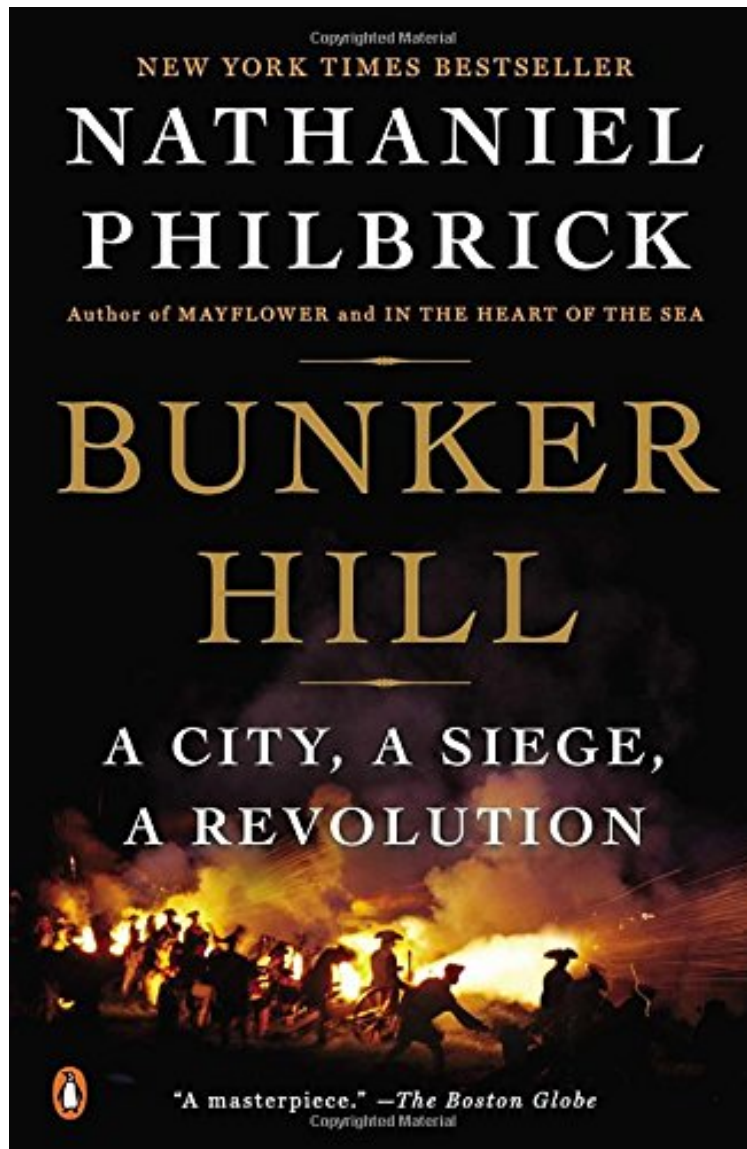


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Bunker Hill: A City, A Siege, A Revolution

Nathaniel Philbrick

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Nathaniel Philbrick : Bunker Hill: A City, A Siege, A Revolution before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bunker Hill: A City, A Siege, A Revolution:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Bunker Hill: Where a Battle, then Siege of Boston Became a Roaring Revolution By Bill Kaye "Bunker Hill: A City, A Siege, A Revolution," by Nathaniel Philbrick, is a marvelous book that looks at the lead-up to and early stages of the American Revolution. It is well detailed. Most books covering this period of our American history cover the Battle of Concord and Lexington but stop short of including the Battle of

