

# George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette: A Friendship That Changed History

The story of the friendship between George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette is one of the most fascinating and inspiring in American history. This book tells the story of how these two men, from very different backgrounds, came together to fight for American independence and forge a bond that would last a lifetime.



## Revolutionary Friends: General George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette by Selene Castrovilla

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

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Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 40 pages



## Early Life and Education

George Washington was born in 1732 in Westmoreland County, Virginia. He was the son of a wealthy planter and grew up on a plantation called Mount Vernon. Washington received a limited education, but he was a voracious reader and learned a great deal about military strategy and history.

The Marquis de Lafayette was born in 1757 in Chavaniac, France. He was the son of a wealthy nobleman and received a privileged education.

Lafayette was fascinated by the American Revolution and, in 1777, he sailed to America to join the Continental Army.

### **Meeting at Valley Forge**

Washington and Lafayette first met at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, in December 1777. The Continental Army was in desperate straits at the time, and Washington was struggling to keep his troops together. Lafayette's arrival was a morale boost for the army, and Washington quickly recognized his talents.

Lafayette was a brave and skilled soldier, and he quickly rose through the ranks. He fought in several key battles, including the Battle of Brandywine and the Battle of Yorktown. Lafayette also played a key role in the development of the American military strategy.

### **Friendship and Collaboration**

Washington and Lafayette quickly became close friends. They shared a common commitment to the cause of American independence, and they respected each other's military abilities. Washington often relied on Lafayette's advice, and Lafayette was always willing to lend a helping hand.

The friendship between Washington and Lafayette was not without its challenges. They had different personalities and political views, but they were always able to overcome their differences and work together for the common good.

### **Aftermath of the Revolution**

After the American Revolution, Washington and Lafayette remained close friends. Lafayette returned to France, where he played a key role in the

French Revolution. Washington retired to Mount Vernon, where he served as the first President of the United States.

The friendship between Washington and Lafayette lasted until Washington's death in 1799. Lafayette was deeply saddened by Washington's passing, and he wrote a moving eulogy in his honor.

## Legacy

The friendship between George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette is a testament to the power of friendship and cooperation. These two men, from very different backgrounds, came together to fight for a common cause and forged a bond that would last a lifetime. Their friendship is an inspiration to us all, and it reminds us that anything is possible when we work together.



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