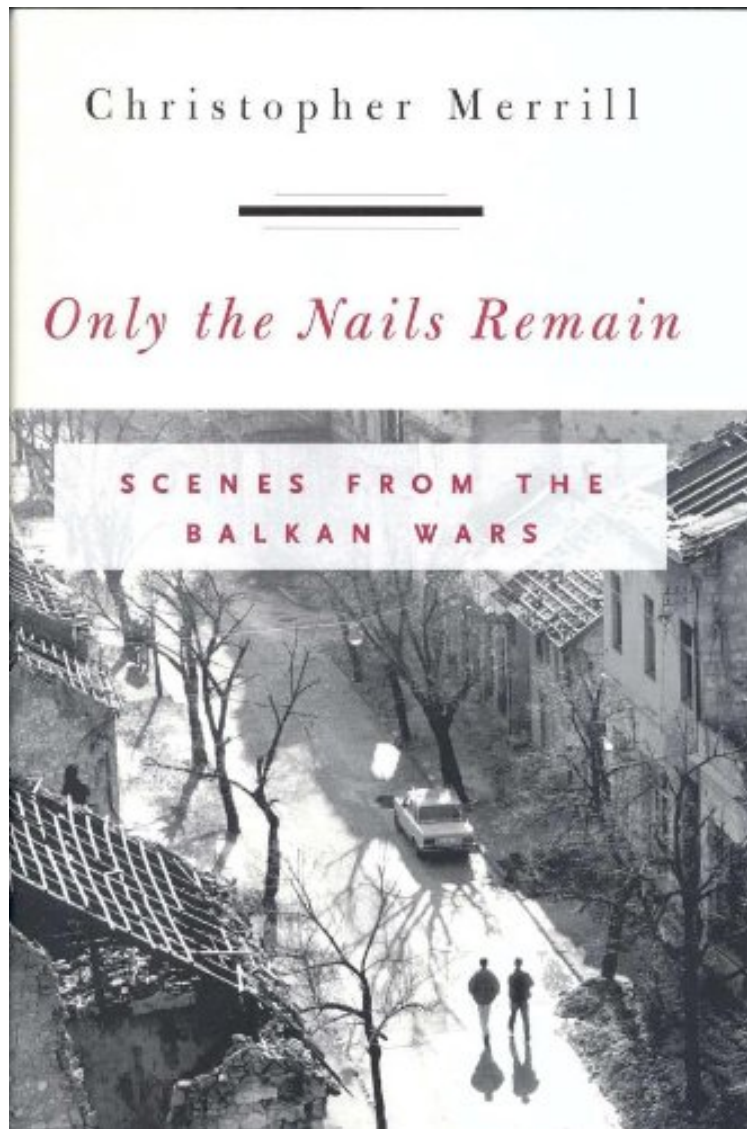


(Mobile pdf) Only the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars

## Only the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars

Von Christopher Merrill

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**Von Christopher Merrill : Only the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Only the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ignore the Preceding Review - This Is A Noteworthy BookVon Robert J. BurdickThe previous review, by someone who admits to not reading the book, should be wholly discounted. Although no current book on the Balkans can compete with Robert D. Kaplan's incomparable "Balkan Ghosts," Christopher Merrill eloquently describes the mood,

psychology, and turmoil of the former Yugoslavia in the early 1990s. I only wish that the book were a bit heavier on the historical background. However, it is refreshing to read a more human account of the effects of post-modern progress than the usual detached historical rendering. Merrill's work is to be praised, an attitude which can only be adopted after actually reading the book.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Typical American War TouristVon Mark NuckolsI read only the chapter titled "Ljubljana I," and decided to skip Ljubljana II et cetera. I have lived for some time in Slovenia, and only a smug and ignorant American academic could describe Ljubljana in the manner this author does. It appears that he decided to travel to the "dark heart of the Balkans" to "confront the brutal realities of human life" and search for "the elusive truths" blahblahblahblah. If you want to understand the Balkans, skip this turkey of a book. For that matter, skip Rebecca West as well, the obvious template for this silly book, and go straight to Ivo Andric.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Making Sense of HistoryVon SunshineGirlReaders of Merrill's book will find it useful for making sense of the events in the former Yugoslavia -- a region with too much history for its own good. Anyone who questioned how neighbors could end up at opposite ends of a gun will find answers here. Merrill explores cultural history -- the stories and sentiments that bind a people despite the political borders -- as he seeks to answer for himself how such barbaric and senseless destruction could happen. This book offers insights rarely found in contemporary writings on the Balkans.

