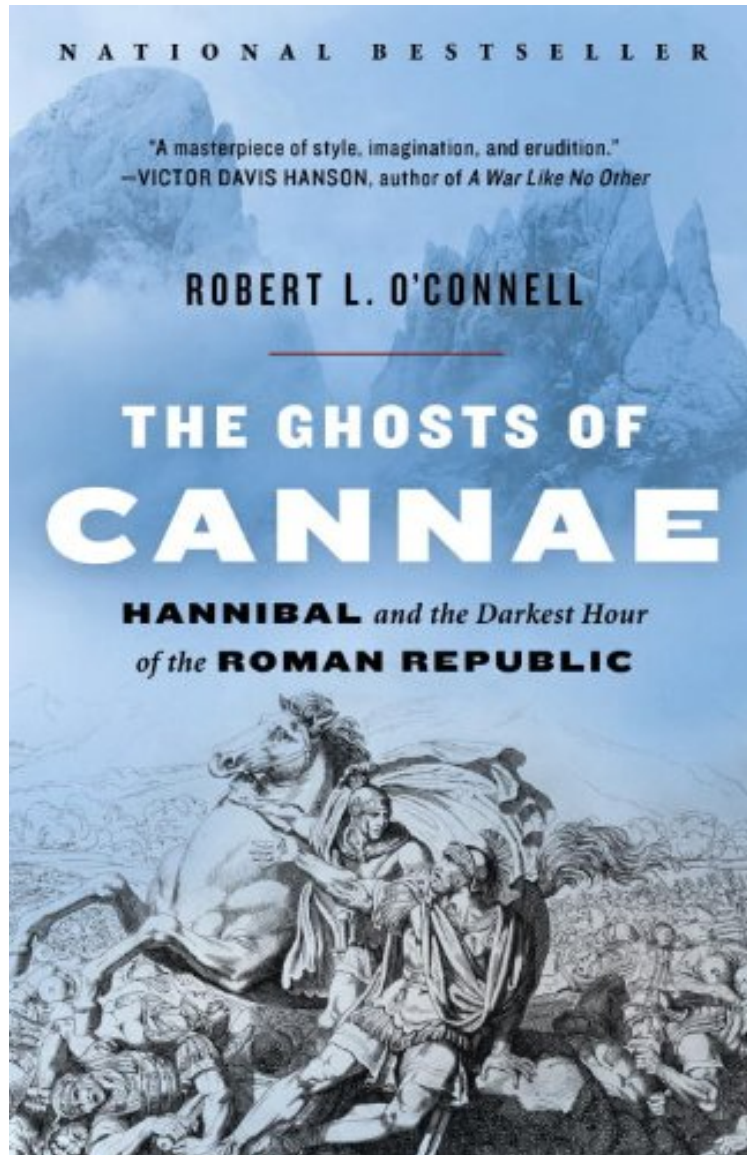


[Download free pdf] The Ghosts of Cannae: Hannibal and the Darkest Hour of the Roman Republic

# The Ghosts of Cannae: Hannibal and the Darkest Hour of the Roman Republic

Von Robert L. O'Connell

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Von Robert L. O'Connell : The Ghosts of Cannae: Hannibal and the Darkest Hour of the Roman Republic before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ghosts of Cannae: Hannibal and the Darkest Hour of the Roman Republic:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 2 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An

excellent account of the epic battle., Von customer The perfect companion for all Roman military history enthusiasts is the ROMA VICTRIX WINE BEAKER Roma Victrix Wein Becher The Ghosts of Cannae is a study of that battle--the worse defeat in Roman history, and a battle that cost more lives than any other single engagement in Europe, up to and including the Battle of Somme. More Romans died at Cannae on August 2, 216 BC than Americans did during the whole of the Vietnam War. O'Connell undertakes to explain the entirety of Cannae, from the events, the cultural, social and political pressures that led to the engagement to the rippling after effects of the Roman defeat which would eventually shake the foundations of the Republic itself. It was ". . . a terrible apocalyptic day," writes military historian Robert L. O'Connell at the beginning of *The Ghosts of Cannae*, ". . . 120,000 men engaged in what amounted to a mass knife fight." That statement encapsulates what makes O'Connell's account of this ancient Roman battle at once so compelling, enlightening, and readable. The author possesses a rare talent among scholars to bring remote and seemingly academic facts down from their rarified heights and put them, vividly and viscerally, right in front of the reader. And it doesn't get more visceral than 50,000 men, lying gutted on the field of battle on a hot summer day.

Kurzbeschreibung NATIONAL BESTSELLER For millennia, Carthage's triumph over Rome at Cannae in 216 B.C. has inspired reverence and awe. No general since has matched Hannibal's most unexpected, innovative, and brutal military victory. Now Robert L. O'Connell, one of the most admired names in military history, tells the whole story of Cannae for the first time, giving us a stirring account of this apocalyptic battle, its causes and consequences. O'Connell brilliantly conveys how Rome amassed a giant army to punish Carthage's masterful commander, how Hannibal outwitted enemies that outnumbered him, and how this disastrous pivot point in Rome's history ultimately led to the republic's resurgence and the creation of its empire. Piecing together decayed shreds of ancient reportage, the author paints powerful portraits of the leading players, from Hannibal, resolutely sane and uncannily strategic to Scipio Africanus, the self-promoting Roman military tribune. Finally, O'Connell reveals how Cannae's legend has inspired and haunted military leaders ever since, and the lessons it teaches for our own wars. *Pressestimmen* A masterpiece of style, imagination, and erudition. Victor Davis Hanson, author of *A War Like No Other* Outstanding . . . [a] superb chronicle of events that shaped the fate of Western civilization. *Booklist* [O'Connell] is able to put himself and his reader on the ground at Cannae, gagging in the heat of a southern Italian midsummer, assailed by an overload from every one of the five senses. *The New York Times Book Review* Dramatic and comprehensive . . . O'Connell has established the new standard for studies of the second conflict between Rome and Carthage. *Publishers Weekly* [O'Connell] writes with clarity about an era shrouded in speculation. *Providence Journal-Bulletin* Kurzbeschreibung NATIONAL BESTSELLER For millennia, Carthage's triumph over Rome at Cannae in 216 B.C. has inspired reverence and awe. No general since has matched Hannibal's most unexpected, innovative, and brutal military victory. Now Robert L. O'Connell, one of the most admired names in military history, tells the whole story of Cannae for the first time, giving us a stirring account of this apocalyptic battle, its causes and consequences. O'Connell brilliantly conveys how Rome amassed a giant army to punish Carthage's masterful commander, how Hannibal outwitted enemies that outnumbered him, and how this disastrous pivot point in Rome's history ultimately led to the republic's resurgence and the creation of its empire. Piecing together decayed shreds of ancient reportage, the author paints powerful portraits of the leading players, from Hannibal, resolutely sane and uncannily strategic to Scipio Africanus, the self-promoting Roman military tribune. Finally, O'Connell reveals how Cannae's legend has inspired and haunted military leaders ever since, and the lessons it teaches for our own wars.