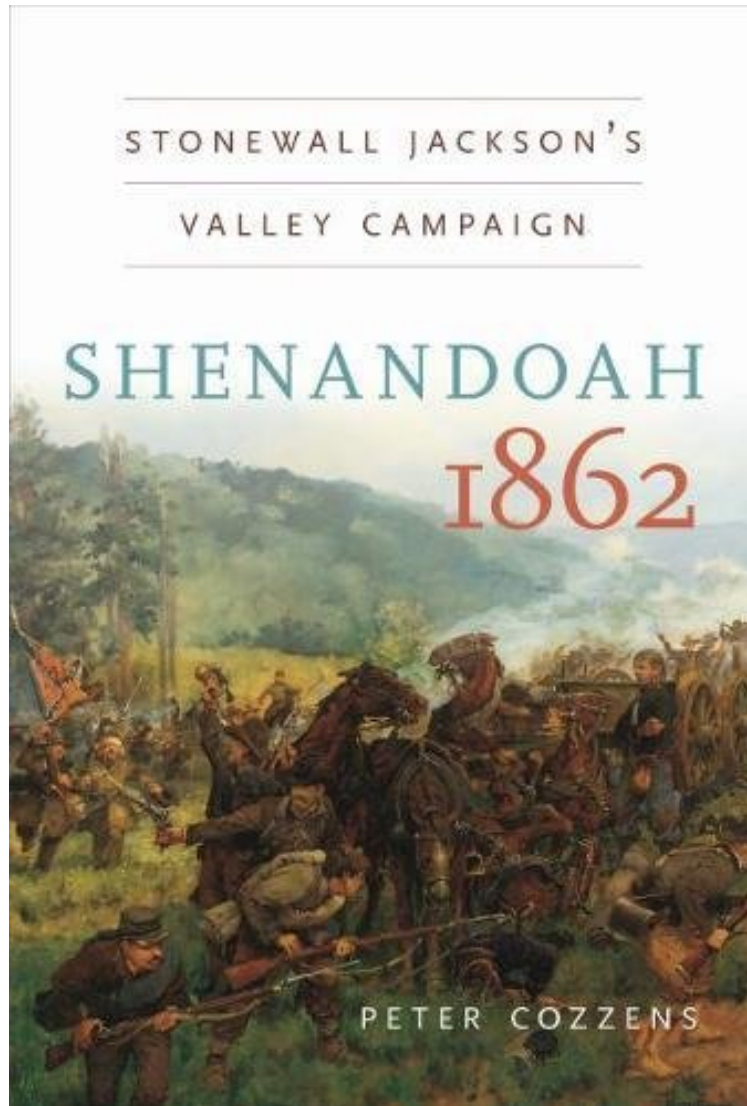


(Ebook free) Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign (Civil War America)

Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign (Civil War America)

Peter Cozzens

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Peter Cozzens : Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign (Civil War America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign (Civil War America):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Balanced, thoroughBy M ZinCozzens gets behind the summary level view of the Shenandoah Campaign as one, big testimony to the genius of Gen. Jackson and the incompetence of the

Union generals. Cozzens, unlike most authors, takes a very objective view of Jackson; chronicling both his failures (Bath-Romney, Kernstown) as well as his successes. And yes, one can't help coming away from this book with the notion that Jackson was an odd sort of person who fought this Campaign in his own "zone". But his biggest contribution may be the perspective he provides on the Union leadership. There certainly were some generals involved here (Fremont in particular) who had no business leading an army. But Cozzens gets at the complexity and scope of the decisions made by the Union command, and shows effectively that the Union had some excellent and highly aggressive leaders who were thwarted in their efforts to pursue Jackson more vigorously. His chronicles of the rest of the Union command - their inconsistencies, doubts, and idiosyncracies - provide a well rounded assessment of a complex situation. The most entertaining aspect of the book, however, is his depiction of the relationships between the citizenry of Winchester, VA, and the occupying Federals. A great read.²¹ of 24 people found the following review helpful. Has Anybody Got a Map???By Bruce KinseyPeter Cozzens has penned a detailed, well written, densely researched account of the endlessly instructive Valley Campaign of 1862. It would be easier to heap praise on his prodigious effort if Cozzens's publisher had loosened up on the purse strings and sprung for some decent maps and illustrations. The Shenandoah Valley is not Kansas or the New Jersey Turnpike, and superior knowledge of its intricate topography was one reason the Confederates came off so well in 1862. Without decent maps to accompany his voluminous descriptions of battles, march routes and villages, Cozzens is forced to waste whole pages describing specific geographic and tactical features. I LIVE in the Shenandoah Valley, but still found myself bewildered by some of these incredibly wordy place descriptions. The few maps included in the book are murky, monochromatic, incredibly hard to read, and on occasion baffling. The devoted reader is best advised to have a good high-scale map of the Shenandoah Valley at hand well before undertaking Cozzens's otherwise exemplary tome.¹ of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great unusual point of viewBy M. Doug EvansMy favorite campaign, the first book that looks at it from both points of view instead of just the south. Lots of insights, of course cozzens is the best civil war writer today and that doesn't hurt. He just gets better from book to book! Buy It!