KurzbeschreibungOnly the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars is a chronicle of poet and critic Christopher Merrill's ten war-time journeys to the Balkans from the years 1992 through 1996. At once a travelogue, a book of war reportage, and a biography of the imagination under siege, this beautifully written and personal narrative takes the reader along on the author's journeys to all the provinces and republics of the former YugoslaviaBosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, and Vojvodinaas well as to Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Italy, and Turkey. His journeys provide the narrative structure for an exploration of the roles and responsibility of intellectuals caught up in a decisive historical moment, many of whom either helped to incite the war or else bore eloquent witness to its carnage. What separates this book-the first non-native literary work on the conflict-from other collections of reportage, political analysis, and polemic, is its concern for capturing the texture of particular places in the midst of dramatic change-the sounds and sights and smells, the stories and observations of victim and perpetrator alike, the culture of war. Here is a literary meditation on war, a fascinating portrait of the poetry, politics and the people of the Balkans that will provide insight into the past, present, and future of those war-torn lands. Hear an interview with the author on NPR's Weekend All Things Considered, February 20th, 'Balkan Poets.'PressestimmenThere 's no finer, more eloquent book written about the Balkans its literature and cultures, its bloodsoaked history and deluded politics, and certainly its fascinating people than Christopher Merrill 's Only the Nails Remain. Equally compelling as both a storyteller and correspondent, Merrill is our own Ryszard Kapuscinski the highest praise I can offer to an American writer trying to comprehend the events of our time; the forces that, even as you read this, sweep promiscuously across the world.--Bob ShacochisOnly the Nails Remain is a beautiful, thoughtful, and surprising tour through the heart and soul of the Balkans at the end of the 20th century. Only a poet-journalist could accomplish this, and there's none better than Christopher Merrill. His first-hand experiences, compassionate insights, and unblinking eye for the telling detail make this book as fascinating as it is indispensable.--Phil Alden Robinson, director of Field of Dreams and One Woman's SarajevoAn intelligent, incisive, and extremely well-written report from the Balkans which gives body and human dimension to the strange, terrible events of recent years.--Peter Matthiessen, novelist and non-fiction writer, twice winner of the National Book AwardThere s no finer, more eloquent book written about the Balkans its literature and cultures, its bloodsoaked history and deluded politics, and certainly its fascinating people than Christopher Merrill s Only the Nails Remain. Equally compelling as both a storyteller and correspondent, Merrill is our own Ryszard Kapuscinski the highest praise I can offer to an American writer trying to comprehend the events of our time; the forces that, even as you read this, sweep promiscuously across the world.--Bob Shacochis, National Book Award winner and author of The Immaculate Invasion and Easy in the Islands"There's no finer, more eloquent book written about the Balkans--its literature and cultures, its bloodsoaked history and deluded politics, and certainly its fascinating people--than Christopher Merrill's Only the Nails Remain. Equally compelling as both a storyteller and correspondent, Merrill is our own Ryszard Kapuscinski--the highest praise I can offer to an American writer trying to comprehend the events of our time; the forces that, even as you read this, sweep promiscuously across the world.--Bob Shacochis, National Book Award winner and author of The Immaculate Invasion and Easy in the IslandsI do not know of a thing written on the Balkans that is so attentive and appreciative of those artists who have both absorbed and reflected on the troubles of their land--in theory, at least, their real job in life. Who else has even come so close to recording their observations?--Kai Erikson, Yale UniversityAn engrossing account of the Balkan wars . . . also an informed account, for Merrill buttresses his vignettes with numerous asides into Balkan history and politics. In addition, he provides the reader with fascinating profiles of heroes and villains, past and present, whose biographies explain, or help to explain, Yugoslavia's legacy of revenge, cruelty, and bloodshed. . . .

Anyone who wishes to understand the human tragedy that is Yugoslavia should read *Only the Nails Remain*.--Donald P. Kommers, University of Notre Dame "America: The Jesuit of Faith Culture "Christopher Merrill has given us a deeply moving account of a poet's journey into the dark heart of the war that punctuates our most broken century. *Only the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars* is informative as history, instructive as geography, penetrating as political analysis--and ennobling as literature. Merrill illuminates the Balkan conflict by bringing to life the bearers of its particular names, the speakers of its unforgettable voices. Merrill leads like Virgil. Alas, his tragic vision proves to be prophetic. During and after Kosovo, this book is mandatory for Americans--James Carroll, author of *An American Requiem: God, My Father, and the War That Came Between Us*, winner of the National Book

Award  
Kurzbeschreibung  
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