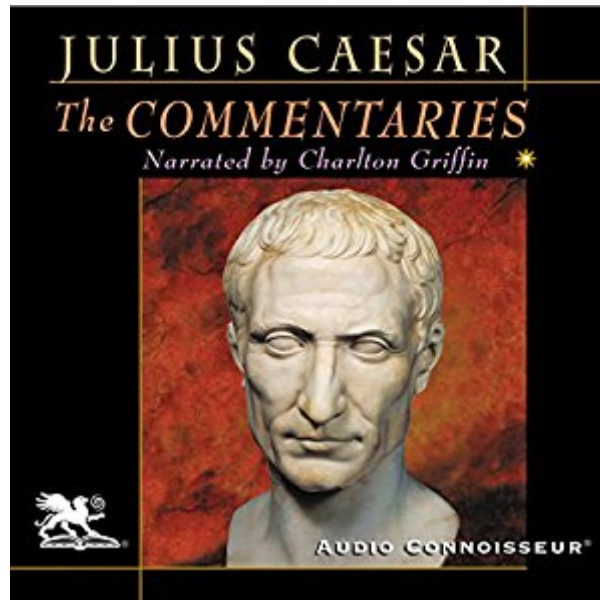




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The Commentaries



Synopsis

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Customer Reviews

Same as "The Commentaries Of Caesar" In hardback. The hardback will be a backup copy in case this one gets frayed!! I was always a big Roman history buff!! I'll enjoy reading this in text form like I did in comic book form in "Classics Illustrated" Ariovistus, Vercingetorix, can't forget names like these!!

The copy of Caesar's Commentaries was in first rate condition as advertised. I was quite pleased with the quality of my purchase.

This is an excellent historical read. It changed my view of Gaius Julius Caesar. Writing is a virtue of Civilization.

Mostly written by Caesar, this book provides an insightful view of ancient warfare from a general's perspective, including such topics as the siege, infantry/calvary interaction, the value of enemy awareness, military engineering, intelligence, moral building, calculated risk, and so on. It also describes such topics as the ancient use of the defeated providing hostages, the temperament of the Celtic tribes, the competition for the areas west of the Rhine (Gaul), the lifestyles and state of civilization of the Germanic tribes (this may be the first recorded account of the Germans), and political strategies. Note that Caesar writes in the third person, which almost makes it seem like it was written by an impartial historian (which is obviously not the case... Hence, its accuracy must be questioned to some degree). The only downside of this book is its translation, which I compare to reading an old version of the bible. Sentences run very long, paragraphs cover entire pages, verbs are placed in odd parts of sentences,.. etc. It takes a while to get through it. It is, however, worth the effort, and is a interesting window into the past.

I am not learned in Latin but the translation did not flow in English. The tenses changed so suddenly and inappropriately that I suspect the translator of being too literal and the end result was difficult to read in English. It gave the impression of one step above a computer translation. I can't imagine Caesar and his scribes being so crude. I must read another edition before I have an opinion on the book-it was difficult and tedious to read. Maps would have been helpful.

I liked the translation--it brought Caesar's style to life. It also seemed to me that the section completed by Caesar's associate was distinct in style, which again made Caesar's more vivid. Be warned, though, that there is absolutely no commentary, which for me was problematic, as it the work clearly has its propaganda elements, and it would be nice to know exactly how much of a stretch some representations are. But for those looking for a straight translation, it's a nice choice.

all as described

Writing was like a legal document. He was a very intelligent and courageous man but after a while the battles wear thin.

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