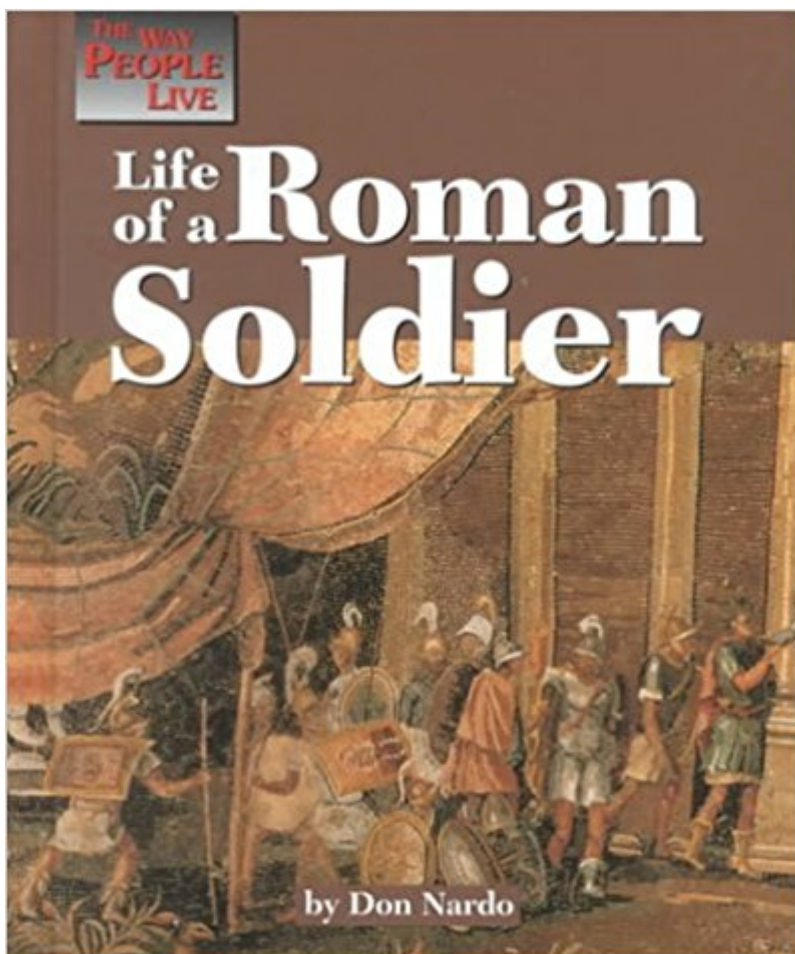


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The Way People Live - Life Of A Roman Soldier



Synopsis

The tough, proud, determined, and courageous Roman soldier constituted the most basic and essential unit of one of history's most formidable armies, the instrument that brought the entire Mediterranean world to its knees. This information-packed overview contains details about army enlistment, training, marching, pay, camp life, weapons, battle tactics, and much more.

Book Information

Age Range: 12 and up

Series: The Way People Live

Hardcover: 108 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

"Information is presented clearly, with a nice selection of interesting detail to illustrate points and a generous sprinkling of footnotes. Numerous black-and-white illustrations include period engravings, documents, paintings, and photographs of artifacts. Photographs showing modern reenactments are clearly labeled. This resource is a solid addition to the existing body of literature." -- School Library Journal (September 2001) (School Library Journal 20010901)"The material is presented objectively and provides welcome insights." -- School Library Journal (January 2002) (School Library Journal 20020101)"The text is richly flavored with quotes as well. Attractive black-and-white photographs and reproductions illustrate the text. This volume provides a thrilling ride." -- School Library Journal (August 2001) (School Library Journal 20010801)"Black-and-white reproductions and maps provide points of reference. Sidebars offer tidbits of interesting information about events, people...This well-organized, slim volume provides many facts for reports." -- School Library Journal (August 2001) (School Library Journal 20010801)"The author's lively, well-researched

narrative details the structure of the culture. This volume..will be a useful addition for units on ancient civilization." -- School Library Journal (June 2001) (School Library Journal 20010601)"An exemplary series entry, this volume does a thorough and realistic job of portraying the realities and horrors...Pertinent primary-source quotations and sidebars permeate the text and are noted in citations. Captioned pictures are scattered throughout. A useful resource for history reports and projects." -- School Library Journal (May 2001) (School Library Journal 20010501)

For anyone looking to find out more about ancient warfare, but particularly about the ancient Roman army, this book is a really good place to start. It tells about the history of the Roman army, and how young Roman men enlisted, and their lives in the army camps, and their weapons, and how they lined up and fought on the battlefield, and even how the Roman army went downhill and eventually fell apart after too many barbarians joined the ranks. Also in the book are some nice diagrams of important battles and also one of a typical army camp. Best of all, the author tells the names of all the important books ever written on the subject! (in a list in the back) The whole thing was very well done.

More detailed works exist on the Roman military, of course. But these are scholarly and are difficult for students and general readers with no background in Roman history. Don Nardo has done a tremendous job here of distilling the main points of the subject in a compact volume for beginners. His explanations of Roman battle tactics are extremely well informed and easy to understand, and several useful diagrams of battle formations and specific battles help make this treatment one of the best existing ones, despite its brevity. As a Roman buff, I recommend it highly.

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