



## Red Victory: A History Of The Russian Civil War, 1918-1921

By *W. Bruce Lincoln*

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Shortly after withdrawing from World War I, Russia descended into a bitter civil war unprecedented for its savagery: epidemics, battles, mass executions, forced labor, and famine claimed millions of lives. From 1918 to 1921, through great cities and tiny villages, across untouched forests and vast frozen wasteland, the Bolshevik "Reds" fought the anti-Communist Whites and their Allies (fourteen foreign countries contributed weapons, money, and troops—including 20,000 American soldiers). This landmark history re-creates the epic conflict that transformed Russia from the Empire of the Tsars into the Empire of the Commissars, while never losing sight of the horrifying human cost.

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## **Red Victory: A History Of The Russian Civil War, 1918-1921** By W. Bruce Lincoln Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #177188 in Books
- Published on: 1999-05-07
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.50" w x 6.00" l, 2.00 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 640 pages

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### **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Shortly after the Soviet Union withdrew from WW I, the Red Army confronted the Whites, staunch opponents of communism who were aided by an interventionist militia led by the U.S., Britain and France. Millions died in the civil war of 1918-1921, as battles, epidemics, mass starvation and executions racked the nation, and as the Cheka, or secret police, sent countless people to death in labor camps. Anti-Semitic massacres swept the Ukraine. In this gripping, revelatory history, readers grasp the human cost of the civil war and its permanent impact on Soviet consciousness. Lincoln ( *In War's Dark Shadow ; Passage Through Armageddon* ) uncovers fanaticism, terror and elitist politics among both Reds and Whites, peopling his canvas with memorable figures including a truculent Lenin, stormy poet Vladimir Mayakovsky and Aleksandra Kollontai, champion of women's rights and sexual liberation. Photos.  
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From Library Journal

The final volume in a trilogy encompassing events preceding the tsar's fall ( *In War's Dark Shadow*, LJ 5/1/83), the Russian Revolution ( *Passage Through Armageddon*, LJ 9/15/86), and the civil war. Covering 1917-21, this weaves together military, political, and social history to describe the Bolshevik triumph over internal conflict to defeat the disparate White opposition and uncertain Allied forces which attacked from all sides. The strength of this and preceding volumes is Lincoln's ability to convert complex, confusing events into lively, compelling human drama, comprehensible to a wide readership. Lincoln employs a wealth of primary sources and contemporary scholarly research, but his survey is aimed at the general reader and beginning student. He succeeds quite well. More popular and expansive than Evan Mawdsley's *The Russian Civil War* (Allen & Unwin, 1987), this is recommended for general and undergraduate collections.  
- Rena Fowler, *Northern Michigan Univ. Lib., Marquette*  
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Review

"Red Victory is successful because of the author's abiding descriptive powers.... [This book] gives a fairly clear picture of how the great Soviet Union was put together by armed force and then held in place by a ruthless secret police. This is timely information as these dynamic forces are now relaxed and chaos spreads [in the former Soviet Union]".

-- New York Times Book Review

### **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Denise Welton:**

The knowledge that you get from *Red Victory: A History Of The Russian Civil War, 1918-1921* is the more deep you excavating the information that hide into the words the more you get considering reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to understand but *Red Victory: A History Of The Russian Civil War, 1918-1921* giving you joy feeling of reading. The copy writer conveys their point in a number of way that can be understood simply by anyone who read the idea because the author of this book is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. That makes it easy to understand

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