

The Spartans World Of Warrior Heroes Ancient Greece Paul Anthony Cartledge

Thirty dramatic, full-page illustrations depict the Spartan devotion to military training plus scenes of festivals, worship, and work. Portrayals of famous conflicts include the Battle of Thermopylae and episodes from the Peloponnesian wars. 480 B. C. Proud Xerxes, Emperor of Persia and King of Kings, invades Greece with a million soldiers. He commands thousands of ships and is supported by dozens of allies, among them the charming Queen Artemisia. At Thermopylae, a rocky mountain pass in northern Greece, the feared and admired Spartan soldiers stood three hundred strong. Theirs was a suicide mission, to hold the pass against the invading millions of the mighty Persian army. Day after bloody day they withstood the terrible onslaught, buying time for the Greeks to rally their forces. Born into a cult of spiritual courage, physical endurance, and unmatched battle skill, the Spartans would be remembered for the greatest military stand in history. One that would not end until the rocks were awash with blood, leaving only one gravely injured Spartan squire to tell the tale. Read how The Spartans became the strongest warriors in history. Scroll to the top of the page and click Add To Cart to read more about this extraordinary forgotten chapter of history

The image of Sparta, and the Spartans, is one dyed indelibly into the public consciousness: musclebound soldiers with long hair and red cloaks, bearing shiny bronze shields emblazoned with the Greek letter lambda. 'This is Sparta!', bellows Leonidas on the silver screen, as he decides to lead his 300 warriors to their deaths at Thermopylae. But what was Sparta? The myths surrounding Sparta are as old as the city itself. Even in antiquity, Sparta was a unique society, considered an enigma. The Spartans who fought for freedom against the Persians called themselves 'equals' or peers, but their equality was reliant on the ruthless exploitation of the indigenous population known as helots. The Spartans' often bizarre rules and practices have the capacity to horrify as much they do to fascinate us today. Athenian writers were intrigued and appalled in equal measure by a society where weak or disabled babies were said to have been examined carefully by state officials before being dumped off the edge of a cliff. Even today their lurid stories have shaped our image of Sparta; a society in which cowards were forced to shave off half their beards, to dress differently from their peers, and who were ultimately shunned to the extent that suicide seemed preferable. Equally appalling to us today is the brutal krypteia, a Spartan rite of passage where teenagers were sent into the countryside armed with a knife and ordered to eliminate the biggest and most dangerous helots. But the truth behind these stories of the exotic other can be hard to discover, lost amongst the legend of Sparta which was even perpetuated by later Spartans, who ran a thriving tourist industry that exaggerated the famed brutality of their ancestors. As Andrew Bayliss explores in this book, there was also much to admire in ancient Sparta, such as the Spartans' state-run education system which catered even to girls, or the fact that Sparta was almost unparalleled in the pre-modern world in allowing women a clear voice, with no fewer than forty sayings by Spartan women preserved in our sources. This book reveals the best and the worst of the Spartans, separating myth from reality.

This pivotal history of the kings of Sparta not only describes their critical leadership in war, but also documents the waxing and waning of their social, political, and religious powers in the Spartan state.
• Numerous translations by the author of original sources
• Chronology history from the Dorian Invasion (ca. 1000 BC) to the last king of Sparta (mid-2nd century BC)
• Illustrations of the kings of Sparta, gods, and heroes, as well as diagrams of battles and family trees
• Maps of Laconia, the Peloponnesus, and Greece
• A bibliography containing ancient and modern sources for Sparta

The Three Mentors

An Epic Novel of the Battle of Thermopylae

Greek Warriors
Birth of a Warrior
Spartans: A Captivating Guide to the Fierce Warriors of Ancient Greece, Including Spartan Military Tactics, the Battle of Thermo

This is the first book-length examination of Spartan women, covering over a thousand years in the history of women from both the elite and lower classes. Classicist Sarah B. Pomeroy comprehensively analyzes ancient texts and archaeological evidence to construct the world of these elusive though much noticed females. Sparta has always posed a challenge to ancient historians because information about the society is relatively scarce. Most existing scholarship on Sparta concerns the military history of the city and its heavily male-dominated social structure--almost as if there were no women in Sparta. Yet perhaps the most famous of mythic Greek women, Menelaus' wife Helen, the cause of the Trojan War, was herself a Spartan. Written by one of the leading authorities on women in antiquity, Spartan Women reconstructs the lives and the world of Sparta's women, including how their status changed over time and how they held on to their surprising autonomy. Proceeding through the archaic, classical, Hellenistic, and Roman periods, Spartan Women includes discussions of education, family life, reproduction, religion, and athletics.

