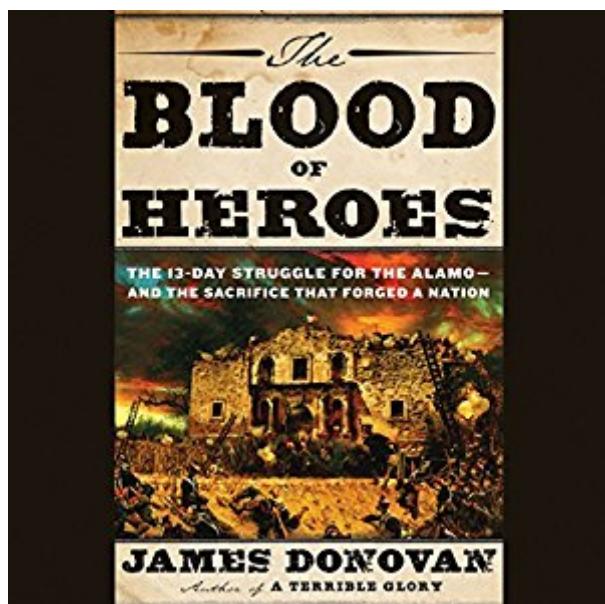


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The Blood Of Heroes: The 13-Day Struggle For The Alamo - And The Sacrifice That Forged A Nation



Synopsis

The Blood of Heroes is the gripping and definitive chronicle of the iconic battle that inspired a nation - a sweeping saga of 200 brave Americans who stood tall against an overwhelmingly superior Mexican force. On February 23, 1836, a Mexican army thousands of soldiers strong attacked a group of roughly 200 Americans holed up in an abandoned mission just east of San Antonio, Texas. For nearly two weeks, the massive force lay siege to the makeshift fort, spraying its occupants with unremitting waves of musket and cannon fire. Then, on March 6th, at 5:30 A.M., the Mexican troops unleashed a final devastating assault: divided into four columns, they rushed into the Alamo and commenced a deadly hand-to-hand fight. The Americans, despite being hugely outnumbered, fought valiantly - for themselves and for a division of an independent Texas. In the end, they were all slaughtered. Drawing upon newly available primary sources, The Blood of Heroes is the definitive account of this epic battle. Populated by larger-than-life characters - including Davy Crockett, James Bowie, and William Barret Travis - it is a dynamic story of courage, sacrifice, and redemption.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 12 hours and 12 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Hachette Audio

Audible.com Release Date: May 15, 2012

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B0083EFUQE

Best Sellers Rank: #66 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Latin America #932 in Books > History > Americas > Mexico #1265 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Military

Customer Reviews

I thoroughly enjoyed James Donovan's book "The Blood of Heroes." I have read many books over the years on the history of the Alamo, the Texas Revolution and fight for independence from Mexico, and individual biographies of many of the Alamo defenders. Donovan offers a fresh perspective. His book is well documented as Donovan cites many sources from his thorough research and offers insights into the many personalities that were drawn to San Antonio in 1836.

This book is more than a rehash about the Battle of the Alamo but an in depth look at the people who had to make the hard choice to stand and fight, knowing that they would most likely perish in the battle. If you are an Alamo "fanatic" or just have a passing interest in Texas history, Donovan's book, "The Blood of Heroes" is a compelling read.

First I want to say I received this book a week before the scheduled day . The book was in excellent condition when I received it . Now to the book. This book is the best told story about the Alamo!!! The author James Donovan took the main characters and decribed how each one ended up at the Alamo. I was reading this book when we visited San Antonio and visited the Alamo. I could not put this book down !!! If you are like me and watched Davy Crockett on television you will really enjoy this book . This book is loaded with history!! Please buy this book if you are interested in the Alamo!! I would give it ten stars if I could !!!

I have read dozens and dozens of books about the 13 day siege and battle of the Alamo and James Donovan's "The Blood of Heroes" is one of the best. Not only does the book contain much new material, acquired through thorough research, but Donovan is an excellent writer. Some of the new material contains the supposition that David Crockett died in the small U-shaped lunette outside the west wall. Donovan writes that after the Mexican column that was attacking the south wall veered towards the southwest corner and left Crockett and his men with nothing to shoot at, the frontiersman and some of his men rushed over to the west wall to add their firepower to the men defending that wall against the attackers from the northwest and southwest. When a source reported that Crockett's body was found in the "small fort opposite the town," Donovan takes this to mean the west wall lunette. Donovan also gives you a short chapter at the end of his book giving new evidence to support the story of Travis drawing the line in the dirt, and the escape of Louis "Moses" Rose. His research is top notch. Donovan's book is even handed, giving the perspective of the Mexicans, the Texans, and even some civilians. It is a great read and a wonderful book. I highly recommend it.

Bought this book during a recent visit to the Alamo. I grew up in Texas, so I knew the general story of the Alamo, but wanted a more comprehensive understanding of the battle. This book definitely gave me a more comprehensive understanding not only of the battle but its significance in Texas history. However, I often found myself lost in the details. Donovan provides a pretty exhaustive account of what happened on both sides of the conflict, but at times, he seems to be listing details

simply for the sake of listing them without using them to illustrate a point or even enhance his story of the Alamo. As a result, I was bored during large portions of the middle book and almost stopped reading several times. I'm glad I stuck with it, however, because the last 100 hundred pages or so (the account of the actual battle and the aftermath) are excellent. Particularly good is the afterward, in which Donovan discusses the debate among historians about the veracity of the story of Travis drawing a line in the sand and explains why he believes the event is historical fact. But the afterward also emphasizes how much better this book could have been. The title had me expecting a book about why the men who died in the Alamo were heroes and how their sacrifice forged a nation. The book illustrates these points, but only indirectly, through a narrative that's bogged down with extraneous details. It would have been a much better book if Donovan had told his story as a way of illustrating particular points and themes regarding Texas history, and included only those details necessary for illustrating his points.

I generally do not read historical non-fiction but I went in search of information regarding the Alamo due to a fiction book I had read. I wanted more in-depth information about it other than "Remember the Alamo." I really had no idea why the battle was fought and definitely did not know it was pivotal in the forming of Texas. I don't know what I was doing during history class in school, but this book made me wish I had paid closer attention. This book was so well written that it did not feel like I was reading a text book. The "story" of the Alamo and events leading up to it unfolded in a natural way that was easy to follow and understand. Just as important was "the rest of the story" after the battle had been fought. In reality it sparked a nation to join in the battle to free the Texians from the dictatorship of Santa Anna and helped "forge a nation."

A great action-adventure tale. The author is able to show how much of what revisionist scholarship has rejected in the accounts passed down of the Alamo is, in all likelihood, true. From the escape over the wall of "Moses Rose, the coward of the Alamo", to Travis' much ridiculed (by liberal intellectuals) line in the sand. This book offers a wonderful reflection on the events of February-March 1836 that led to the success of the Texas revolutionaries.

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