One of the most intriguing and storied episodes of the Civil War, the 1862 Shenandoah Valley Campaign has heretofore been related only from the Confederate point of view. Moving seamlessly between tactical details and analysis of strategic significance, Peter Cozzens presents a balanced, comprehensive account of a campaign that has long been romanticized but little understood. He offers new interpretations of the campaign and the reasons for Stonewall Jackson's success, demonstrates instances in which the mythology that has come to shroud the campaign has masked errors on Jackson's part, and provides the first detailed appraisal of Union leadership in the Valley Campaign, with some surprising conclusions.

From Publishers WeeklyCozzens (The Darkest Days of the War) is an independent scholar and a master of Civil War military history at tactical and operational levels. He deploys a large body of unfamiliar primary material in this detailed analysis of a campaign less one-sided than the accepted view that it represented Union blundering and the triumph of Confederate planning and execution signaling the emergence of one of history's great generals, Stonewall Jackson. Without debunking Jackson, Cozzens describes a commander still learning his craft. Jackson's obsession with keeping his strategic intention to himself too often left his subordinates confused. As a tactician he tended to commit his forces piecemeal. The Union generals opposing him performed reasonably well in the context of divided command, inadequate logistics and constant micromanaging by Abraham Lincoln. In particular the president's concern for Washington's safety led him to withhold troops from McClellan's Peninsular Campaign—a decision Cozzens reasonably says enhanced McClellan's natural caution. Jackson's victories revitalized a Confederacy whose morale was at its lowest after a string of Union victories. The South now had a new hero, whose personal idiosyncrasies and overt religiosity only enhanced his appeal. 13 illus., 13 maps. (Oct. 10) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Examines, from both sides, a campaign that has been scrutinized from the Confederate side, but rarely closely examined from the Union perspective.--Appalachian HeritageA welcome, much-needed addition to Civil War campaign studies; valuable to scholars and enthusiasts alike. Highly recommended. --ChoiceAn excellent, unbiased view of both sides in the early part of the war and is strongly recommended for those interested in how the soldiers and leadership conducted themselves during the 1862 Shenandoah campaign.--On PointUtilizing his extensive collection of sources, the author paints for the reader an excellent description of the region in which the campaign took place. . . . Cozzens's book, both in its research and scope, will certainly surpass Robert G. Tanner's impressive Stonewall in the Valley as the standard work on the 1862 Valley Campaign.--The HistorianThe definitive history of the Valley Campaign.--Army MagazineCozzens is . . . a master of Civil War military history at tactical and operational levels. He deploys a large body of unfamiliar primary material in this detailed analysis of a campaign less one-sided than the accepted view that it represented Union blundering and the triumph of Confederate planning and execution, signaling the emergence of one of history's great generals, Stonewall Jackson.--Publishers WeeklyCozzens succeeds at recounting a version of this story which offers a more balanced, if not more complete, narrative of the campaign. . . . Cozzens' conclusions are well bolstered, his prose