***Includes pictures *Includes ancient accounts describing the Spartan military *Includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading *Includes a table of contents "The only men in the world with whom war brought a respite from training for war." - Plutarch's description of Spartan warriors "The walls of Sparta were its young men, and its borders the points of their spears." - attributed to King Agesilaos There have been no shortage of great warrior societies in history, including the Romans, Mongols, Macedonians, and Vikings, the list goes on. Yet one humble city in particular, nestled in a valley near the Eurotas river in the Greek region of the Peloponnese and once ridiculed as little more than a cluster of villages inhabited by uncouth shepherds, produced the most famous warrior elite the world has ever known. The most unique city-state in Ancient Greece was Sparta, which continues to fascinate contemporaneous society. It is not entirely clear why Sparta placed such a great emphasis on having a militaristic society, but the result was that military fitness was a preoccupation from birth. If a Spartan baby did not appear physically fit at birth, it was left to die. Spartan children underwent military training around the age of 7 years old, and every male had to join the army around the age of 18. The Spartans, whose carefully constructed approach to warfare and - there is no other word for it - Spartan way of life, earned the grudging admiration of all of Greece and succeeded in establishing themselves in the years following the reforms of the semi-legendary ruler Lycurgus as the greatest military force in all of Hellas. Athens might have the mightiest fleet and the greatest cadre of philosophers and dramatists, Thessaly might have had the most vaunted cavalry, and the great city-states of Argos, Thebes and Corinth all had their own claims to fame, but on the battlefield the Spartan phalanx stood without peer. So feared were they in Greece that their very appearance on the battlefield could cause entire enemy armies to flee in terror, and in one of history's most famous battles, 300 Spartan warriors headed a combined Greek force which held off the hundreds of thousands of Persian warriors of Xerxes's invading army for three days at Thermopylae, inflicting an estimated 20,000 casualties upon them before dying to the last man rather than retreating. Sparta will forever be known for its military prowess, but they had lives off the battlefield as well, and their way of life was also unique. For example, Spartan females were formally educated, which was a rarity among the city-states, and the Spartan way of life was entirely dependent on a class of indentured servants known as the helots. Yet the Laws of Lycurgus, which ordered all Spartans to disregard art (with the exception of song, which the Spartans prized, and some forms of music and poetry), to distrust philosophy, and to abhor excess in all things, were designed to create the perfect warrior society, and they did. As a result, the Spartans became notorious for "Laconic phrases." The Spartan Military: The History and Legacy of the Ancient World's Most Renowned Army looks at the history of the Spartan military, and how it became one of the most fearsome fighting forces in history. Along with pictures depicting important people, places, and events, you will learn about the Spartan military like never before.**

A tale inspired by the battles of ancient Greek military leader Epaminondas is told through the eyes of a farmer who leaves his home to serve under the general and who is swept up against his better judgment in the fervor to bring democracy to regions oppressed by the Spartans. A first novel by the historian author of The Father of Us All. 40,000 first printing.

A dramatic account of the 480 B.C. battle between the Persian forces of King Xerxes and the Spartans under King Leonidas links the battle's events and outcome to today's world, explaining how the invasion of Europe redefined international culture and class organization. Reprint.

The World of the Warrior-heroes of Ancient Greece, from Utopia to Crisis and Collapse

Sparta!
Spartan Warrior 735-331 BC
Spartan Reflections
The Spartan Military
The Spartan Regime

Profiles the culture and civilization of the Spartans of ancient Greece, detailing the lives of such figures as King Leonidas, Helen of Troy, and Lysander, and considering how their achievements, values, and standards have impacted history's perspectives on heroism. Reprint. 20,000 first printing.

