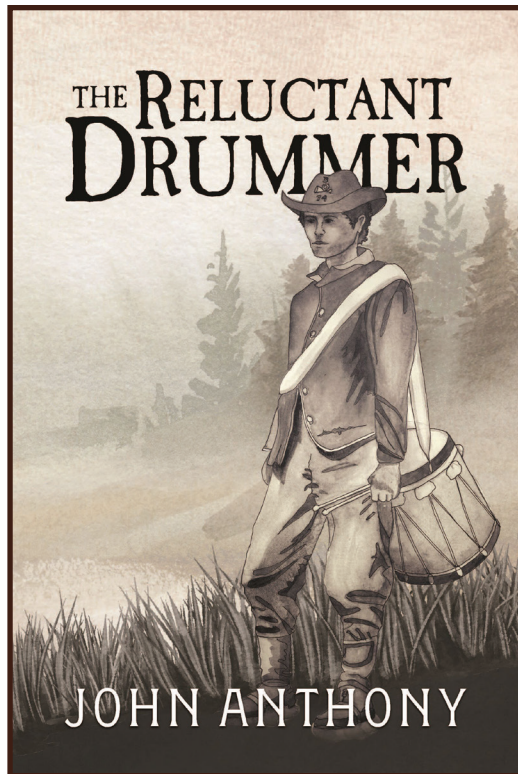


“John Anthony’s story-telling skills rank with the likes of Stephen Crane and Micheal Shaara. I felt I was sitting right next to Dick as his grandpa passed on not only events but also the pain, the sounds, the smells, and the occasional small pleasures of living through that time and those places. This book reminds us that history is not just about generals, troop movements, and famous charges—it’s also about each person’s piece of the action.”

—Marshall Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer Gov. Isaac Stevens,
Camp #1 The Columbia Department, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War



The Reluctant Drummer

John Anthony

One of the few surviving veterans of the American Civil War, Joseph “Jos” Anthony has grown old and now lives in the Soldiers and Sailors Home in Grand Island, Nebraska. At age fifteen, he began his service as a drummer, but eventually became a full-fledged infantryman. During the course of the war, Jos served in twenty-four battles. His son, Henry, has come to visit, and has brought along two of his own sons, Alfred and his little brother Dick. Jos’s wife, Esther, still lives on the family farm, but has gotten too old to go on living there alone. Henry has made this trip to help his mother move into an apartment in Saint Paul, and hopes to leave Dick with Grandpa while he and Alfred move Grandma into town. Jos is elated at the prospect of spending a few days with Dick and telling the boy all about his exploits in the Union Army, and Dick couldn’t be more thrilled to hear Grandpa’s tales. For several days, Jos delights his grandson with stories of battlefield heroism, glorious victories, and the heartbreaking loss of friends and comrades in arms, in this fact-based novel by Jos and Esther’s great-grandson.

Book Details:

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Contact: lhpress123@gmail.com

“I recommend this book for students to help explain the impact of the American Civil War as well as the difficulties of Reconstruction.”

—Kathy Bower, National President, Women’s Relief Corps,
Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic

JOHN ANTHONY believes everyone should have an ancestor to be proud of. He found his in the person of his great-grandfather, Joseph “Jos” Anthony. John loves history, particularly family history, and was delighted when he discovered Jos’s remarkable story. John is a retired businessman, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and member of both the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Sons of the American Revolution. He lives on an island in the state of Washington and has been married to the same wonderful woman for fifty-eight years. They share their home with two little dogs, Scout and Teo.