

# **Beyond The Battlefield: 14 Scrappy Civil War Quilts**

In the midst of the chaos and devastation of the American Civil War, women on both sides of the conflict found solace in a humble form of artistic expression: quilting. While many of these quilts served a practical purpose, providing warmth and comfort to soldiers and civilians alike, others carried a deeper significance, becoming poignant symbols of hope, resilience, and the indomitable spirit that prevailed during those tumultuous years.

## **1. "The Star-Spangled Banner" Quilt (c. 1863)**

This iconic quilt, created by Sarah Jane Avery, is a testament to the patriotic fervor that swept the nation during the Civil War. Its intricate patchwork design, featuring scrappy pieces of fabric in red, white, and blue, evokes the image of the American flag, a symbol of unity and hope for a divided nation.

## **2. "The Lincoln Log Cabin" Quilt (c. 1864)**

This quilt, created by an unknown quilter, pays homage to President Abraham Lincoln, the beloved leader who guided the nation through its darkest hours. The log cabin block pattern, a symbol of simplicity and perseverance, is a fitting tribute to Lincoln's humble beginnings and his unwavering determination.

## **3. "The Emancipation" Quilt (c. 1865)**

This powerful quilt, created by an unknown group of African American women, celebrates the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation, which

freed enslaved people in the Confederate states. The quilt's scrappy pieced blocks, made from a variety of fabrics, symbolize the diversity and resilience of the African American community.



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by Mary Etherington

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

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### 4. "The Soldier's Farewell" Quilt (c. 1861)

This poignant quilt, created by Mary Towles Sweeny, captures the heart-wrenching moment when a soldier bids farewell to his loved ones before departing for the battlefield. The central block, depicting a soldier embracing his family, is surrounded by smaller blocks with patriotic motifs, such as stars, stripes, and eagles.

### 5. "The Drummer Boy's Quilt" (c. 1863)

This charming quilt, created by an unknown quilter, depicts a young drummer boy, a symbol of the youthful idealism and courage that fueled the war effort. The central block, showing a drummer boy surrounded by smaller blocks with soldier motifs, evokes the camaraderie and sacrifice of the Union soldiers.

## **6. "The Rose of Sharon" Quilt (c. 1864)**

This exquisite quilt, created by an unknown quilter, showcases the beauty and resilience of a flower that blooms even in the midst of adversity. The scrappy pieced blocks, in shades of green, cream, and red, create a vibrant and cheerful effect, while the large central block featuring a rose motif symbolizes hope and renewal.

## **7. "The Friendship Star" Quilt (c. 1865)**

This stunning quilt, created by Hannah Jane Young, celebrates the enduring bonds of friendship that sustained people through the war. The scrappy pieced star pattern, in shades of blue, gray, and white, evokes the patchwork of emotions experienced during the conflict, while the small embroidered stars and the inscription "Friendship Eternal" symbolize the unwavering support and love that kept people connected.

## **8. "The Return of the Soldier" Quilt (c. 1865)**

This heartwarming quilt, created by an unknown quilter, depicts the joyous reunion of a soldier with his family after the war. The central block, showing a soldier embracing his wife and children, is surrounded by smaller blocks with scenes of soldiers on the battlefield, capturing the contrast between the horrors of war and the hope and healing that followed.

## **9. "The Album" Quilt (c. 1863)**

This unique quilt, created by Hannah Stilwell Morton, serves as a poignant memorial to the soldiers who fought in the Civil War. The central album block contains a collection of names and dates, each representing a soldier

who died in battle, while the smaller blocks feature embroidered names and dates of birth and death, creating a personal and intimate tribute to the fallen.

### **10. "The Blockade Runner" Quilt (c. 1863)**

This adventurous quilt, created by an unknown quilter, depicts the daring exploits of blockade runners, who risked their lives to deliver supplies to Confederate ports during the Union blockade. The central block, showing a ship sailing through stormy waters, is surrounded by smaller blocks with nautical motifs, such as anchors, ropes, and stars, capturing the thrill and danger of this clandestine trade.

### **11. "The Underground Railroad" Quilt (c. 1860)**

This powerful quilt, created by an unknown group of women, celebrates the clandestine network that helped enslaved people escape to freedom in the North. The central block, featuring a map of the Underground Railroad, is surrounded by smaller blocks with abolitionist motifs, such as runaway slaves, abolitionists, and the Liberty Bell, symbolizing the struggle for freedom and equality.

### **12. "The Bible Quilt" (c. 1865)**

This inspiring quilt, created by an unknown quilter, draws its inspiration from the Bible, a source of comfort and hope during the war. The scrappy pieced center block features a collection of Bible scriptures, while the smaller blocks depict religious motifs, such as crosses, angels, and doves, offering a message of peace and spiritual resilience.

### 13. "The Gratitude" Quilt (c. 1865)



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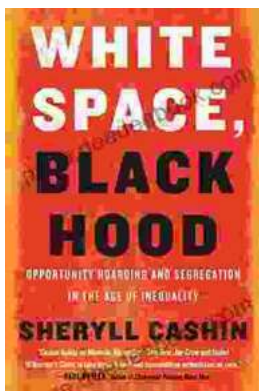
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