The two-volume A Companion to Sparta presents the first comprehensive, multi-authored series of essays to address all aspects of Spartan history and society from its origins in the Greek Dark Ages to the late Roman Empire. Offers a lucid, comprehensive introduction to all aspects of Sparta, a community recognised by contemporary cities as the greatest power in classical Greece Features in-depth coverage of Sparta history and culture contributed by an international cast including almost every noted specialist and scholar in the field Provides over a dozen images of Spartan art that reveal the evolution of everyday life in Sparta Sheds new light on a modern controversy relating to changes in Spartan society from the Archaic to Classical periods

While Achilles and the other heroes who fought in the Trojan War are, as far as we know, fictional, the warriors of Ancient Greece are nearly as fascinating. The volume traces the evolution of the ancient Greek warrior, from the Persian Wars, the Peloponnesian War, to the rise of Macedonia under Philip II and Alexander the Great. Attention is paid to infantry, including the famous hoplites, cavalry, and naval forces. Sidebars highlight key concepts and figures, while photographs of ancient sculpture, vase paintings, and artifacts offer a glimpse into this distant world.

The Three Mentors takes you into a world of angels, warriors and learned men that is common to all world religions. This is the true story of the amazing works of faith by one of the altruistic and patriotic men in the history of America.

Warrior Theodore of the Spartans - the Battle for the Soul

The Basis of the Cult Classic Film

A Spartan Love

Unleash The Spartan Warrior Within And Conquer Your Most Ambitious Goals: Why The Spartans Disliked Pleasure

300 Quotes, Facts and Sayings of History's Greatest Warriors

A Captivating Guide to the Fierce Warriors of Ancient Greece, Including Spartan Military Tactics, the Battle of Thermopylae, How Sparta Was Ruled, and More
Unless you've been living under a rock for the last 12 years, you know of the movie 300, which brought the might, willpower, and strength of the Spartans of ancient Greece to the cinema. In this book, we will discuss the way the Spartans raised their children, why they were so feared, what they used to create their empire and how their reign finished. For many, the last stand of King Leonidas and his 300 soldiers is what comes to mind when they think of the Spartans. This last stand was held at the gates of Thermopylea against the Persian Army. They held off the Persians for three days and they were able to save Greece, even though they perished in the end.These warriors would not have stopped fighting. It was their motto to fight to the end. No Spartan ever returned home after a defeat. They fought until they died.

WARS CHANGE, WARRIORS DON'T We are all warriors. Each of us struggles every day to define and defend our sense of purpose and integrity, to justify our existence on the planet and to understand, if only within our own hearts, who we are and what we believe in. Do we fight by a code? If so, what is it? What is the Warrior Ethos? Where did it come from? What form does it take today? How do we (and how can we) use it and be true to it in our internal and external lives? The Warrior Ethos is intended not only for men and women in uniform, but artists, entrepreneurs and other warriors in other walks of life. The book examines the evolution of the warrior code of honor and "mental toughness." It goes back to the ancient Spartans and Athenians, to Caesar's Romans, Alexander's Macedonians and the Persians of Cyrus the Great (not excluding the Garden of Eden and the primitive hunting band). Sources include Herodotus, Thucydides, Plutarch, Xenophon, Vegetius, Arrian and Curtius--and on down to Gen. George Patton, Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, and Israeli Minister of Defense, Moshe Dayan.

Describes in graphic novel format the Spartans, the ancient Greek warriors.

If you want to discover the captivating history of Sparta, then keep reading... Sparta is one of the first names that comes to mind when we think about the ancient world. And this is for good reason.

