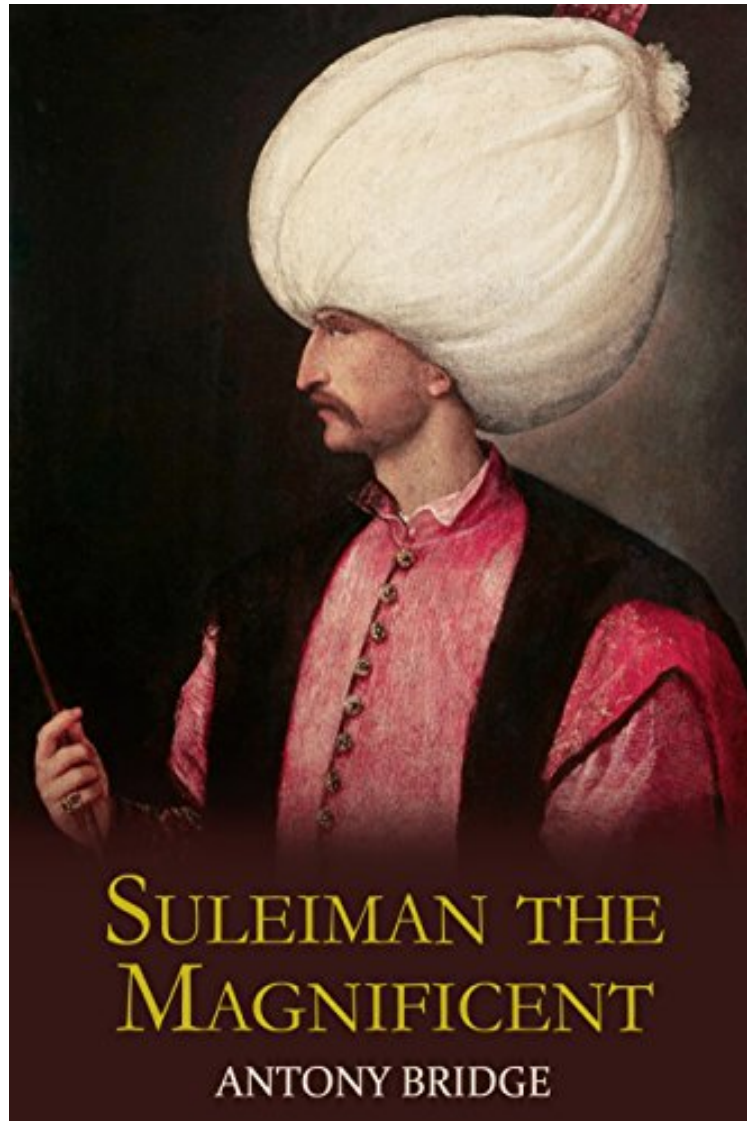


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Suleiman the Magnificent: Scourge of Heaven (English Edition)

Von Antony Bridge

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Von Antony Bridge : Suleiman the Magnificent: Scourge of Heaven (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Suleiman the Magnificent: Scourge of Heaven (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Great impartial narrativeVon M. SchweigerAnthony Bridge's 'Suleiman the Magnificent' is a beautiful portrait of this splendid and controversial Ottoman Renaissance prince and his principal coevals and at times adversaries, Charles V of the House of Habsburg and Francis I of France (the latter at times an ally). Born in 1495 as son of Selim the Grim,

Suleiman acceded to the throne in 1520, immediately to take Sabac and Belgrade (then Hungary) in his first campaigns in 1521, followed by the siege (1522/23) and subsequent taking of Rhodes from the Knights of Saint John and the utter defeat of the Hungarians at Mohacs in 1526. The unsuccessful siege of Vienna in 1529, and the defeat at Malta in 1565 (heroically defended by Grandmaster de la Valette) mark the failures in Suleiman's career, the latter a harbinger of the soon to follow decline of the Ottoman empire itself. Roxelana whom he takes as his wife, his trusted vizier Ibrahim (whom he had killed in 1536) and his two more capable sons (Mustafa and Bayezid, whom he had both killed in 1553 and 1561) as well as his rather inept successor, Selim (the Sot), are not omitted in this narrative either. The book depicts its protagonist fairly, pointing out his vices equally well as his (domestic and foreign) achievements. Suleiman with due justification bears the sobriquet 'Kanuni' in Turkey.

Kurzbeschreibung The dramatic story of Islam's counter-crusade against western Christendom, written with vivid narrative power by the author of *The Crusades*. Suleiman the Magnificent, Sultan of the Ottoman Turks, was one of the most powerful figures in the 16th-century world. This vastly enjoyable account of his impact on Christian Europe from 1520 to the 1560s shows him battering on the gates of Vienna, engaged in running battles with the Hungarians and the Knights of St John and in constant conflict with the navies of the Mediterranean powers. The threat of Islam in the 16th century was not so different in people's imaginations from the West's fear of the East today. To the Habsburg Emperor Charles V, and to King Francis I of France, Suleiman -from his base in Constantinople - was a super-power to be reckoned with. The epic sieges of Rhodes, Vienna and Malta are the big action set-pieces of the book; the Janissaries of the Sultan hold centre stage. When Suleiman died in 1566 the power of the Turks began to wane; with him the forces of militant Islam had reached their high watermark.

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ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Antony Bridge served as the Dean of Guildford from 1968 onwards. He was the author of a biography of the Byzantine Empress Theodora and a history of *The Crusades*, as well as being a frequent contributor to radio and television.