Bunker Hill (which, incidentally, was fought in large part on Breed's Hill in Charlestown) and the subsequent siege of Boston. This history provides the full story and is a must read for any history buff. The main cast of characters are here ... Dr. Joseph Warren who was killed at Bunker Hill; Samuel Adams, Paul Revere, et. al. and their British adversaries. Of the many books on this period that I have read, this is one of the best because it includes the Battle of Bunker Hill and the Siege of Boston, which galvanized the patriots of New England into revolutionary action and ignited the "embers" into full revolution in places such as New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolinas.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Have not finished it yet, but so far I have to say "EXCELLENT"!By T. VoellingerI have read a LOT of books on the Revolution, in fact it is all I have read for years now, and so far (have not finished this yet), this is one of the best I have read! I was surprised to find that this book is more than just the title! I have not even gotten to the Battle yet! In fact, not even up to Lexington Concord yet! The book takes you through all of what transpired leading up to the start of the Revolution. Of course, since this is a lot of territory to cover, a lot of details are missing, that I have read in other books, BUT, there have been many, many details that I have not seen in other books. Its like the author knows what most people (that do any reading on the subject at all) already know so he skips over those and adds details that he knows are not in a lot of other books. In addition, the writing style is excellent, very enjoyable to read. If you are a student of the Revolution, I heartily recommend this book!7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Much More Than What Your School Textbook Taught YouBy Bill EmblomAuthor Nathaniel Philbrick has favored us with his latest effort on Bunker Hill. I thoroughly enjoyed his previous books on The Mayflower and the one on General Custer. This book entitled Bunker Hill is divided into three parts entitled 1. Liberty 2. Rebellion and 3. The Siege. I have to admit I found the book slow going in part 1. The book picked up considerably in part 2 with the battles at Lexington and Concord. Part 3 is about the battle on Bunker and Breeds' Hill which proved to be the single bloodiest battle in the war with 1100 casualties suffered by the British and 400 by the colonial army.I found the author bringing out the personalities of those involved to be very well done with the hero, if there is to be one, to be Dr. Joseph Warren who was killed in the battle. Author Philbrick states that had Warren not been killed American history may very well have been quite different because the name George Washington may only have been a footnote in history and best known for his role in the French and Indian War. People generally are familiar with George Washington, Paul Revere, Sam Adams, and John Hancock but Author Philbrick also brings out the personalities of General Thomas Gage, Nathanael Greene, Henry "Ox" Knox, and minister Mather Byles among others. Byles is an interesting character and when asked how he could be a "brainless Tory", Byles answered by saying, "Tell me, which is better, to be ruled by one tyrant 3,000 miles away, or by 3,000 tyrants not a mile away?" He called the soldier who was ordered to guard him as his "observe-a-tory."I enjoy reading about American history, but I did find the book to be more detailed for my taste. If your background is better than mine this should not be a problem for you. Since it was a little more descriptive than I would have liked I will rate it four stars.

The bestselling author of *In the Heart of the Sea*, *Mayflower*, and *Valiant Ambition*, tells the story of the Boston battle that ignited the American Revolution, in this "masterpiece of narrative and perspective." (Boston Globe)Boston in 1775 is an island city occupied by British troops after a series of incendiary incidents by patriots who range from sober citizens to thuggish vigilantes. After the Boston Tea Party, British and American soldiers and Massachusetts residents have warily maneuvered around each other until April 19, when violence finally erupts at Lexington and Concord. In June, however, with the city cut off from supplies by a British blockade and Patriot militia poised in siege, skirmishes give way to outright war in the Battle of Bunker Hill. It would be the bloodiest battle of the Revolution to come, and the point of no return for the rebellious colonists.Philbrick brings a fresh perspective to every aspect of the story. He finds new characters, and new facets to familiar ones. The real work of choreographing rebellion falls to a thirty-three year old physician named Joseph Warren who emerges as the on-the-ground leader of the Patriot cause and is fated to die at Bunker Hill. Others in the cast include Paul Revere, Warren's fiancé the poet Mercy Scollay, a newly recruited George Washington, the reluctant British combatant General Thomas Gage and his more bellicose successor William Howe, who leads the three charges at Bunker Hill and presides over the claustrophobic cauldron of a city under siege as both sides play a nervy game of brinkmanship for control. With passion and insight, Philbrick reconstructs the revolutionary landscape—geographic and ideological—in a mesmerizing narrative of the robust, messy, blisteringly real origins of America.

From BooklistPhilbrick's newest work chronicles the cradle of the American Revolution, Boston's action-packed years of 1773–76. Opening with the consequences of the Boston Tea Party, Philbrick depicts the arrival of British army and naval forces, the manifestation of the royal government's intention to quash the burgeoning rebellion in Massachusetts. Its leaders, patriots like John Hancock, Samuel Adams, and Joseph Warren, provide the drama's counterpoise to British officials. Having deployed his characters, Philbrick launches each side's resort to military preparations and operations, a narrative that benefits from one of the author's several imaginative services to readers, detailing in word and map the geography of Boston and environs at that time. Another audience benefit is Philbrick's