After its founding sometime in the 10th century BCE, Sparta soon rose to be one of the most powerful city-states in not only the Greek but the entire ancient world. Its unique government, which featured two kings and an elected senate, helped it achieve relative political stability early on in its history, and Spartan leaders were able to use this to expand their power and influence in the region surrounding Sparta as well as the rest of the Peloponnesian Peninsula. Perhaps the most significant achievement in all of Spartan history, though, was their defeat of the Athenians in the Peloponnesian War. This conflict, which lasted roughly 30 years, put the two greatest Greek city-states of the time, Athens and Sparta, up against one another, and the result, a Spartan victory, helped to reshape the entire ancient world. It ushered in a period of Spartan hegemony which was radically different than when the Athenians sat atop the Greek world. Unfortunately for the Spartans, though, their time spent as the leaders of the Greek world would be short-lived. Alliances were made between recent and past enemies, and these coalitions were able to overwhelm the Spartans and force them to surrender. After this, Sparta would fall in prominence, but it would continue to be important when the Romans took control of most of the Mediterranean and western Asia. Nevertheless, we should not take the fact that Sparta eventually fell from prominence as a sign that their time was not a great one. A unique appetite for collaboration helped to produce a truly unique form of government, and a keen understanding of what makes an army great helped Sparta grow from a collection of five small villages at the beginning of the last millennium BCE into a thriving Greek polis that would come to sit atop the entire Greek world. In Spartans: A Captivating Guide to the Fierce Warriors of Ancient Greece, Including Spartan Military Tactics, the Battle of Thermopylae, How Sparta Was Ruled, and More, you will discover topics such as Who Were the Spartans The Growth of Spartan Power: The Messenian Wars A Growing Rivalry with Athens: The Greco-Persian Wars Victory over Athens: The Birth of the Spartan Empire Spartan Hegemony, the Corinthian War, and Sparta's Decline Spartan Government, Military, and Society And much, much more! So if you want to learn more about the Spartans, scroll up and click the "add to cart" button!

Shattering the Myth of Spartan Warrior Supremacy

Spartans

Sparta: Rise of a Warrior Nation

The End of Sparta

A Novel

Amazons of Black Sparta

The Spartans is a compelling narrative that explores the culture and civilization of the most famous "warrior people": the Spartans of ancient Greece, by the world's leading expert in the field. Sparta has often been described as the original Utopia--a remarkably evolved society whose warrior heroes were forbidden any other trade, profession, or business. As a people, the Spartans were the living exemplars of such core values as duty, discipline, the nobility of arms in a cause worth dying for, sacrificing the individual for the greater good of the community (illustrated by their role in the battle of Thermopylae), and the triumph of will over seemingly insuperable obstacles--qualities that today are frequently believed to signify the ultimate heroism. Paul Cartledge is the distinguished scholar and historian who has long been seen as the leading international authority on ancient Sparta. He traces the evolution of Spartan society--the culture and the people, as well as the tremendous influence they had on their world and even ours. He details throughout the narrative the lives of such illustrious and myth-making figures as Lycurgus, King Leonidas, Helen of Troy (and Sparta), and Lysander, and explains how the Spartans, although they placed a high value on masculine ideals, nevertheless allowed women an unusually dominant and powerful role--unlike Athenian culture with which the Spartans are so often compared. In resurrecting the ancient culture and society of the Spartans, Cartledge delves deep into ancient texts and archeological sources and complements his text with illustrations that depict original Spartan artifacts and drawings, as well as examples of representational paintings from the Renaissance onwards--including J.L. David's famously brooding "Leonidas." This illuminating volume that ties in with the PBS television series of the same name, airing in the summer of 2003.

This is Sparta! Are you ready to enter the fascinating world of Ancient Greece? Do you want to understand the unique warrior culture of the famous Spartans? Would you like to live like a Spartan? If so, you must read Sparta: The Ultimate Greek Warriors: Everything You Need To Know About the Spartan Civilization! Inside this amazing book, you'll discover the military culture of this iconic city-state. By exploring the culture, society, politics, and conflicts of the Spartans, you can gain a new understanding of this noble tribe. You can even apply these lessons to your modern life! Read this inspirational book today and feel the power of Sparta! This engaging book describes many aspects of Spartan life: - Spartan Military Training and Weapons - Sparta's Kings, Helots, and Social Classes - The Roles of Spartan Men, Women, and Children - The Spartan Army and its Famous Battles - Spartan Clothing, Culture, and Daily Life - Spartan Culture, Architecture, and Death Rites It even describes how the Spartan military state finally came to an end! Don't wait another minute to engage with the enduring legacy of the Spartan people. Start reading Sparta: The Ultimate Greek Warriors: Everything You Need To Know About the Spartan Civilization right away by scrolling up and clicking the BUY button. You'll be so glad you took the time to read this timeless tale of struggle and victory! NATIONAL BESTSELLER • "Steven Pressfield brings the battle of Thermopylae to brilliant life."—Pat Conroy At Thermopylae, a rocky mountain pass in northern Greece, the feared and admired Spartan soldiers stood three hundred strong. Theirs was a suicide mission, to hold the pass against the invading millions of the mighty Persian army. Day after bloody day they withstood the terrible onslaught, buying time for the Greeks to rally their forces. Born into a cult of spiritual courage, physical endurance, and unmatched battle skill, the Spartans would be remembered for the greatest military stand in history—one that would not end until the rocks were awash with blood, leaving only one gravely injured Spartan squire to tell the tale. . . .

