them in constant conflict. Their extraordinary story of bitter fighting and resentment culminates in their famous duel. For young patriots who may not yet know the shocking and tragic story, Aaron and Alexander captures the spirit of these two great men who so valiantly served their country and ultimately allowed their pride and ego to cause their demise.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 890 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Roaring Brook Press (October 13, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 159643998X

ISBN-13: 978-1596439986

Product Dimensions: 11.4 x 0.4 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #41,050 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) [#24 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Political](#) [#39 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary](#) [#114 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical](#)

Age Range: 5 - 7 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

## Customer Reviews

My 5 year old son is obsessed with the Revolutionary War and Alexander Hamilton (thanks to Daddy's obsession with the musical Hamilton). We homeschool and I get really excited about books that make history come alive for children. The illustrations are lovely, and the comparisons and parallels between Burr and Hamilton are intriguing. There are a few typos in the book (I am a former teacher so very very picky about these things) but I always use typos as a teachable moment for my kids. I also appreciated that the book wasn't violent or gory when it came to the war or eventual dual. It is definitely appropriate for mature 5 year olds. So thankful this was written!



I bought this for my gifted 5 year old who is obsessed with Hamilton the Musical. This book is not very well written. It's like it's written for adults. I wish it was written more for the 5-9 year old kids in mind that it claims this book is for. The idea is great, but I'm an adult and felt like, jeez, couldn't this have been written more in a way that kids would enjoy it? An example: "Young Alexander saw ships not as a lark but as a livelihood." Really, as there no more accessible way to get that same idea across to children? My son has an amazing vocabulary and even that was beyond his grasp.

I purchased this book to accommodate my recent Hamilmania. We have been listening to the Hamilton Musical soundtrack (on the Music app!) and my whole family is obsessed. My children (ages seven and two) ask to listen to Hamilton every time we are in the car. I checked out this book from the library to share with my sixth grade students (who still love well-written picture books!) last school year. I knew I wanted to own a copy to both share with my own children and have in my classroom library as well. Don Brown is a well-known nonfiction children's author. I can always count on his writing to be both informational and high interest for kids. His book about September 11 is a must-have for all children's libraries. I actually had the pleasure of meeting Brown at a recent literacy conference. This book does not disappoint. The parallels between the lives of Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton are almost uncanny, which is the ultimate main idea of this book. The illustrations help the young reader to understand the parallels. This is a higher-level text and appropriate for children grades 3 and beyond. Brown admits in his author's note that he tends to side with Aaron Burr. As a Hamilnerd myself, I will forgive him for that.

Summary: Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton were almost the same age. Both grew up as orphans, fought in the American Revolution, and were key figures in early American government and politics. Moving in the same social and professional circles, they were friends early in their careers, but later became bitter political enemies. Hamilton helped defeat Burr in his presidential campaign against Thomas Jefferson, and again in his bid for governor of New York. Finally, Burr challenged Hamilton to a duel, an illegal but common practice at the time; it was the twelfth time Hamilton had been challenged, and Burr had had a hole shot through his coat in a previous duel. On the morning of July 11, 1804, they met in Weehawken, New Jersey stood thirty feet apart and shot at each other. Hamilton was hit and died the next day. Burr survived, but was forever after despised by much of America. Includes an author's note and bibliography. Grades 2-5. Pros: The names Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton may be familiar to kids, but they are unlikely to know



much about them aside from their famous duel. This picture book introduces both men sympathetically and gives a good overview of their lives. Cons: The details of their political differences are pretty sketchy.

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