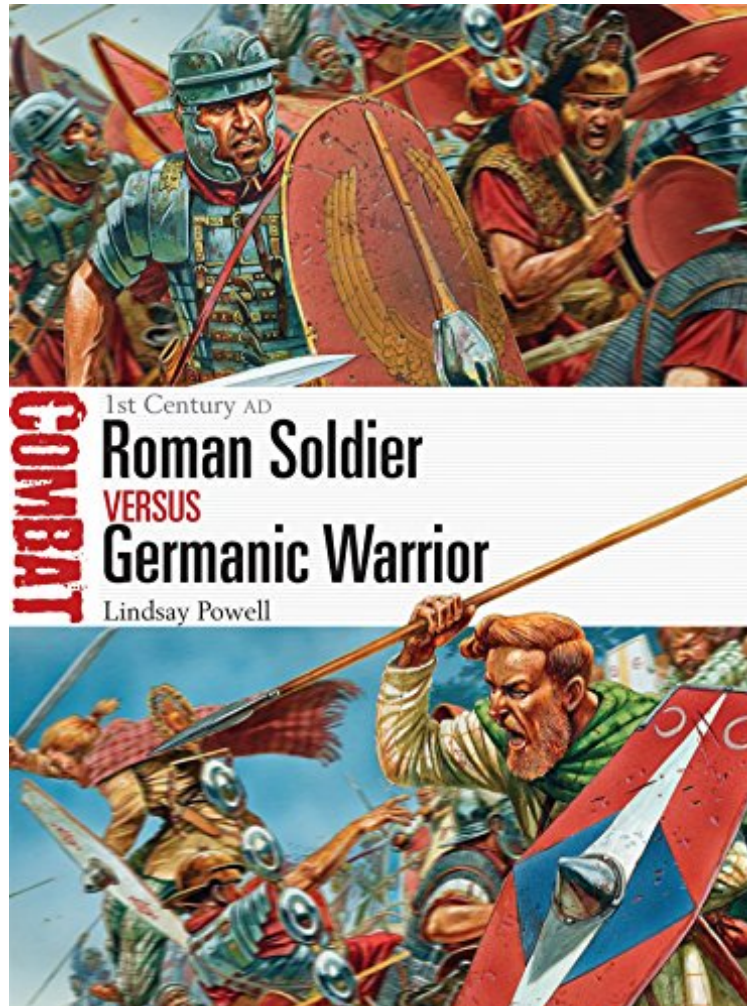


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Lindsay Powell

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Lindsay Powell : Roman Soldier vs Germanic Warrior: 1st Century AD (Combat) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Roman Soldier vs Germanic Warrior: 1st Century AD (Combat):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Basic, Concise Guide to the Roman/Germanic Conflict By Kevin This book provides some great content regarding an explanation of Germanic tribes and Roman forces during the 1st Century CE. It goes into detail about their equipment, organizational hierarchy, formations, and more. The biggest complaint I have is that it doesn't dwell very long on the substantive stuff; all of the previously mentioned topics are covered relatively succinctly in the beginning. It quickly moves on to historical battles, spending a great deal of the book going over every move of every unit on the battlefield. And while that's certainly interesting, it isn't what I bought the book for. I wanted more information on the topics covered in the beginning. It's definitely a basic guide, and

one that comes in a satisfyingly concise volume. But it's not going to plunge very far below the surface. If you're a history buff and just looking into this topic for the first time, then it's absolutely for you. If you're an actual historian and knowledgeable of the time period and the Germanic/Roman conflict, then you might consider looking elsewhere for more advanced reference material. This is basic information meant for general consumption, not academic-level analysis.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The legions of Rome confront the barbarian Germans
By John J. Winsch
A good and very attractively illustrated focused work on a limited period of the lengthy conflict between the "barbarian" Germans and the legions of Rome. It does a nice job of detailing the weapons and the relative strengths and weaknesses of the adversaries. The illustrations of combat are very evocative.

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Continues the Great work on a Great Series
By Rick
I am not a great reader of ancient history, but bought the book as I have enjoyed the others in the series and I do have a little interest in the Roman Legionaire. The book follows the same format as the others, discussing the background, training, equipment, and tactics of the two adversaries. Illustrations and pictures are great. At first I was not enthralled with pictures of re-enactors dressed in the garb of the Germans and Romans, but after looking at them more, I am fine with doing this. The book covers three battles that occurred between these two foes and are well presented. All in all a good purchase.

From the annals of Tacitus we get a one-sided vision of the Romano-Germanic wars. More recent scholarship, including Osprey's Teutoburg Forest Campaign book, paints a more balanced picture. Yet, there's still a lot of ground to cover on the subject. The reigns of Augustus and his successor Tiberius saw an epic struggle between the Romans and local peoples for the territory between the Rhine and Elbe rivers in what is now Germany. Following two decades of Roman occupation, Germania Magna erupted into revolt in AD 9 following the loss of the three legions commanded by Publius Quinctilius Varus to the Cheruscan nobleman Arminius and an alliance of Germanic nations in the dense forests of the Teutoburger Wald. The Romans' initial panic subsided as it became clear that Arminius and his allies could not continue the war into Germania Inferior on the western bank of the Rhine, and Imperial troops poured into the region as the Romans decided how best to resolve the situation. In AD 14 Tiberius' adopted son, Germanicus Caesar, quelled a mutiny among Roman forces in the area, then took his men on a quick punitive raid into Germanic territory. In the following year he snatched the wife and father-in-law of Arminius and located the site of the 'Varian Disaster', where he oversaw burial of the bones of Roman dead and erected a cenotaph. In AD 16 Germanicus set out to engage his Cheruscan adversary and defeat him decisively with a view to tipping the balance of power in the region as a prelude to restoring full Roman control over territory between the Rhine and the Elbe. By that summer, the Germanicus had tracked down Arminius to a location on the Weser River in the region of modern-day Minden. An initial engagement - called the battle of Weser River - ended in a draw when a Roman cavalry charge was repulsed by Arminius' own cavalry and Germanicus withdrew his men. Having transferred his force across the river and camped for the night, he laid out a plan for a set-piece battle with his opponent at a place called the Plain of Idistaviso. Idistaviso was the first battle the Romans won against Arminius since Teutoburg. It proved they could beat him. Despite his unique understanding of both Roman and Germanic strategy and tactics, Arminius' failure to anticipate the Roman defence in depth, compounded by dissimilarities in arms and equipment, and confusion on the ground, made this battle particularly vicious and bloody. Better led and disciplined, and with a robust battle strategy, Germanicus' men decisively defeated Arminius'. At the ensuing battle of the Angrivarian Wall the Romans crushed the Germans again. Featuring full-color artwork, specially drawn maps and an array of revealing illustrations depicting weapons, equipment, key locations and personalities, this study offers key insights into the tactics, leadership, combat performance, and subsequent reputations of the Roman soldiers and their Germanic opponents pitched into a series of pivotal actions on the Imperial frontier that would influence Roman/German relations for decades to come.

About the Author
Lindsay Powell is news editor of Ancient Warfare magazine and author of *Eager for Glory: The Untold Story of Drusus the Elder, Conqueror of Germania* (Pen and Sword, June 2011) and *Germanicus: The Magnificent Life and Mysterious Death of Rome's Most Popular General* (Pen and Sword, January 2013). His articles on armies and warfare of the Roman period have appeared in *Exercitus*, *Military Heritage*, *Strategy Tactics* and on UNRV.com. He is a veteran of the acclaimed Ermine Street Guard re-enactment society. He divides his time between Austin, Texas and Wokingham, UK. The author lives in Austin, TX and Wokingham, UK.