A first entry in a new epic series set during the fifth-century BC war between Athens and Sparta finds Plataea resident Nicias dreaming of glory in the Olympic games only to find himself leading a ragtag band of defenders in the wake of a surprise attack. By the award-winning author of The Wisdom of the Shire.

Its Character, Origins and Grand Strategy

Sparta

Three Hundred Theban Lovers Fighting to Save Greek Freedom

Mightiest Warriors, Fairest Kingdom

A Companion to Sparta

Leonidas and the Kings of Sparta: Mightiest Warriors, Fairest Kingdom

DO YOU HAVE THE STRENGTH--TO STOP AN ENTIRE ARMY? In just one month, the high-intensity workouts in this book can give you the jaw-dropping physique of history's greatest soldiers. Spartan Warrior Workout takes you from merely being in shape to having the strength and withstand the ultimate test. Whether you're a veteran in the weight room or a new recruit, Spartan Warrior Workout will challenge you like nothing you have ever tried before:
* Arms and shoulders are sculpted with kettlebell cleans and presses
* Abs are toned with windmills a are strengthened with kettlebell swings and pull-ups
* Chest is chiseled with bench presses and push-ups
* Legs and glutes are shaped with jumping lunges and squats
More than just exercises, the book's guidelines on active rest, pre-hab and nutrition will help keep your body you push yourself to the limit and reach higher levels of fitness.

The author of Sparta: Rise of a Warrior Nation continues his revealing history of the Ancient Greek city-state in this chronicle of its decline and defeat. Universally admired in 479 BC, the Spartans became masters of the Greek world by 402 BC, only for their state to collapse in

What went wrong? Was the fall of Sparta inevitable? In Sparta: Fall of a Warrior Nation, Philip Matyszak examines the political blunders and failures of leadership which combined with unresolved social issues to bring down the nation—even as its warriors remained invincible on the battlefield. In Sparta: Fall of a Warrior Nation, Philip Matyszak examines the political blunders and failures of leadership which combined with unresolved social issues to bring down the nation—even as its warriors remained invincible on the battlefield. Spartans believed their society was above the changes sweeping their world. And by resisting change, they were doomed to be overwhelmed by it. But the Spartans refused to accept total defeat, and for many years their city exercised influence far beyond its size and population. A political failure—one rich in heroes, villains, epic battles and political skullduggery. But it is also a lesson in how to go down fighting. Even with the Roman legions set to overwhelm their city, the Spartans never gave up. "This is a book that scholars will read with pleasure, and a book from which advanced undergraduates and graduates will gain a sense of what Sparta was like as a culture, and (just as important) the nature and state of play of contemporary Spartan studies. And it will be accessible to a more informed lay reader as well."—Josiah Ober, author of Political Dissent in Democratic Athens "Paul Cartledge's aim, in this powerful collection of essays, is to shed light in dark places, to demythicize... Cartledge is shrewd, realistic, and far from starry-eyed. Over a quarter-century's now updated, has gone into these densely documented and tightly argued essays. These Spartans, in the last resort, are exploitative slave-drivers, obsessed with keeping their serfs down (by annually killing off any resisters, among other things)... Modern idealizers of cold baths and mindless discipline and long route marches should read this book and, hopefully, have second thoughts."—Peter Green, author of Alexander to Actium

Discover the Fascinating Way of Life of History's Most Elite Soldiers, The Spartans. The Spartans. The Spartans. The famous warrior society of ancient Greece. Renowned for their ferocity in battle, rigid self-discipline, and their legendary wit and terseness. These rugged, crimson clad soldiers known for their few of us today could imagine or endure. Both Spartan men and woman, from the day they were born, to their often early deaths, constantly trained their bodies and minds to be as hard and immovable as stone.

