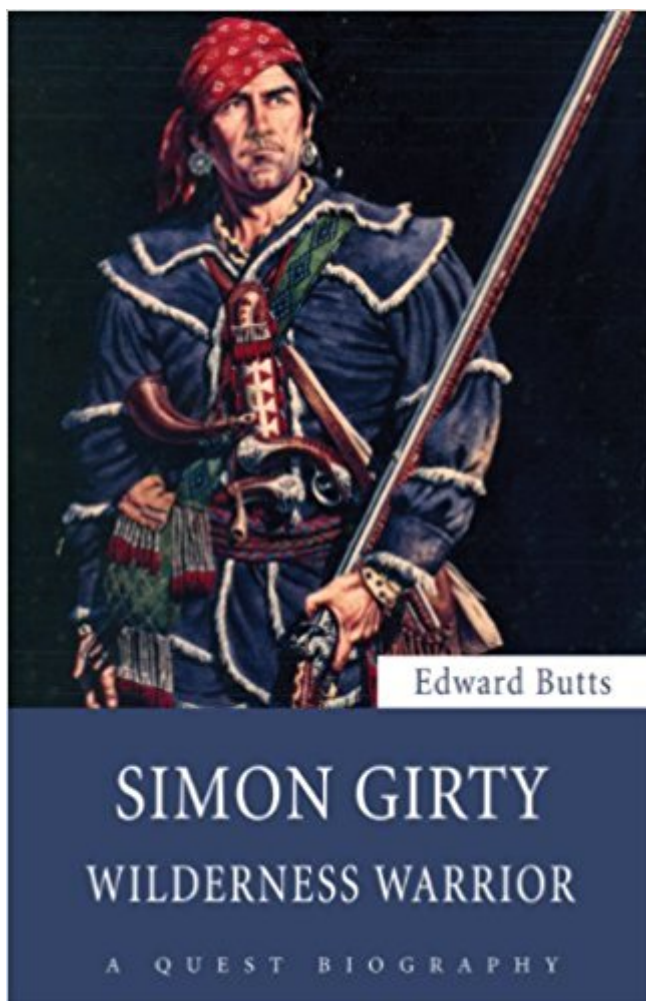


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# Simon Girty: Wilderness Warrior (Quest Biography)



## Synopsis

During the American Revolution and the border conflicts that followed, Simon Girty's name struck terror into the hearts of U.S. settlers in the Ohio Valley and the territory of Kentucky. Girty (1741-1818) had lived with the Natives most of his life. Scorned by his fellow white frontiersmen as an "Indian lover," Girty became an Indian agent for the British. He accompanied Native raids against Americans, spied deep into enemy territory, and was influential in convincing the tribes to fight for the British. The Americans declared Girty an outlaw. In U.S. history books he is a villain even worse than Benedict Arnold. Yet in Canada, Girty is regarded as a Loyalist hero, and a historic plaque marks the site of his homestead on the Ontario side of the Detroit River. In Native history, Girty stands out as one of the few white men who championed their cause against American expansion. But was he truly the "White Savage" of legend, or a hero whose story was twisted by his foes?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Butts delivers a fine historical account of the life and times of a little known figure in eighteenth century North American history." (Canadian Materials)"Wilderness Warrior boldly describes the many battle scenes and relationship dynamics that defined the American Revolution... Butts does an excellent job keeping the reader interested." (Resource Links)

Was the frontiersman Simon Girty a monster as painted by his U.S. enemies in the American Revolution, or was he a hero and benefactor of First Nations people as celebrated by Canadian and

## American Natives and the British?

I read a lot of History books. This book doesn't read like a History book; it reads like Fiction. Still, it puts forward facts and clearly illustrates the Author's version of the truth about what happened between the newly formed United States and the Native people at the end of the 18th Century. As a local History buff from Pittsburgh, PA, (who lives along Girty's Run), I really enjoyed reading about the actual individuals behind so many street and neighborhood names around my city, and I was glad to see a somewhat more positive perspective on Historic figures who are so often painted in a sinister light on my side of the border. However, this isn't a book that portrays the Native Americans as innocent bystanders under European domination, nor does it glorify the British over the Americans. What comes out of the pages of this book is a story about an often forgotten War tucked between the American Revolution and the War of 1812, a War that was never officially given a name, a War that was symptomatic of Global changes in Technology and Culture that were transforming everything, a War between the old ways and the unstoppable future. If you are interested in an easy to read historical narrative about a fascinating character in a fascinating time, this is a good book. The style of writing is creative non-fiction, with action and suspense and drama, hence it is not an Academic History book. It was exciting to follow the Author as he 'plead the case' of one of American History's biggest Revolutionary Era villains from a Canadian and Native American historic perspective. Butts does a great job showing Simon Girty's world, and the challenges Girty faced kept me turning the page, but this is an account of events written for the more casual reader, rather than someone with a deep, academic interest in the subject. Just good non-fiction, not unbiased, exacting accuracy with stacks of compiled evidence. There is some poetic licence in this book, so I can see why some more serious historians disliked it. Again, I loved it. This is well constructed non-fiction that does not require much knowledge or fascination about the subject for the reader to follow, but is still fun even if you know the story already. Maybe even more fun.

Interesting, but take notes, there are too many names of early American soldiers and frontiersmen, British officers and soldiers and Indians. I always had wanted to know more about Girty, as he was born in the area of Harrisburg, PA where I was born and lived for a few year.

The book describes the Indian wars in Ohio from the native and British view. The author tries a little too hard to present the positive side of Simon Girth. This is my only criticism of the book.

The truth is not always popular. There is almost always two sides to every story.

Simon Dirty has been turned into a villain by dozens of authors, it's good to read both sides of the story. Simon Girty was torn between 2 cultures & tried to help the people that adopted him at a time when Indians were hated of course that turned the white race against him

Sheds new light on old villian.

Informative study of a fascinating character in American history.

Easy and quick to read. Enjoyed it immensely. Fact based and entertaining all at once. Well, researched as well. Thanks!

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