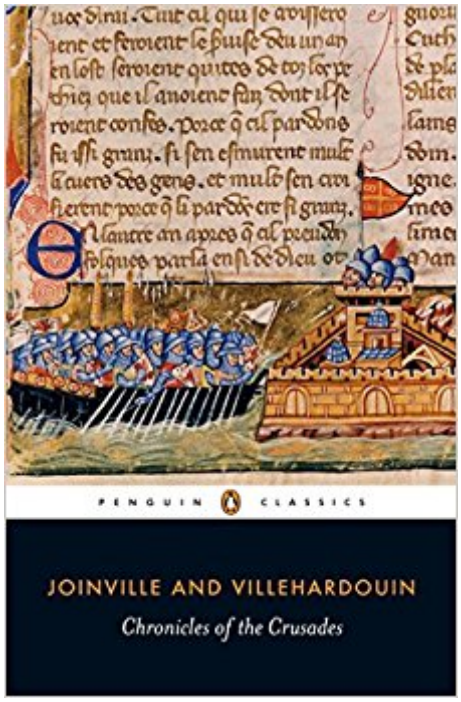
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Chronicles Of The Crusades (Penguin Classics)



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Synopsis

Two famous, firsthand accounts of the holy war in the Middle Ages translated by Caroline Smith Originally composed in Old French, the two chronicles brought together here offer some of the most vivid and reliable accounts of the Crusades from a Western perspective. Villehardouin's Conquest of Constantinople, distinguished by its simplicity and lucidity, recounts the controversial Fourth Crusade, which descended into an all-out attack on the E astern Christians of Byzantium. In Life of Saint Louis, Joinville draws on his close attachment to King Louis IX of France to recall his campaigning in the Holy Land. Together these narratives comprise a fascinating window on events that, for all their remoteness, offer startling similarities to our own age.For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Book Information

Series: Penguin Classics

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Penguin Classics; 1 edition (March 31, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140449981

ISBN-13: 978-0140449983

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1.1 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #33,227 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 inÃ Â Books > History > Middle East > Israel & Palestine #18 inÃ Â Books > History > World > Religious > Islam #18 inÃ Â Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > History

Customer Reviews

Geoffrey of Villehardouin was born in around 1150. In 1185 he was appointed to the office of marshal of Champagne, and having taken the cross in 1199 he was subsequently appointed as an envoy by the leaders of the Fourth Crusade. He was privy to crucial decisions made throughout the course of the crusade, which ended with the conquest of Constantinople from its Greek Christian

rulers in April 1204. His account of The Conquest of Constantinople relates the controversial history of the Fourth Crusade and the early years of the Latin empire from the perspective of a well-informed insider.John of Joinville was born in 1224 or 1225. In 1233 he inherited the office of seneschal of Champagne that would give him a leading role in the administrative affairs of the county. He took the cross for the first crusade led by King Louis IX of France. Joinville became a close friend of Louis IX and after their return to France he was a familiar figure at the royal court. Joinville refused to join Louis on his second crusade and was therefore not present when the king died in 1270. He honoured his friend's memory by giving evidence to the enquiry that established the king's sanctity and by composing The Life of Saint Louis as a record of his holy words and good deeds.

Tougher read, provides an interesting insight into this historic time period.

This is an excellent read about the 4th Crusade, it is well worth reading for anyone interested in this part of our history. I learned things I had really never thought about, and I'm a young 80 years old. I Purchased this through my Kindle which I am seldom without.

Great book for anyone who loves history!!

A favorite of mine, especially the second of this two-book compilation - the Vita St. Louis. Joinvilles vivid first hand account of the seventh crusade makes for a real page turner.

Unlike so many histories,this book tells us what were the impressions,views,and experiences of those who were actually there. The best history of the crusaders' experiences I have read. The author's notes helped give those narratives context.

It was exactly what I needed in my course and for my own intellectual expansion. Clear translation and easy to read.

Good read

These are translations of actual accounts of events related to the Crusades. It you want to get an idea of how these men thought you will want to take a look. Well worth the price.

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