Warriors of the Ancient World

The Battle That Changed the World

Sword of Apollo

A Memoir in Pieces

Get Action-Movie Ripped in 30 Days

The True and Brutal Story of How the Spartans Become the Strongest Warriors in History

Lysander thought he left his roots as a Helot slave far behind when he discovered his true identity as the descendant of a Spartan warrior. His training at the academy has been ruthless, but now he must face his toughest challenge yet: being sent to the mountains with two other boys to prove they can survive the harsh conditions on nothing but their Spartan strength and wits. Facing starvation, wild animals, and the elements, Lysander discovers that his real enemy is in fact one of the other boys, who's bent on sabotaging him. And when war with Persia threatens, Lysander must decide where his allegiance truly lies. This sweeping, dramatic adventure story is an exciting follow-up to The Fire of Ares, and its action and intrigue will not disappoint.

From classicist James Romm comes a thrilling deep dive into the last decades of ancient Greek freedom leading up to Alexander the Great's destruction of Thebes—and the saga of the greatest military corps of the age, the Theban Sacred Band, a unit composed of 150 pairs of male lovers. The story of the Sacred Band, an elite 300-man corps recruited from pairs of lovers, highlights a chaotic era of ancient Greek history, four decades marked by battles, ideological disputes, and the rise of vicious strongmen. At stake was freedom, democracy, and the fate of Thebes, at this time the leading power of the Greek world. The tale begins in 379 BC, with a group of Theban patriots sneaking into occupied Thebes. Disguised in women's clothing, they cut down the agents of Sparta, the state that had cowed much of Greece with its military might. To counter the Spartans, this group of patriots would form the Sacred Band, a corps whose history plays out against a backdrop of Theban democracy, of desperate power struggles between leading city-states, and the new prominence of eros, sexual love, in Greek public life. After four decades without a defeat, the Sacred Band was annihilated by the forces of Philip II of Macedon and his son Alexander in the Battle of Chaeronea—extinguishing Greek liberty for two thousand years. Buried on the battlefield where they fell, they were rediscovered in 1880—some skeletons still in pairs, with arms linked together. From violent combat in city streets to massive clashes on open ground, from ruthless tyrants to bold women who held their era in thrall, The Sacred Band follows the twists and turns of a crucial historical moment: the end of the treasured freedom of ancient Greece.

An authoritative and refreshingly original consideration of the government and culture of ancient Sparta and her place in Greek history For centuries, ancient Sparta has been glorified in song, fiction, and popular art. Yet the true nature of a civilization described as a combination of democracy and oligarchy by Aristotle, considered an ideal of liberty in the ages of Machiavelli and Rousseau, and viewed as a forerunner of the modern totalitarian state by many twentieth-century scholars has long remained a mystery. In a bold new approach to historical study, noted historian Paul Rahe attempts to unravel the Spartan riddle by deploying the regime-oriented political science of the ancient Greeks, pioneered by Herodotus, Thucydides, Plato, Xenophon, and Polybius, in order to provide a more coherent picture of government, art, culture, and daily life in Lacedaemon than has previously appeared in print, and to explore the grand strategy the Spartans devised before the arrival of the Persians in the Aegean.

The basis for the cult-classic film The Warriors chronicles one New York City gang's nocturnal journey through the seedy, dangerous subways and city streets of the 1960s. Every gang in the city meets on a sweltering July 4 night in a Bronx park for a peace rally. The crowd of miscreants turns violent after a prominent gang leader is killed and chaos prevails over the attempt at order. The Warriors follows the Dominators making their way back to their home territory without being killed. The police are prowling the city in search of anyone involved in the mayhem. An exhilarating novel that examines New York City teenagers, left behind by society, who form identity and personal strength through their affiliation with their "family," The Warriors weaves together social commentary with ancient legends for a classic coming-of-age tale. This edition includes a new introduction by the author.

