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Trench Talk Trench Life: A Beginner's Guide To World War One



Synopsis

This concise, handsomely illustrated, boots-on-the ground guide provides a unique introduction to life on the Western Front during World War I. Readers will learn about the drastic living circumstances of characters Tommy Atkins, Poilu, and Doughboy, respectively the foot soldiers of Britain, France, and the United States. We all know something of how these men existed in muddy trenches, subject to shelling, snipers and waiting for the next Big Push; but it is through the unique vocabulary of those troops, with their newly coined words, slang, and euphemisms that we can most easily enter their world. Readers will learn the meaning behind the long lost wartime language of these soldiers, with such words and phrases as: Black Hand Gang, Ace, Crummy, Barker, Dud, Come-alongs, Hush-hush, and Over the top. Based on extensive research, *Trench Talk Trench Life* is a wide-ranging and sympathetic look at the lives of initially patriotic, but ultimately tenacious front line soldiers of the Western Front.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Levity and fashion are two words not often associated with books on WWI, but both are present here, along with plenty of information about the actual lived experience of trench warfare. (Publishers Weekly)

Fredric Winkowski is a publishing professional with experience as an author, designer, illustrator, photographer, and art director. His interest in World War I goes back to grade school. Winkowski has flown old biplanes, met collectors, and examined and photographed nearly every existing WWI

infantry weapon. He's collaborated with experts on military history and even participated in WWI reenactments, experiencing trench-life firsthand. Winkowski is a publishing professional. Born in Cohoes, NY, he splits his time between New York, NY and Seattle, WA.

I don't usually write reviews, but I was so impressed with this book that I had to. I received it as a gift and I couldn't be happier. The author paints a picture of daily life during World War One
and the sights, sounds, and even tastes in the trenches. With beautiful illustrations and fascinating anecdotes it's an immersive approach to history. You can't see this in the cover photo, but the title is a metallic gold and it comes with a gold ribbon to keep your place
and it's beautifully printed and looks great on our coffee table. Do yourself a favor and buy it as a gift for yourself.

I know the author personally and watched him draw the illustrations and compile the extensive research that went into this book. The book is so unique because of Fred's artistic ability and exhaustive research; it truly paints a picture of what life was like for a soldier in World War One. You will not find another book that takes this approach of the language and the life of a World War One soldier. The drawings alone are worth buying this treasure about a time that now seems so far in the past. Pat Anderson

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