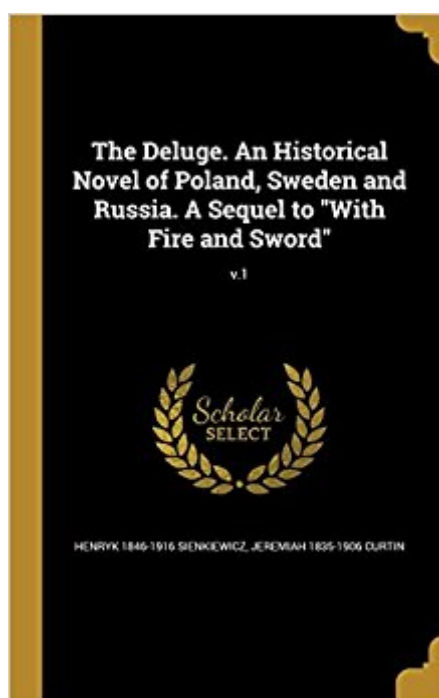


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The Deluge. An Historical Novel Of Poland, Sweden And Russia. A Sequel To With Fire And Sword; V.1



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Book Information

Hardcover

Publisher: Wentworth Press (August 25, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1361752769

ISBN-13: 978-1361752760

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.3 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 33 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,827,638 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #112 in [Books > History > Europe > Scandinavia > Sweden](#) #4536 in [Books > History > Asia > Russia](#) #66630 in [Books > History > World](#)

Customer Reviews

Surrounding himself with murderous libertines and wastrels, wild young Polish soldier Andrei Kmita is misled into treason. But his pure love for spirited Olenka (Aleksandra Billevich) eventually sets him on track and inspires his single-minded mission, the defense of his motherland. It's the middle of the 17th century, and the Polish-Lithuanian commonwealth is crushed in a vise of rebellion and bloody onslaughts by Swedes and Russians. Around the constants of love and war, Polish novelist Sienkiewicz (1846-1916) weaves a fugue of betrayal, redemption, faith and passion. An underlying

theme questions whether people can rise above their time and circumstances. In his massive novel, with its eerie foreshadowing of modern Poland's overthrow of the Soviet yoke, Sienkiewicz (Quo Vadis?) gives a resounding answer. His rounded characters represent all sectors of society in this, the second volume of a trilogy begun in With Fire and Sword. The convincing translation by Polish-born American novelist Kuniczak adds luster to a robust populist epic. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

A mere five years have passed since the knights of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth threw back the Cossack invasion from the East, yet a new and far more dangerous threat appears: Swedish troops are pouring across the northern border. Thus begins Sienkiewicz's sprawling epic sequel to With Fire and Sword (LJ 3/15/91). As in the first novel, the text brings to life an entire 17th-century culture, unfolding like a richly adorned tapestry. Central to the story is Andrei Kmita, a young Lithuanian noble whose ruthlessness obscures his military sagacity and bravery, branding him an outlaw. But for the love of the beautiful Olenka, he undertakes to reshape his character in the forge of battle, and in so doing helps save king, country, and church from the heretic invaders. Beside him fight Volodyovski, Zagloba, and Skshetuski, the principal knights from With Fire and Sword . In many ways, the new saga in which they appear falls short of the high standard set by that magnificent predecessor. The characters are more stiffly predictable, the pace protracted, and the ending too abrupt. Nonetheless, its significance eclipses its flaws, making it essential in any collection.-Paul E. Hutchison, Bellefonte, Pa.Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Unable to obtain "The Deluge" Volume One. "The Deluge" Volume Two is a "page turner". The author's descriptions of life in Poland during the Swedish occupation go from glorious to 'gritty' and all points in between. The chance of surviving a battle was so low, it is incredible that anyone fought at all. The Polish nobility ruled with a 'iron fist'. The king was fortunate if the nobles cooperated. The serfs were fortunate if the nobles stayed away.

I will return this book for a refund. The print is a medium-to-light gray on a white page and the font is so small that I cannot read the book even with a magnifying glass. Too bad; I was looking forward to seeing how the story started in "With Fire and Sword" was continued.

I'd love to review this book, but I can't, because I can't read it. - The print is SO small that I'd need to

use a magnifying glass. Which is too bad, because I've read the first book (With Fire and Sword) twice. SO... check the page count before buying. More pages = larger print.

This is the second part of a trilogy written by a Nobel prize winner for literature (Quo Vadis). If you enjoy historical novels, you are in for a treat. Like with Russian lit, the names are a bit daunting at first, but that soon becomes unimportant as one gets completely absorbed in the characters and the story. Unlike the depressing Russian novels, these were written to "raise the hearts", and despite the tragedy and drama have a very uplifting tone and effect on the reader.

A good book if you like historical novels.

Given as a Christmas gift to my Uncle.

well packed, as described, would deal with again A+++

Henryk Sienkiewicz' Trilogy is a Nobel Prize winner for literature but was never fully translated into English until these editions. His brightly drawn characters are compelling and the story is wide ranging and absorbing.

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