The History and Legacy of the Ancient World's Most Renowned Army

Sons of Zeus

The Ultimate Greek Warriors: Everything You Need to Know about the Spartan Civilization

Sayings of the Spartans

Be A Spartan- Achieve Greatness

The Warriors

In this compilation from Plutarch's Moralia of famous sayings from over sixty Spartans we are shown that not were these ancients brave warriors in battle but had a complete philosophy of life which guided all their actions. Include all 372 footnotes.

"Davies' collection of essays soars.... It's a memoir that locates the profound within the ordinary." —Entertainment Weekly If you're looking for a typical parenting book, this is not it. This is not a treatise on how to be a mother. This is a book about a young girl who moves to a new town every couple of years; a misfit teenager who finds solace in a local music scene; an adrift twenty-something who drops out of college to pursue her dream of making cheesecake on a stick a successful business franchise (ah, the ideals of youth). Alone in a new city, she summons her inner strength as she holds the hand of a dying stranger. Davies is a woman who finds humor in difficult pregnancies and post-partum depression (after reading "Pie" you might never eat Thanksgiving dessert the same way). She is a divorcee who unexpectedly finds second love. She is a happily married suburban wife who nevertheless makes a mental list of all the men she would have slept with. And she is a parent who finds herself tested in ways she could never imagine. In stories that cut to the quick, Davies explores passion, loss, illness, pain, and joy, told from her singular, gimlet-eyed, hilarious perspective. Mothers of Sparta is not a blow-by-blow of Davies' life but rather an examination of the exquisite and often painful moments of a life, the moments we look back on and say, That one, that one mattered. Straddling the fence between humor and, well...not humor, Davies has written a book about what it's like to try to carve a place for oneself in the world, no matter how unyielding the rock can be.

Immortalized through their exploits at the battle of Thermopylae under the legendary Leonidas, as well as countless other victories throughout the classical period, the Spartans were some of the best-trained, -organized and most-feared warriors of the ancient world. The small state of Sparta, known to the Ancient Greeks as Lakedaimon, developed a unique warrior society that used serfs and non-citizens to do all of the manual work, leaving the free-born men of Sparta free to concentrate all of their energies on warfare. Forbidden from engaging in any form of manual labour, these Spartan warriors were trained from an early age in a brutal regime that gave them the necessary discipline and tolerance to withstand the pressures of phalanx warfare and endure all manner of hardships on campaign. This book covers all aspects of the Spartan warrior's life, from the earliest days of his training through his life in peace and war, culminating in the battlefield experiences of these feared combatants.

Alone, Andreas toils on a remote farmstead for a Spartan overlord. When a kryptes enters his world, Andreas fears for his life. The dread warriors stalk and kill helots?like Andreas' father?as part of their training. Andreas sees only one way to save himself: he must tame the fearsome warrior. But what began as self-preservation develops into attraction. Yearning for the company of someone other than his ferret lctis, Andreas decides to trust the Spartan warrior and risk the fate that claimed his father. Born to rule by the sword, Theron sees the world as his and acts accordingly, taking everything Andreas offers and reaching for more. However, love between men in Sparta is considered shameful and requires either exile or suicide to redeem Sparta's honor. Now, only the gods can save them from the terrible price Sparta extracts from men who desire other men.

The Spartans

The Sacred Band

The Epics of Apollo's Men Book 1

Sparta: Fall of a Warrior Nation

Mothers of Sparta

Spartan 1

Sparta was composed of a small community of warriors that obtained massive respect in the ancient world. These men have enticed and fascinated people for many years.

Lysander is a slave in ancient Sparta, a Helot, but a chance meeting reveals his noble heritage and he is permitted to begin training as a Spartan warrior. The vestiges of his life as a slave are hard to shake off and he struggles to survive the brutal and nepotistic life of a Spartan-in-training. Worse still, his precious amulet, the Fire of Ares, is stolen from him, and with it goes some of his formidable strength. His mother had made him swear he would guard the amulet with his life, without ever telling him why. Lysander is desperate to find the missing jewel, but when he picks up the trail, it leads him to dark secrets about the few people he felt he could trust, and forces him to make a choice between his Helot friends and his Spartan instincts.

