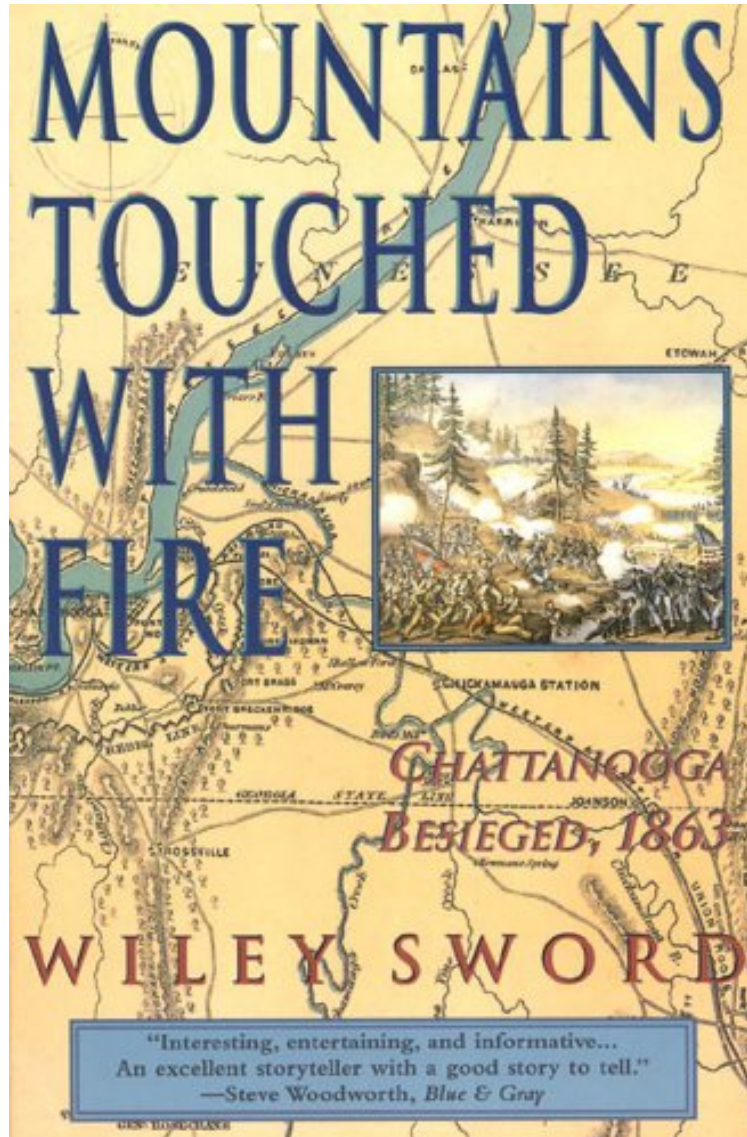


[FREE] Mountains Touched with Fire: Chattanooga Besieged, 1863

Mountains Touched with Fire: Chattanooga Besieged, 1863

Von Wiley Sword

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KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Chattanooga BesiegedVon Ein KundeThe Battle of Chickamauga occurred as an event in the larger struggle between both sides for control and possession of the important railroad and riverside terminus of Chattanooga. In war, just as in

