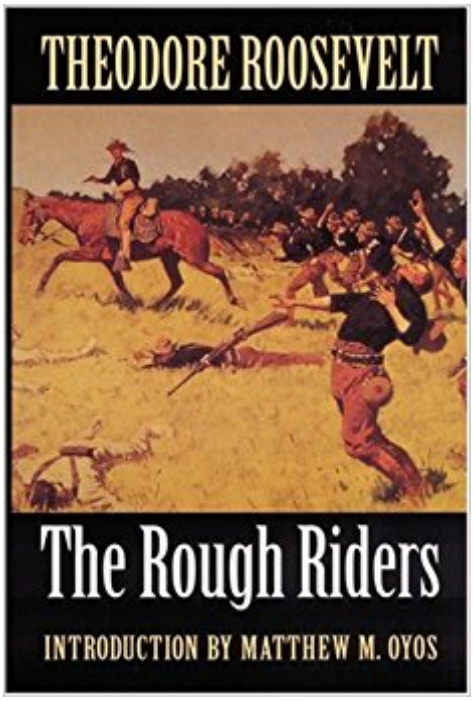
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The Rough Riders



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Synopsis

The Spanish-American War of 1898 was brief but decisive, marking the United States as a world power, Theodore Roosevelt as a national hero, and the Rough Riders as a legendary force in winning the independence of Cuba from Spain. This volunteer cavalry regiment was one of the most colorful ever assembled, with lawyers, cowboys and ranchers, actors and musicians, hunters and trappers, football players, Indian fighters, ivy-league scholars, and blacksmiths proving equal to each other in stoic bravery. Commanding them, inspiring them, dashing through gunfire, was the ebullient Colonel Roosevelt. The Rough Riders, published the year after Ã¢â ¬Å“the splendid little war,Ã¢â ¬Â• is RooseveltÃ¢â ¬â„¢s account of the mustering of the regiment, the perils endured, and the horseback charge up Kettle Hill during the battle for the San Juan Heights. It offers many glimpses of the heroic men who quickly won the hearts of Americans. This Bison Books edition gathers eleven important photographs from earlier editions of the work and also contains two new maps and an index.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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In 1898, as the Spanish-American War was escalating, Theodore Roosevelt assembled an improbable regiment of Ivy Leaguers, cowboys, Native Americans, African-Americans, and Western Territory land speculators. This group of men, which became known as the Rough Riders, trained for four weeks in the Texas desert and then set sail for Cuba. Over the course of the summer,

Roosevelt’s Rough Riders fought valiantly, and sometimes recklessly, in the Cuban foothills, incurring casualties at a far greater rate than the Spanish. Roosevelt kept a detailed diary from the time he left Washington until his triumphant return from Cuba later that year. The Rough Riders was published to instant acclaim in 1899. Robust in its style and mesmerizing in its account of battle, it is exhilarating, illuminating, and utterly essential reading for every armchair historian and at-home general. The books in the Modern Library War series have been chosen by series editor Caleb Carr according to the significance of their subject matter, their contribution to the field of military history, and their literary merit. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

First of all, the kindle edition is free so this is an excellent start. Having read the book version this is an exact copy with no additional commentary or changes. Roosevelt is a great storyteller and it comes through in his book. You feel as if he is sitting in front of you while you are both seated in a large red leather chair in front of a fireplace in his library (surrounded by African hunting trophies) drinking cognac and smoking a good cuban cigar. You don’t know if it is all true or parts f his imagination but you don’t care because it is a good time. Take a trip into a little known war that helped transform a unique individual into a President that is a familiar name to all.

This is an account of the first battle by the United States Army in an international theater of operation. The value of this book is that it is in Theodore Roosevelt’s own words. Many of his accounts of the fighting appear in other books written on the subject. This is a story of our country’s struggle to go from a standing army of less that 30,000 men to an invading army of over 300,000 men in a matter of months. A big part of this effort was the raising of the First Volunteer Calvary who became know as the "Rough Riders". This was an eclectic group of Ivy League athletes, western cowboys, and former lawmen whose life experiences made them fit for combat without much formal army training. It is also a story of an army unprepared for overseas operations, short on supplies, transport, medical resources and at times even ammunition and how they overcame these problems. This is the first of many times America will fight on foreign shores written by the man who was one of those responsible for starting the war and the only one who when on to fight it.

A captivating look inside the mind of man who is both admired and reviled in our contemporary culture. There is no question that Teddy Roosevelt has a gift for prose. This book is engrossing and gives you insight into the mind of the man as opposed to the larger than life historical figure. It’s easy to see why people found Roosevelt to be a great leader and orator, you can feel the man’s

charisma come through in his larger than life depictions.This books makes no bones about the man’s views, this isn’t someone distancing himself from his actions, but putting forth his view on the events in an unflinching way. Having read many historical accounts of the events in the book, I am surprised by how accurate most of them are. One would consider a man as gregarious and self-aggrandizing as Roosevelt to have tried to radically embellish his own actions; but for the most part they were not. The parts which seem to be embellished are the depictions of the men themselves, all great and good men of few flash and unimpeachable character. While I’m sure the men were probably competent soldiers and fighters; I’m pretty sure that they also had the vices which go along with such men. Such things can be overlooked as Roosevelt’s own hyperbole without distracting from the work as a whole.Overall the book is engrossing, entertaining and a great look into the mind of what must have been an exceedingly interesting person.

The one star is for this specific edition. We were so excited to give it to our son, but the print is so VERY TINY that it is nearly impossible to read it.

"...I had preached, with all the fervor and zeal I possessed, our duty to intervene in Cuba, and to take this opportunity of driving the Spaniard from the Western World." In 1898, the opportunity came and TR raised a regiment, The Rough Riders, to help the US Army fight in Cuba. This book tells the story from the formation of the unit, the systematic training, the long journey to Cuba, the astonishing lack of organization, the incompetence of the administration and the heroism of the soldiers. Individual soldiers are given special recognition, such as the group of Apaches or experienced fighters from Arizona. This book does not end with the American victory, but includes supplemental material such as muster rolls and letters to the Army headquarters urging evacuation from the island to avoid further spread of malaria and typhoid. Roosevelt’s continued concern for members of his regiment until after he became President is shown in letters. A fascinating account!

In my opinion this book deals more with the hardships and lack of organization of this war then the actual battles. If you want a flavor of poor leadership from the very top then this will be a good read for you. The troops performed very well despite the lack of understanding from the government officials of what the situation was.

Theodore Roosevelt was one of the most extraordinary men ever produced by America. His list of accomplishments would stretch for miles. But the thing he was, perhaps, most proud of was raising

and commanding the 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry (the "Rough Riders") during the Spanish American War. The "crowded hour" he spent leading his men into battle was one of the defining moments of his life. And the pride and love he felt for the men under his command was incredibly strong. This account of the Rough Riders, written by Roosevelt himself, is a thrilling and inspiring story. Some of the writing might sound quaint or sentimental to modern ears, but it reveals the essence of the man. It is a thoroughly enjoyable read. Highly recommended.

I read thus book as research for a fictitious book I'm writing during the time of the Spanish-American war. I really liked how detailed Mr Roosevelt was in writing this, how appreciative he was his men, and how enthusiastic he was to be involved in this war. I have a better appreciation for him, having read this, and a better understanding of that particular war. It was a big help in my research.

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