is clever and accessible to any public or academic audience, and common sense would dictate that Shenandoah 1862 will remain a relevant, if not definitive, look at Jackson and the Valley Campaign for years to come.--H-Net sPeter Cozzens' superb history of events in the Shenandoah Valley provides much greater depth and analysis than any study preceding it, and in the process enhances our larger understanding of the Civil War in the East. . . . Cozzens' artful narrative effectively mines both civilian and military perspectives. . . . This is a first-rate piece of research, well argued and engagingly presented. One can safely say that the history of the 1862 Shenandoah Valley campaign has been written for this generation.--Military History of the WestAble research presented in a careful, accurate, and critical manner. . . . Will become a "must-have" . . . for any serious student interested in the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1862.--H-Net sA fresh look at the 1862 Valley Campaign. . . . Provides a fair discussion of the command and operational issues facing both sides . . . by far the best book . . . on the 1862 Valley Campaign.--Journal of America's Military PastA compelling chronological and bilateral narrative of the entire campaign from March to June 1862. Using primary source materials from both sides, Cozzens offers new interpretations of the campaign and of Stonewall Jackson's legendary success, which was not nearly as brilliant as it appeared but was as much the result of Union failure as the triumph of Southern arms. . . . Jackson's errors are covered here, as are those of a succession of Union commanders, all really learning their trade in these early stages of the war. Sure to become the standard work on the campaign, this book is strongly recommended.--Library JournalA real challenger for the title of best campaign study. . . . Cozzens' lively style combines first person accounts with his considerable skill as a storyteller.--James Durney, independent Book erA fuller, more accurate, and more nuanced understanding of what happened and why. . . . The best overall study of the 1862 Valley Campaign published to date.--North Carolina Historical A must read for those who want to develop a more complete understanding of this essential campaign in Civil War history.--Southern HistorianA magnificent, well-documented study of one of the most important campaigns of the Civil War.--Washington TimesHas the mythos that surrounds Jackson the icon overwhelmed the human foibles and military failures that bedeviled Jackson the man? Cozzens offers a magisterial examination of the Valley Campaign to answer this and many other questions. He brings scrupulous research and a keen analytic eye to Jackson's logistics and tactics. The result is a vigorous account that captures both Union and Confederate perspectives and brings a much needed modern interpretation to one of the war's most storied campaigns.--Civil War TimesCozzens approaches the campaign as a whole, ignoring the exclusively pro-Confederate bias and fragmented approach that has tainted previous histories of the campaign. He also employs a dazzling array of primary resources to analyze the campaign from a balanced point of view.--Journal of Southern HistoryAn incredibly learned and absorbing exercise of history, the best single work on any Civil War campaign to appear in many, many decades.--Open LettersSucceeds masterfully. . . . No work on the Valley Campaign has delved more often and more deeply into primary sources. . . . Historical reporting at its best. . . . Cozzens' research is above reproach.--Louisiana HistoryThorough and balanced.--Register of the Kentucky Historical Society Cozzens uncovered a gratifying body of new primary source material and provides a fresh chronological narrative of a major Civil War campaign.--Robert K. Krick, author of Stonewall Jackson at Cedar MountainWell-written, informative, and entertaining. . . . An important new work giving the Northern perspective while at the same time taking a critical look at Jackson. . . . Highly recommended.--TOCWOC A Civil War BlogDrawing from an impressive array of both Union and Confederate primary sources, Peter Cozzens has produced the most comprehensive and balanced study of the 1862 Shenandoah Valley Campaign to date. A fascinating, in-depth work of scholarship--and a great read!--Kent Masterson Brown, author of Retreat from Gettysburg: Lee, Logistics, and the Pennsylvania CampaignAs campaign literature, this book stands out as a superlative narrative. The sentence structure is succinct, the prose is scintillating, the characters and their environment are vividly portrayed and developed, and the chronology of the campaign is well-placed in chapters bookended by distinct and memorable introductions and conclusions. . . . Stand[s] out as the definitive work on the campaign.--Virginia Magazine of History and Biography[A] well-researched study. . . . The most detailed account we are likely to see on the Valley Campaign.--Roanoke TimesThought provoking. . . . [Cozzens] sets out to correct the record in the first balanced treatment of an iconic campaign in an iconic war. . . . Civil War buffs will gobble up this hefty volume and historians will dive in to agree or disagree with Cozzens' cogent analysis. . . . It doesn't get much better than Peter Cozzens with his trademark combination of solid research swept along by 'you were there' immediacy.--Tennessee Advocate