evocation of the look of patriot militias and British regiments, which enliven his crackling accounts of military movements that produced the Battles of Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill. Displaying, as in *Mayflower* (2006) and *The Last Stand* (2010), a superior talent for renewing interest in a famed event, Philbrick will again be in high demand from history buffs. --Gilbert Taylor "Masterly... Philbrick tells the complex story superbly."—Wall Street Journal "A masterpiece of narrative and perspective..."—Boston Globe "You will delight in the story and the multitude of details Philbrick offers up."—USA Today "Riveting, fast-paced account..."—Los Angeles Times "Lively... Philbrick, guides us beautifully through Revolutionary Boston..."—New York Times Book "Philbrick writes with freshness and clarity..."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch "This is popular history at its best: a taut narrative with a novelist's touch, grounded in careful research."—Miami Herald "Philbrick ... has a flair for using primary sources to create scenes that sweep readers into the thick of history... BUNKER HILL is a tour de force, creating as vivid a picture as we are likely to get of the first engagements of the American Revolution... Philbrick is a gifted researcher and storyteller..."—Chicago Tribune "Philbrick... offers... surprising revelations and others in BUNKER HILL, a comprehensive and absorbing account of a battle... Extraordinary events produce extraordinary individuals, and Philbrick's portrayals are remarkably penetrating and vivid... Given the scale of the story, Philbrick, confirming his standing as one of America's pre-eminent historians, somehow manages to address all the essential components in a concise, readable style" —Cleveland Plain Dealer "Like a masterly chronicler, [Philbrick] has produced a tightly focused and richly detailed narrative that just happens to resonate with leadership lessons for all times... Philbrick is at his most vivid in conveying scenes of battle, both on the road between Boston and Concord and on the ridges of Bunker Hill. But what adds depth to the narrative is his fine sense of the ambitions that drive people in war and politics."—Washington Post "Another fine history from Nathaniel Philbrick..."—The Economist "Though you know the ending, you whip through the pages..."—Entertainment Weekly "Quite masterfully, Philbrick does not sink to simply good and evil distinctions in the run-up to Bunker Hill. The author reminds us that the freedoms colonists wanted were never intended to apply to blacks, American Indians or women. This was a messy time when decisions were sometimes dictated by ambition instead of some nobler trait."—Minneapolis Star-Tribune "[Philbrick] captures the drama—martial and emotional—of the months before and after this legendary clash."—The New Yorker "Philbrick spices his text with first-person accounts from many participants in the drama, including patriots, loyalists, generals, privates, spies, even the victim of a tar-and-feathering. This is easy-reading history, uncluttered by footnotes and assisted by some excellent maps."—Seattle Times "Fascinating... No one can tell you about the history you thought you knew quite like Philbrick..."—Cape Cod Times "Philbrick ... will be a candidate for another award with this ingenious, bottom-up look at Boston from the time of the December 1773 Tea Party to the iconic June 1775 battle.... A rewarding approach to a well-worn subject, rich in anecdotes, opinion, bloodshed and Byzantine political maneuvering."—Kirkus (Starred) "Exhaustively researched, intelligent, and engaging narrative with a sophisticated approach. Collections ... should certainly acquire this...." —Library Journal "Philbrick tells his tale in traditional fashion—briskly, colorfully, and with immediacy... no one has told this tale better."—Publishers Weekly "Crackling accounts of military movements... a superior talent for renewing interest in a famed event, Philbrick will again be in high demand from history buffs."—Booklist "Philbrick shows us historic figures, not only as if they had stepped away from their famous portraits, but as if we had read about them in last week's newspaper... Philbrick has developed a style that connects the power of narrative to decisive moments in American history." —Nantucket Today "A compelling, balanced and fresh narrative." —Christian Science Monitor "Philbrick's research is phenomenal ... I suggest you pick up this enjoyable read." —Washington Independent of Books "You'll never have history told like this in school. If it were, you might find more kids interested in it." —The State Journal-Register "A gripping, suspense-driven recounting of the battles of Bunker and Breed's Hill... I couldn't put this book down with its seductive, detail-sharpened, heart-stopping narrative made all the more human by the people involved... powerful, eloquent, infinitely compelling, and just plain awesome." —Providence Journal

About the Author Nathaniel Philbrick is the author of *In the Heart of the Sea*, winner of the National Book Award; *Mayflower*, finalist for the Pulitzer Prize; *Bunker Hill*, winner of the New England Book Award; *Sea of Glory*; *The Last Stand*; *Why Read Moby Dick?*; and *Away Off Shore*. He lives in Nantucket. His newest book, *Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the Fate of the American Revolution*, will be published in May 2016.