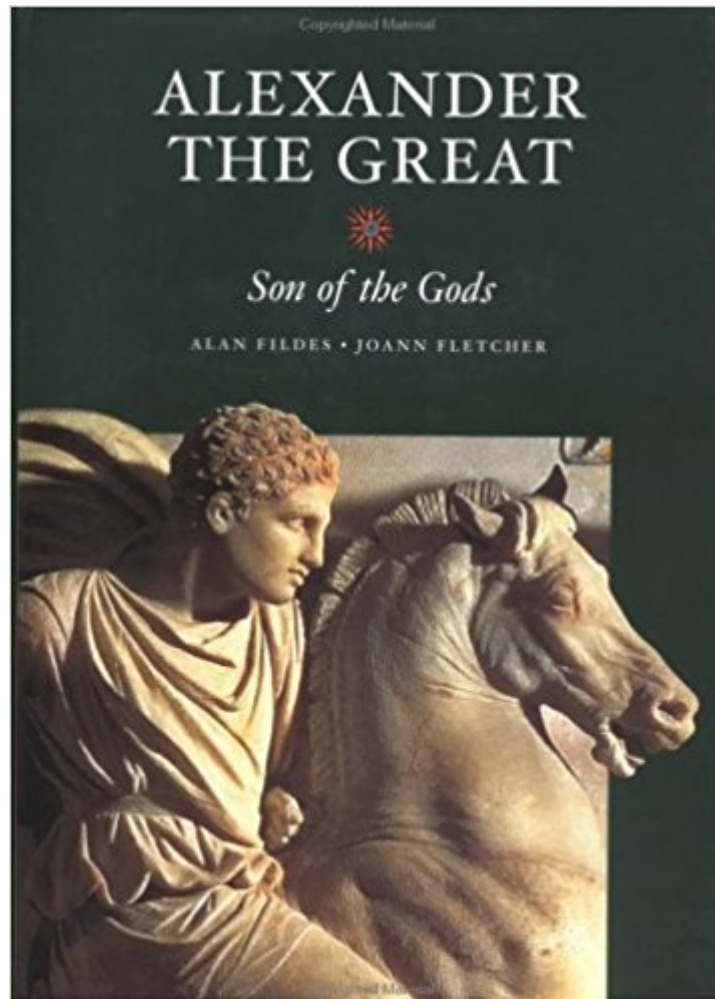


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Alexander The Great: Son Of The Gods



Synopsis

Famous for more than two millennia for the amazing deeds that he accomplished in his short life of thirty-two years, King Alexander III of Macedon is the most celebrated figure of classical antiquity. *Alexander the Great: Son of the Gods* presents, in a year-by-year chronicle, an intimate and fascinating portrait of the man who, in less than two decades, created the greatest empire the world had ever seen and acquired a semi-mythic status that persists today. Among the topics covered are Alexander's family life, including his stormy relationship with his father, King Philip, and the influence of his mother, Queen Olympias; his brilliant leadership, outwitting opponents and inspiring his devoted troops; and his daily life on the march and off duty, whether sharing the hardships of his men or indulging in the renowned bouts of feasting that may have contributed to his early death. Generously illustrated with ancient art from museums around the world, this is an engrossing, accessible biography of a legendary man.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Alexander was, first and foremost, a soldier's soldier. No armchair general, he; he led from the front, and this during an age of warfare when being "in front" was hazardous in the extreme. He was, of course, a brilliant strategist and tactician, but he never forgot his soldiers who carried the fight to his enemy. When they were on campaign, he shared their lot -- food, quarters, hardships, and all -- entirely. And, for this, they gave him their undying loyalty. Discipline, courage, fortitude, vision -- these, and many more -- are the characteristics that made Alexander III truly great. This book captures the sense of Alexander, his relationships and his achievements extremely well. Never

ponderous, it nevertheless completely describes his singular achievements. This is also a very "visual" reading experience. The illustrations, maps and photographs complement the reading and enhance the reader's understanding very well. This is a thoroughly enjoyable reading experience.

Two classical scholars have collaborated, using the resources of the Getty Museum of Los Angeles, to provide in a short compass a stunning presentation of the present state of knowledge of the life and times of the greatest general in the history of the world. Full-color illustrations, with informative identifications, accompany every page. The treatment of sources is short but exemplary: the reader is informed to what extent sources disagree and who wrote them. Most impressively the archeological work of the last few decades is incorporated into the traditional story seamlessly and with great authority. It is unfortunate that the maps are by no means adequate to convey the meaning of the text: places, provinces, battlefields are mentioned and described but absent from the rudimentary maps. The reference value of this beautiful work of art is enough to justify its purchase.

This is a fantastic book and certainly gives a valuable insight into Alexander the Great and Ancient Greece. You can tell from the level of detail within the book that the authors have tried to give the reader as much information about Alexander and his life as one of the world's greatest conquerors. A must read!!

I gave this book 5 stars for its concise approach, beautiful photographs, and chronological narrative that gives even a complete Greek historical novice a valuable insight into this incredible man. I found the book very easy to read, absorbing, and never felt weighed down with pages and pages of ancient descriptive text. If you want to find out about Alexander, this book is by no means an all-encompassing reference but it does give you the chief salient points, as a companion to the movie, or a documentary you may have watched, and makes for fascinating reading. As you try and imagine yourself in 340BC, just stop and think as you read, and the exploits and achievements made by Alexander and his army have probably never been equaled to this day. Another thing I love about this book, is a lot of map referencing. It's easy to wax on about Sogdiana and Sogdiana without knowing where there are on a map today, seeing the geography of today in comparison, only widens the sense of wonder, but does help put the history in even more perspective. Highly recommended book. 5 Stars

This is a wonderful book. It has wonderful full page color photographs and a clear and concise story.

I have a number of books about Alexander the Great and this is a really excellent addition to my library. I recommend it highly especially for anyone who is just beginning to explore the life of Alexander the Great.

The writing is clear and readable; the book would be accessible to a 7th grader, upward. The book is essentially an extended encyclopedia entry. The conventional account is asserted; no (or little) debate of facts burdens the story. It contains numerous illustrations of high quality, including maps with Alexander's movements delineated.

Alexander was a hell of a guy. I'm 31 years old and I've only done like a quarter of the stuff this dude pulled off before he was my age. But I plan on living lot longer than him so don't be too hard on me. Anyways, this is a great coffee table book. It's not super in depth, but features a fairly complete history of Alexander and his culture of conquests, and has excellent pictures. Lots of maps, photos of ancient Greek relics from museums and statues and carvings and such. Class up your city apartment by approximately 23% with "Alexander the Great: Son of the Gods" by Alan Fildes.

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