

Alternate Histories

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Uchronia.net

- The Alternate History List is a bibliography of over 3400 novels, stories, essays, etc., involving the “what ifs” of history.
- Its **Sidewise Awards** were created in 1995 and recognize the Best Short-Form Alternate History (under 60,000 words) and Best Long-Form Alternate History (60,000+ words).

Sidewise Awards 2017

Best Short-Form Alternate History

Harry Turtledove
"Zigeuner"

In Asimov's Science Fiction Sept./Oct. 2017

Best Long-Form Alternate History

Bryce Zabel

*Once There Was a Way:
What if The Beatles Stayed Together?*

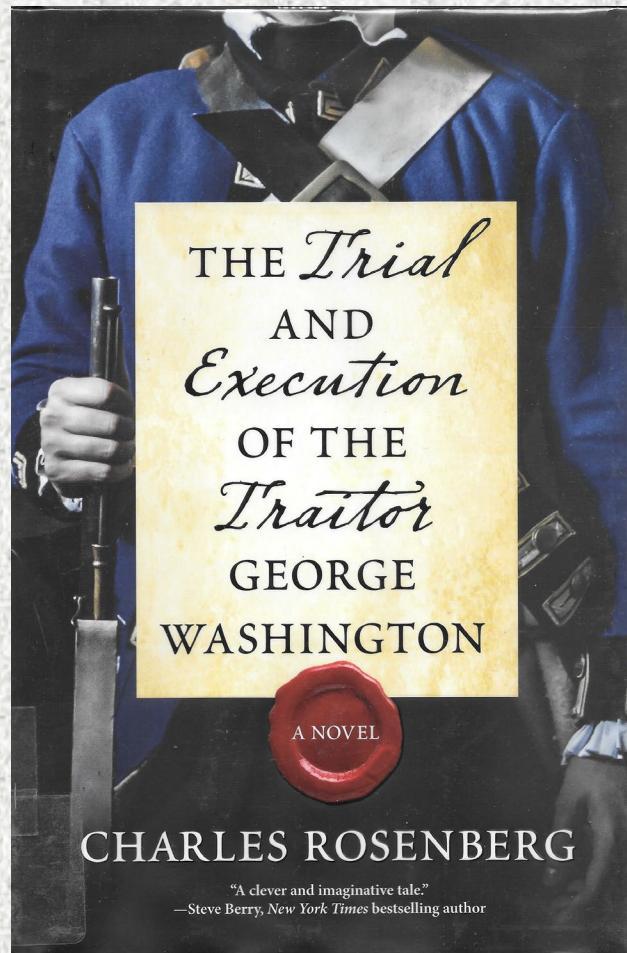
Diversion Books 2017

Fantasy or Reasonable Speculation?

[What ifs are]...counterfactual reasoning – it extrapolates consequences from choices and events that did not happen, in order to see differences from the actual historical events. This sort of thinking tends to make historians very uneasy. Historians are trained to analyze what actually happened, and speculation that runs down other paths can, if taken too far, verge on fantasy. But counterfactual reasoning, if only in a disguised form, **is something that all historians do**. To make a claim that a particular decision was wise is necessarily to make a simultaneous claim, either implicit or explicit, that some **other** decision would have produced a worse outcome. To condemn a policy as foolish or short-sided requires a claim that some **other** policy would have produced better results.

– David R. Stone, in his introduction to *The Russian Army in the Great War* (University Press of Kansas, 2015)

Dana's pick for 2018



THE *Trial*
AND
Execution
OF THE
Traitor
GEORGE
WASHINGTON

A NOVEL

CHARLES ROSENBERG

"A clever and imaginative tale."
—Steve Berry, *New York Times* bestselling author