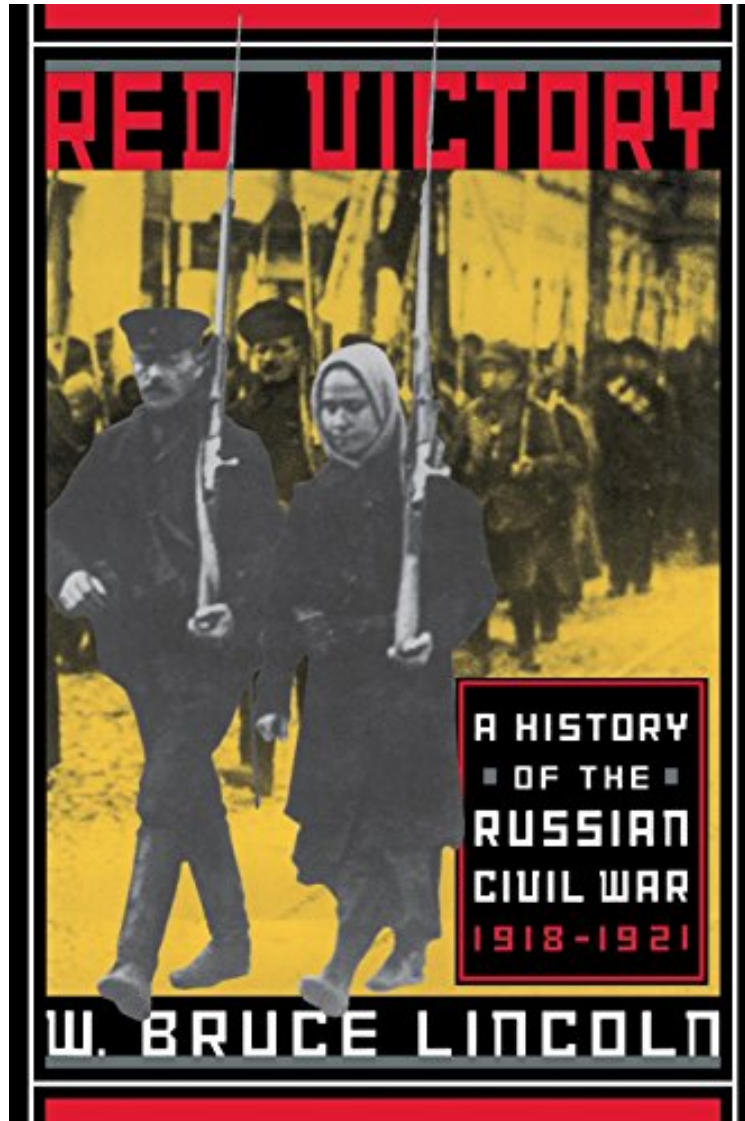


(Download pdf ebook) Red Victory: A History Of The Russian Civil War, 1918-1921

Red Victory: A History Of The Russian Civil War, 1918-1921

W. Bruce Lincoln

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W. Bruce Lincoln : Red Victory: A History Of The Russian Civil War, 1918-1921 before purchasing it in order to
gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Red Victory: A History Of The Russian Civil War,
1918-1921:

37 of 39 people found the following review helpful. Good book on a difficult topic.By Jonathan D. EckelIt is rare to
find a book on any civil war that is both factual and objective. _Red Victory_ is one of the rare exceptions. It is

remarkably unbiased, and tells the stories of both the "Reds" and the "Whites" without taking sides. It also succeeds in presenting the facts of the fast-moving and unconventional Russian Civil War in a format that is easy to read. It covers not only the civil war but the early years of Communist government, as well. Those who want to dig deeper into the various aspects of the conflict will find the abundant footnotes and bibliography to be of great value. The author's greatest achievement is his excellent analysis of why the Reds ultimately prevailed. Unlike those revisionist authors who claim that the Bolsheviks' military triumph was inevitable, W. Bruce Lincoln shows how the Reds were able to make the most of their opportunities and consolidate their gains while the Whites squandered many of their considerable advantages. Neither enjoyed widespread popular support. Both sides were also guilty of atrocities, as the conditions of post-World War I Russia left little room between repression or anarchy. The difference is that the Communists combined repression with reform, and were able to win the reluctant support (or at least toleration) of much of the populace. The Whites, by contrast, even when initially welcomed as liberators, alienated many with their reactionary policies (which included restoring the estates of the hated landowners). Given a choice between "Red Terror" and the Old Order, most Russians opted to take their chances with the former. My only disappointment was the lack of detailed information on the military campaigns of the war. However, this book is much better than *Russia Under the Bolshevik Regime*, by Richard Pipes, which is the only other single-volume work widely available on the topic.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A lose-lose situation -- Paranoid totalitarianism replaces corrupt monarchy

By David Burch

Good insight into the evolution of the Bolshevik state. Very readable. Forms the last volume of a loose trilogy -- see Lincoln's *In War's Dark Shadow* and *Passage Through Armageddon*. Read them in order to get a good picture of the tragedy of Russian history in the early 20th century.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great read!

By gary

The book is a continuation of his previous two books on the Russian Revolution. I found his listing of key characters at the beginning of the book very helpful to further understand their role during and sometimes after the revolution. The pictures add to the realism of what happened. I am sure it was hard to find some of the photos that were included. Having met people who had fled Russia during this time and then reading W Bruce Lincoln's works makes me feel a better informed citizen of our world. Were I an educator these would be mandatory reading in my class. Anyone who is down on life should read these books for an immediate appreciation of life today. I wish the author was alive today so I could thank him.

Shortly after withdrawing from World War I, Russia descended into a bitter civil war unprecedented for its savagery: epidemics, battles, mass executions, forced labor, and famine claimed millions of lives. From 1918 to 1921, through great cities and tiny villages, across untouched forests and vast frozen wasteland, the Bolshevik "Reds" fought the anti-Communist Whites and their Allies (fourteen foreign countries contributed weapons, money, and troops—including 20,000 American soldiers). This landmark history re-creates the epic conflict that transformed Russia from the Empire of the Tsars into the Empire of the Commissars, while never losing sight of the horrifying human cost.

From Publishers Weekly

Battles, epidemics, mass starvation and executions afflicted the Soviet Union from 1918-1921 during the Red Army's clash with the anti-communist Whites. "In this gripping, revelatory history, readers grasp the human cost of the civil war and its permanent impact on Soviet consciousness," reported PW. Photos. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

The final volume in a trilogy encompassing events preceding the tsar's fall (*In War's Dark Shadow*, LJ 5/1/83), the Russian Revolution (*Passage Through Armageddon*, LJ 9/15/86), and the civil war. Covering 1917-21, this weaves together military, political, and social history to describe the Bolshevik triumph over internal conflict to defeat the disparate White opposition and uncertain Allied forces which attacked from all sides. The strength of this and preceding volumes is Lincoln's ability to convert complex, confusing events into lively, compelling human drama, comprehensible to a wide readership. Lincoln employs a wealth of primary sources and contemporary scholarly research, but his survey is aimed at the general reader and beginning student. He succeeds quite well. More popular and expansive than Evan Mawdsley's *The Russian Civil War* (Allen Unwin, 1987), this is recommended for general and undergraduate collections.

- Rena Fowler, Northern Michigan Univ. Lib., Marquette

Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Red Victory is successful because of the author's abiding descriptive powers.... [This book] gives a fairly clear picture of how the great Soviet Union was put together by armed force and then held in place by a ruthless secret police. This is timely information as these dynamic forces are now relaxed and chaos spreads [in the former Soviet Union]".-- New York Times Book