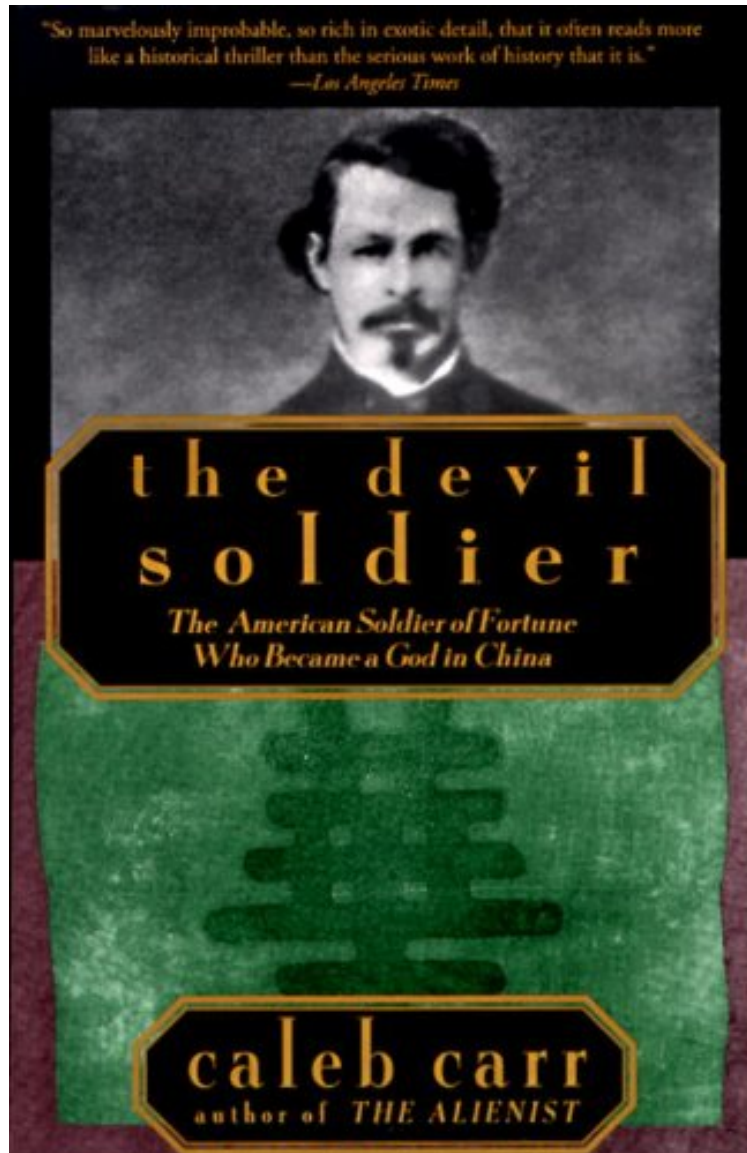


[Mobile book] The Devil Soldier: The American Soldier of Fortune Who Became a God in China

The Devil Soldier: The American Soldier of Fortune Who Became a God in China

Von Caleb Carr

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Von Caleb Carr : The Devil Soldier: The American Soldier of Fortune Who Became a God in China before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Devil Soldier: The American Soldier of Fortune Who Became a God in China:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Unknown Soldier! Von Robert Jarvis (jarvis@uni-desa.com) Carr writes well! Let's make no mistake about that! However, he is doomed to failure in this attempt to bring to life the enigmatic "devil soldier," Ward. For one thing, most of Ward's letters, that might have given some sort of insight into his character, were destroyed by a relative. Sad! This means that putting thought's into Ward's, mouth, flesh on his bones, is largely conjecture on the part of the Author. Another weakness, is that Ward was simply not around long enough to develop into a subject worthy of a biography of this depth. He died in his early thirties, details of his early life are sketchy. Indeed, 4/5ths of this book are about Ward's Chinese career in a three year period between 1860 1863, when he was killed. A better candidate for Mr. Carr's attentions would have been the "larger than life" British Admiral "Fighting Jimmy" Hope. Even the Chung Wang, Ward's Taiping opponant, would have been a more logical candidate for central character. Inspirational leader motivator of men, Ward undoubtedly was. Master tactician, I think not! His military achievements consist mainly of blasting away at the poorly armed Taiping rebel's entrenched positions, with far superior ordnance, followed by a reckless, albeit dashing, general charge on the defensive walls. In my opinion, the "devil soldier" ultimately remains the "unknown soldier" this book ultimately remains, unsatisfactory. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Highly Readable Look at the Taiping Rebellion Von wutanglen The Taiping Rebellion in China was a very bloody affair. It cost the lives of over 25 million people. In addition it helped set the stage for the collapse of the Qing Dynasty and the whole Dynastic System which ruled China for 1000's of years. Though also a biography, the Devil Soldier is an interesting overview of the Rebellion and its eventual defeat. This book is much more readable than Spence's "Gods Chinese Son." Carr is a great writer, his novels are great historical mysteries of early NYC. This book benefits from Carr's ability to write and tell a story. Anyone interesting in this time period will enjoy this book. Again it is much better than the one on basically the same topic by Spence. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fascinating story of an American leading a foreign civil war Von Ein Kunde Caleb Carr's portrait of Fredrick Townsend Ward, an obscure American mercenary who rose to prominence during China's bloody Taiping rebellion, offers a fascinating look at a civil war that took place at the same time as the battle between the States, but in a completely different world. A far cry from Carr's previous thrillers, his historical work is still infused with the authors' powerful descriptive narrative. Readers will find themselves immersed in the Shanghai of the 1850's and 60's as quickly and totally as Carr plunged them into turn of the century New York, awash in the quasi-Christian Taiping rebellion, a massive and bloody attempt to wrestle power from millennia old Imperial China. Indeed, the city on the Huang-Pu river is as much a character in the story as any of the soldiers, rebels, merchants, peasants and Imperial Courtiers that lived in that turbulent time and place. Using western officers, often mercenaries, to train and lead Chinese troops in the western style of warfare, Ward raised up the "Ever Victorious Army" and turned the tide against the rebellion. He led his troops into battle in scenes as gripping as any taking place half a world away in our own Civil War, using battle strategies that would have held him in high rank amongst Grant, Sherman and Lee. In doing so he was awarded the status of Mandarin, the first westerner to ever enter the upper caste of the Confucian order. An epic tale of a long forgotten adventurer that offers a window into a remarkable time and place. It's too bad that Mr. Carr's success with fiction will most likely rob us of one of our most compelling and adept biographers.

Kurzbeschreibung A courageous leader who became the first American mandarin, Frederick Townsend Ward won crucial victories for the Emperor of China during the Taiping Rebellion, history's bloodiest civil war. Carr's skills as historian and storyteller come to the fore in this thrilling account of the kind of adventurer the world no longer sees. Kurzbeschreibung A courageous leader who became the first American mandarin, Frederick Townsend Ward won crucial victories for the Emperor of China during the Taiping Rebellion, history's bloodiest civil war. Carr's skills as historian and storyteller come to the fore in this thrilling account of the kind of adventurer the world no longer sees. ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Caleb Carr is a contributing editor of MHQ: The Quarterly Journal of Military History and the series editor of the Modern Library War Series. His military and political writings have appeared in numerous magazines and periodicals, among them The World Policy Journal, The New York Times, and Time. He currently lives in upstate New York. From the Hardcover edition.