The SpartansThe World of the Warrior-heroes of Ancient Greece, from Utopia to Crisis and CollapseVintage

The Spartan hoplite enjoys unquestioned currency as history's greatest fighting man. The last stand at Thermopylae made the Spartans legends in their own time, famous for their ability to endure hardship, control their emotions, and to never surrender - even in the face of impossible odds, even when it meant certain death. Was this reputation earned? Or was it simply the success of a propaganda machine that began turning at Thermopylae in 480 BC? Covering Sparta's full classical history from the polis' (city-state) foundation to its final subsumption by Rome in the first century BC, this book examines the myth of Spartan warrior supremacy, painting a very different picture of Spartan warfare - punctuated by frequent and heavy losses. We also discover a society dedicated to militarism not in service to Greek unity or to the Spartan state itself, but as a desperate measure intended to keep its massive population of helots (a near-slave underclass) in line. What successes there were, such as in the Peloponnesian Wars, gave Sparta only a brief period of hegemony over Greece. Today, there is no greater testament to this than the relative position of modern Sparta and its famous rival Athens. The Bronze Lie explores the Spartans' arms and armor, tactics and strategy, the personalities of commanders and the common soldiery alike. It looks at the major battles, with a special focus on previously under-publicized Spartan reverses that have been left largely unexamined. The result is a refreshingly honest and accurate account of Spartan warfare.

The World of the Warrior-Heroes of Ancient Greece

Gates of Fire

The Fire of Ares

Spartan Warrior Workout

The Warrior Ethos

The Women Warriors of Dahomey

This cultural history of Ancient Sparta chronicles the rise of its legendary military power and offers revealing insight into the people behind the myths. The Spartans of ancient Greece are typically portrayed as macho heroes: noble, laconic, totally fearless, and impervious to pain. But life was not as simple as this image suggests. In truth, ancient Sparta was a city of contrasts. We might admire their physical toughness, but Spartans also systematically abused their children. They gave rights to female citizens that were unmatched in Europe, subjecting their conquered subject peoples to a murderous reign of terror. Though idealized by the Athenian contemporaries of Socrates, Sparta was almost devoid of intellectual achievement. In this revealing history of Spartan society, Philip Matyszak chronicles the rise of the city to the military superpower of Greece. Above all, Matyszak investigates the role of the Spartan hoplite, the archetypal Greek warrior who was feared throughout Greece in his own day and has since become a legend. The reader is shown the man behind the myth; who he was, what he did, and the environment which produced him.

The only thoroughly documented Amazons in world history are the women warriors of Dahomey, an eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Western African kingdom. Once dubbed a 'small black Sparta,' residents of Dahomey shared with the Spartans an intense militarism and sense of duty. In a new preface by the author, Amazons of Black Sparta is the product of meticulous archival research and Alpern's gift for narrative. It will stand as the most comprehensive and accessible account of the woman warriors of Dahomey.

"Noble Smith brings the gory political struggles of fifth-century [B.C.] Greece vividly to life in a way that I haven't seen since the novels of Mary Renault. A superb historical novel by a master storyteller."—Angus Donald, author of Warlord, on Spartans at the Gates. Nikias of Plataea, a shipwreck, and torture. But now the young warrior must face his greatest challenge: leading the people of his city-state on a desperate exodus to Athens while being hunted down by the largest Spartan expeditionary force in history. From the burning forests of the legendary Marathon to the ridden streets of Athens, to the dreaded Prison Pits of Syrakuse, Nikias has to use his fists, sword, and wits to defeat his enemies, and bring aid to a citadel cut off from the rest of the world by merciless invaders. Award-winning author Noble Smith's Sword of Apollo brings to life the events that set during the epic war that tore apart Ancient Greece.

Spartan Women

The Life of a Spartan Warrior

Thermopylae

The Bronze Lie