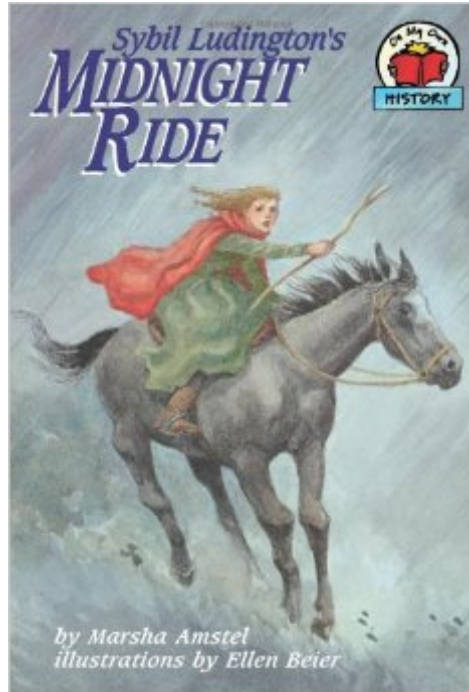


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# Sybil Ludington's Midnight Ride (On My Own History)



## Synopsis

Introduce young readers to history through the stories of both real and fictionalized people. By focusing on a single important episode that describes a historical event, these books engage readers' interests and imaginations. Written in a story format, each account relates events that really happened, often followed by a brief summary of the historical event to further explain the significance it had on history.

## Book Information

Series: On My Own History

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: First Avenue Editions; 42455th edition (February 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1575054566

ISBN-13: 978-1575054568

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 6 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (29 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #93,186 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #74 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary](#) #74 in [Books >](#)

[Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > Colonial](#)

Age Range: 7 - 9 years

Grade Level: 2 - 4

## Customer Reviews

The story of Sybil is not as well known as that of Paul REvere. Sybil is the daughter of a American patriot officer in the REvolutionary War. A courier tells her father that the British have sprung a devastating attack on Danbury, CT. Sybil volunteers to ride through the night to recall her father's 400 soldiers who are on leave. She is finally successful and alerts them all. The British are pushed back and the girl's efforts may also have saved WASHINGTON and his forces from destruction. The author shows and tells the story in a simple, suspenseful style appropriate for easy access by 2nd. and 3rd. graders . I found the illustrations very appropriate. Having grown up in the CARMEL-Mahopac region, the illustrations of homes and countryside rang true to me.

While this is a good book for children, people need to be careful with the biographical info. at the

end. You can see this in the book preview. Sybil was not 78, but 77 when she died. This is easily verified. Along with looking at birth/death dates, her age is on her headstone at her grave. Also, she did not have six children. She only had one son, Henry. Henry is the one who had six children. These do not necessarily detract from the book itself, but people (I'd say especially teachers) who will use this as a teaching tool, need to know that the last part isn't completely accurate. There is a good, short article at the NY archives that would be a good supplement to go with this book to tell "the rest of the story." I couldn't seem to get the link to the article to copy, but if you Google: sybil ludington ny archives, you should come up with the pdf Spring 2007 article called "New York Patriot" about her by V.T. Dacquino.

Marsha Amstel's *Sybil Ludington* is a fast paced high-interest novel that grabs the attention of the reader from the first page to the last. It's popularity with the 8 - 12 crowd shows that children can still be turned on by the written word. The success of this book begs Marsha to keep on writing for this age group. More historica novels please, and soon!

This book depicts a young woman's role in our countries fight for independence. It should be required reading for every elementary age history class student. Young girls need more role models. Marsha Amstel's depiction of Sybil Ludington will give boys and girls positive influences to emulate. I enjoyed reading this book to my eight year old nephew who was in awe of the help Sybil was to her family and our soldiers. Ms. Amstel has written a winner in *Sybil Ludington's Midnight Ride*.

Purchased for granddaughter after hearing about Sybil Ludington, I think, on the radio (NPR), in a story about how women played important roles in the Revolution (but have been overlooked in our history books. Girls need to know that girls and women can make a difference in the world. This book helps teach that.

My 7 year-old son and I have exhausted the Magic Tree House books and I remembered that I really liked biographies when I was his age. I searched until I found the "On My Own" series and we have both been really happy with them. My two favorite things about them are the art, which is lovely, and the fact that most of them are stories that are less common than the usual ones the kids read. I had not heard the story of Sybil Ludington and I really enjoyed it. Last night we read about Ellen and William Craft -- another story I had never heard and another very good story. The quality of these books all around is outstanding. I'm so glad we found them.

My 8-year-old son read this to me for reading. I had not heard this story before. It is about how a 16-year-old girl saved the day during the American Revolution. We enjoyed the story and it would be just as appropriate for History as it was for reading. Part of the On My Own History series recommended for grads 2-3rd.

What a wonderful book for young readers! It is such a refreshing pleasure to hear about history through a woman's perspective. Ms. Amstel has a talent for conveying this event with excitement that just keeps the reader motivated to read on. I recommend this book especially for young adult readers.

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