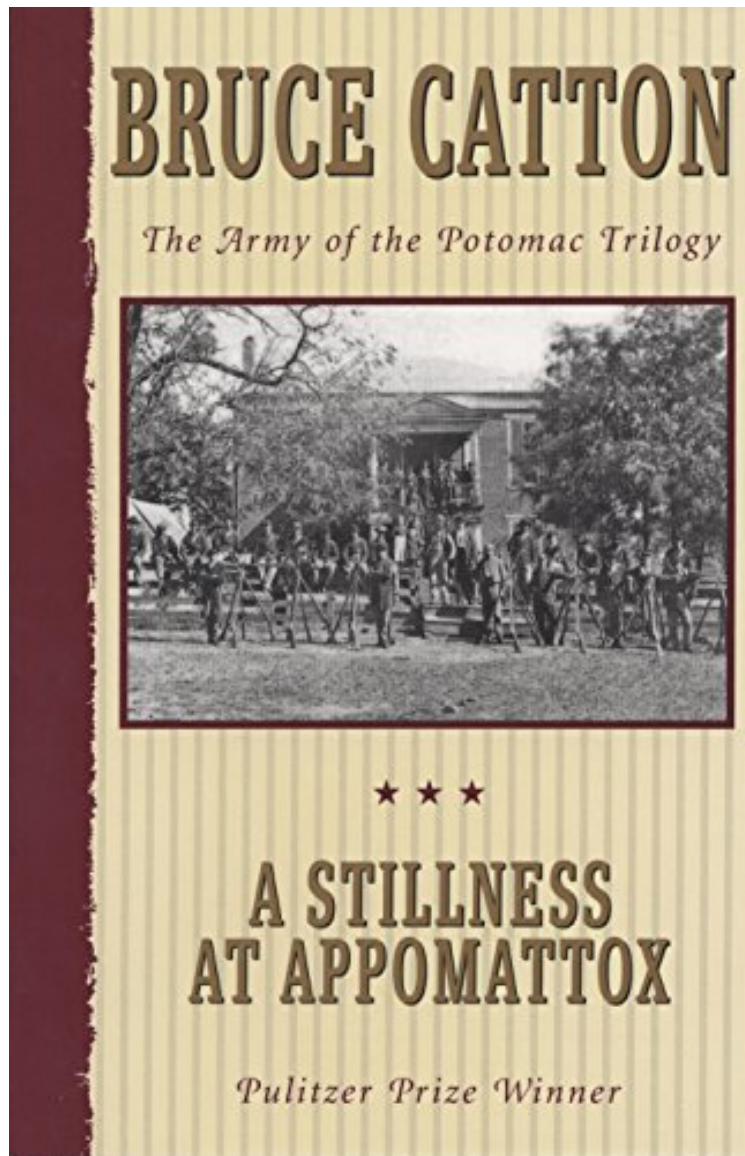


(Read free ebook) A Stillness at Appomattox: The Army of the Potomac Trilogy

A Stillness at Appomattox: The Army of the Potomac Trilogy

Von Bruce Catton

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Von Bruce Catton : A Stillness at Appomattox: The Army of the Potomac Trilogy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Stillness at Appomattox: The Army of the Potomac Trilogy:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Absolutely the best writer on the American Civil WarVon Deborah MacgillivrayI must have spent a small fortune on books on the War Between the States. My grandfather passed on two passions: history and books. And one name is