real estate, location means everything. The struggle for Chattanooga and the Battle of Missionary Ridge just outside it, probably had a greater affect on the outcome of the war than anything occurring at Chickamauga, despite the latter's ferocity. If you want to satisfy your curiosity on this subject, let me recommend to you Wiley Sword's most recent work, *Mountains Touched with Fire, Chattanooga Besieged*. Some of you no doubt recognize Wiley Sword as the author of *Shiloh*, *Bloody April* and *Embrace An Angry Wind, The Confederacy's Last Hurrah: Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville*. Of course other books cover the same subject matter, but to my mind, no one narrates the overall story of a campaign as well as Mr. Sword. *Touched with Fire* proves no exception. I won't spoil the story by revealing the details here. However, if you enjoy learning about how inept military planning, accidental coincidence and the simple courage of common soldiers have more to do with the actual outcome of history than most other things, you will enjoy this book. I will say this though, the book contains an excellent quip about the "possum grin". The reference, for those who care to take note, originally comes from Sam Watkin's of "Co. Aytch". "They were gunless, cartridge-boxless, knapsackless, canteenless, and all other military accoutermentsless, and swordless, and officerless, and they all seemed to have the 'possum grins, like Bragg looked, and you never heard such fun made of a parcel of soldiers in you life." 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Frustrating maps Von Matthew T. Carpenter For the most part this was an entertaining and useful book. I did not enjoy it as much as Sword's other works, for two reasons. First, the maps were poor and not well situated throughout the text. Often events were described and the locations were not on any of the overall regional maps. It was also difficult to find the relevant map so an index would have been helpful. Considering the main audience for this work is composed of Civil War buffs, detailed and convenient maps should have been a top priority. Second, I think there was some mild hyperbole used throughout, with verbs chosen to unnecessarily sharpen the conflict between feuding generals. Other than these points I thought this book was a wonderful exposition of the siege of Chattanooga. After reading it I will have to visit Missionary Ridge all over again. I highly recommend Sword's other books to the Civil War enthusiast. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This is an excellent and detailed account of this battle Von Darryl L. Walker Sword's book presents a detailed and gripping account of the Union's struggle to break through tough Confederate forces holding on to the gateway of Georgia. He takes us from the Union's loss at Chickamauga to the final conquest of Missionary Ridge while providing a clear picture of the human misery and tragedy of this seige. Sword also provides an objective narration of the principal players, including Grant, Sherman, and Bragg. A great book from beginning to end.

Kurzbeschreibung An Award-Winning Historian Dramatically Re-Creates a Turning Point of the Civil War It was one of the most startling events of the civil war, the "hour of destiny" for the Union. Faced with the prospect of catastrophic defeat, the North's greatest generals--Ulysses Grant, William Tecumseh Sherman, George Thomas, and Phil Sheridan--were commanding a battle for the besieged city of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Suddenly, as an aghast Grant and Thomas watched, the beleaguered federal troops began a headlong, climactic, seemingly suicidal charge up the face of a six-hundred-foot-high mountain ridge overlooking the city, under ferocious fire from the Confederate infantry that held the ridge. The siege of Chattanooga and its stunning turnabout form the core of Wiley Sword's lively narrative. Dozens of previously unpublished photographs, maps, and excerpts from private journals, and letters enhance this vivid account. Written with novelistic flair and a historian's authority, *Mountains Touched with Fire* captures every side of this crucial Civil War battle whose aftermath sealed the fate of the South. From Booklist Sword's dramatic and vividly detailed narrative chronicles one of the pivotal episodes of the Civil War. In 1863, capitalizing on military triumphs at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, the Union set its sights on Chattanooga, Tennessee, a strategic Confederate stronghold considered to be the gateway to Georgia and the Deep South. Though initially victorious, the Union troops were defeated along the banks of Chickamauga Creek and retreated to Chattanooga proper. Surrounded and besieged by Confederates and prompted by a series of bizarre and ironic circumstances, miscommunications, and mishaps, the Federals launched a seemingly suicidal offensive, handing the South a stunning, unexpected defeat and effectively sealing the outcome of the Civil War. The generals, the men, and the actual fighting are each analyzed in turn in this comprehensive examination of a decisive campaign. Majestic military history. Margaret Flanagan From Library Journal No serious analysis of the battles around and in Chattanooga would be complete without an in-depth look at the personalities that formed their outcome. The author (*Embrace an Angry Wind: The Confederacy's Last Hurrah*, LJ 1/92) studies the actions and decisions of generals Rosecrans and Bragg as they approached the Battle of Chickamauga, then follows up through the Siege of Chattanooga with the same type of in-depth look at most of the generals involved in the decisions before the final battle. The outcome depended more upon the determination and abilities of the individual soldier than upon the decisions of the commanding officers. Sword has written an excellent account of the actual battles and skirmishes that culminated with the loss of Chattanooga to the Union Army. He also gives us an insight into the thoughts and deeds of the individual soldier on both sides. Highly recommended for most libraries. W. Walter Wicker, Louisiana Technological Univ., Ruston Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.