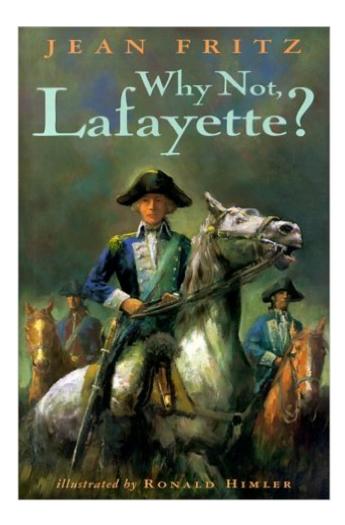
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# Why Not, Lafayette?





# Synopsis

Traces the life of the French nobleman who fought for democracy in revolutions in both the United States and France.

# **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 900L (What's this?) Hardcover: 96 pages Publisher: Putnam Juvenile; 1St Edition edition (October 25, 1999) Language: English ISBN-10: 039923411X ISBN-13: 978-0399234118 Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 0.6 x 9.3 inches Shipping Weight: 10.7 ounces Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (12 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #555,241 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European #332 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > Colonial #334 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary Age Range: 8 - 12 years Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Do you remember who Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier was? He is very famous in American history, but you probably know him better as the Marquis de Lafayette, or, as he preferred to be called, just Lafayette, who was born Sept. 6, 1757. His father died before he was two years old and his mother and grandfather died when he was twelve, leaving him to inherit their fortune under the guardianship of his great-grandfather. At fourteen years old, he joined the French Military and, at age sixteen, married Marie Adrienne Francoise de Noailles, whose family was related to King Louis XVI. At nineteen, against the wishes of his great-grandfather, his father-in-law, and the King, he purchased a ship and persuaded several French officers to accompany him to fight in the American Revolution. And, the rest, as they say, is history. Colonial General George Washington appointed Lafayette a major general. Wounded at Brandywine, the young Frenchman endured the freezing winter at Valley Forge, and then saw action at Barren Hill and Rhode Island. Returning to France for as time, he, along with Ben Franklin, was able to secure troops and supplies from the French government for the American cause which helped to force Cornwallis to surrender at Yorktown. By then Lafayette was again in America and present for the surrender. Back in France, Lafayette upheld the ideals of liberty all through the French Revolution, the Reign of Terror, and the rule of Napoleon, though he spent five years in an Austrian prison. Following his release, in 1824, President James Monroe invited Lafayette to the United States as the "nation's guest," and during the trip, he visited all twenty-four states. Jean Fritz is a wonderful author.

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