repeated over and over in my collection: Bruce Catton. There are others that are superior history writers, but Bruce Catton transcended historical writing; he opens a door on his time machine and takes you on the amazing journey into the past. The War Between the States was a complex chunk of history, and saying it was fought to free the slaves is a very bad information. Less than 2% of the population of the South owned slaves. Many young boys in the South who fought and gave their lives for the Confederacy had never ever seen one. Yes, it was a factor, a rallying cry for humanity, but it was not THE single cause. Even Lincoln was willing to see slavery continue - IF it meant preserving the Union. There were many causes and Bruce Catton helps you understand them. He also brings to life the men that was vital to the conflict, and starting with this volume is an excellent point to get to know Catton and his beauty prose. He does not give you history, he makes you live it, down to the smallest detail. When one reads Catton, it is like reading the words of someone who lived through the battles, the hardship. His prose reads more on par with beautiful fiction, so that you forget you are reading just plain factual history. Bruce Catton had the enviable position of being a small boy in Michigan where so many Veterans of the War resided. They talked, telling their tales of the War Between the States and Bruce listened. We are being gifted with those tales, present in a form that few historical writers ever achieve. In this volume, Catton introduces you to a Lincoln you have never known, to the handsome and dashing and well-loved 'Little Mac', General George McClellan. Their struggle over the Army of the Potomac, how it was going to be run, likely caused the war to drag on for nearly a year longer than it would have otherwise. Two strong figures determined the army would do as they wished. McClellan saw Lincoln as ignorant and unworthy to be president - having his eyes on the being Chief of State himself and knowing being General of the Army of the Potomac could make that dream real. Lincoln saw Little Mac as all show and no action. He just wanted a General who would fight. Their struggles shows Lincoln's patience and incisive ability to assess people, handle them, and Little Mac's arrogance and gross underestimating of Lincoln. This is intended as a three volume set with GLORY ROAD and A STILLNESS AT APPOMATTOX in that order. So if you are interested in the Civil War, if the films GETTYSBURG and GOD AND GENERALS make you hunger for a better understanding of why it happened, who these people were, you cannot do any better than starting your journey here. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Classic Von Wayne A. Smith Catton delivers a classic that will bear up to re-reading. The story of Grant's campaign against Lee is told simply and interestingly. For a reader who is looking to understand the last crucial year of the war in the East, where war really began to look more like what was to follow in 1914 and less like what Napoleon had created, this book will satisfy on all accounts. His genius as a writer is his ability to combine the larger war -- strategy, movement of armies, political objectives -- with the human interest perspectives that make recent battle stories (Sears, et al) come alive through first person accounts of sweat and toil in the line of battle. This ability produces very readable history. Catton's works reflect the great story which the tragic facts of the Civil War combined to produce. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Mr. Catton's Army Von Ein Kunde Bruce Catton is largely responsible for the continuing Civil War publishing boom, with his publication in the early 1950's of his trilogy history of the Army of the Potomac. Catton's passion for the subject, combined with his journalistic talents, captured the essence of a fundamental of American mythology. As a boy in Wisconsin he idolized the veterans he came to know in his community and he became committed if not obsessed to learning about them and documenting what he learned. What he learned is one of the great stories in our country's history - the story of the common soldier in the American Civil War. It is not an attempt at applying the academic method, it is journalism - and first rate journalism., and great story telling. Yet, it is still historically relevant and significant. Catton was able to put the various complex subplots in the perspective of the maturation of the democratic nation and its institutions (for example, Indiana Governor O. P. Morton's wartime state dictatorship and the implications for states' rights in relationship to the national government). The famous figures are included, and humanized, but it is really the story of the rank and file. The common soldier, who suffered unmercifully under incompetent leadership, wasteful bureaucracies, political maneuvering, a multitude of physical hardships, bad food and medicine and every other handicap imaginable (including death and dismemberment in what was then a new and highly efficient killing field of warfare) - and yet somehow emerged victorious. It is not a romantic story, but it is a story full of praise for those who served their nation in one of its great defining moments. There isn't any sympathy for the opposing Confederates - neither is their any condemnation or hatred (because the soldiers themselves did not condemn or hate). For the hard core ACW armchair campaigner there is still much to be gleaned from a read or re-read of Catton's trilogy. For the casual reader, this work is a great starting place to understand the ACW - the conflict that, in Catton's view, framed and defined the unique history of the United States. There are a few misconceptions scattered about - but no matter, this is the stuff of legends. There are conclusions drawn that are not thoroughly supported - again, no matter. Catton told a great story greatly, and it has stood the test of time as a benchmark accomplishment.

Kurzbeschreibung Recounting the final year of the Civil War, this classic volume by Bruce Catton won both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award for excellence in non-fiction. In this final volume of the Army of the

Potomac Trilogy, Catton, America's foremost Civil War historian, takes the reader through the battles of the Wilderness, the Bloody Angle, Cold Harbot, the Crater, and on through the horrible months to one moment at Appomattox. Grant, Meade, Sheridan, and Lee vividly come to life in all their failings and triumphs..deIf every historian wrote like Bruce Catton, no one would read fiction. This marvelously well-told account of the final year of the Civil War marches readers from Wilderness, through Petersburg, and finally to the climax at Appomattox. The surrender scene, when Grant and Lee meet at last, is spine tingling. This is the third book of Catton's Army of the Potomac trilogy. It's also the best of the bunch, even though the first two, Mr. Lincoln's Army and Glory Road, are both exceptional. Not to be missed. --John Miller.comIf every historian wrote like Bruce Catton, no one would read fiction. This marvelously well-told account of the final year of the Civil War marches readers from Wilderness, through Petersburg, and finally to the climax at Appomattox. The surrender scene, when Grant and Lee meet at last, is spine tingling. This is the third book of Catton's Army of the Potomac trilogy. It's also the best of the bunch, even though the first two, Mr. Lincoln's Army and Glory Road, are both exceptional. Not to be missed. --John Miller