

# Fierce Ruthless Warriors Who Shaped Ancient History Vol I

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Uncover the gripping sagas of fierce, ruthless warriors who profoundly shaped ancient history. Volume I delves into their strategic brilliance, unyielding ambition, and the lasting legacies these formidable figures left on the world.

This collection represents the pinnacle of academic dedication and achievement.

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## Fierce Ruthless Warriors Who Shaped Ancient History Vol. I

In this first volume of ancient leaders, the lives, battles and accomplishments of three of the most renowned warrior kings are examined. Alexander the Great hastened historical change in the Mediterranean and Near Eastern worlds, and his vision for a Panhellenic world stretched over two millennia after his death, crossing foreign cultures and religions, traditions and even nations far from his reach. He modeled himself after the hero Achilles of Trojan War fame, and was inspired by the legends of Hercules. He was fearless and sought to become one of the gods, ordained to unite the nations under his banner. Alexander the Great was the subject of many bright legends, both historical and imaginative, but he came to exemplify a heroic ideal in cultures from Egypt to Britain, and appears in Jewish, Christian and Islamic writings, making him one of the most powerful figures in ancient history. Charlemagne was the bridge between ancient and modern Europe and the spreader of Christianity among pagans to the north and south of Francia. He was an ingenious military strategist, a wise and ruthless leader, a cunning politician, and a devout believer who ensured the survival of Christianity in the West. He also believed himself above the rules of the church, and coldly ordered the execution of 4,500 prisoners. In an unprecedented act, he joined his military might and his monarchy to the power of the Church in Rome, giving him more power than any other king before him. He was the Holy Roman Emperor who fought against the legendary Vikings in the north, the Lombards in Italy, and everyone in between. His was the first empire to be established after the fall of Rome. Mongol leader Genghis Khan is believed by many to be greatest conqueror the world has ever known. His empire stretched from the Pacific Ocean to central Europe, including all of China, the Middle East, and Russia. An illiterate nomad, he rose to such colossal power and subdued most of the known world, eclipsing Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, and Napoleon. Some say he was a heinous murderer, and others believe he was a military genius. He was Temujin, a man who gathered together a loose collection of fractious tribes living under the harsh conditions of the Steppe. He was a strategist of astonishing cunning and versatility who coordinated an empire of varying cultures, uniting them with the strange lives of the Mongols, and he was one of the most powerful men ever to have lived. Genghis Khan was a scourge, a hero, a military genius, and to some a demi-god. He murdered millions in his quest to conquer the world by force, but in Mongolia, even today, he is revered as the father of the nation, and he is claimed by both the Mongols

and the Chinese. His kingdom was twice the size of the Roman Empire, and the largest ever to be amassed. Concise, insightful, and eminently readable, *Fierce Ruthless Warriors Who Shaped Ancient History: Vol I* provides a wealth of information about three remarkable men and the impact they had on the world. Their stories are filled with violence and heroism, politics and diplomacy, social change and religious tolerance. And each made a mark on history as both a ruthless murderer and a visionary leader.

## Fierce Ruthless Warriors Who Shaped Ancient History Vol. II

In this second exclusive volume of ancient leaders, we take an in depth look at the lives, battles and accomplishments of three more of the most renowned warrior leaders and the military strategies that made them legendary. Hannibal commanded and managed to sustain his army in the field for 16 years without a single mutiny, through massive military engagements with the Romans, and his would be the greatest army Rome would ever face. He was driven by his life-long pledge to "never be on friendly terms with the Romans" for their history of attacking trade routes dominated by Phoenicia, and he spoke his oath to his father and before the god, Ba'al, his namesake. It drove him to the most exhaustive and daring trek ever attempted by a marching army, one that took him through Spain and France, across the Alps and down through the heartland of Rome with thousands of men, horses and elephants in a campaign that was unprecedented, unexpected by the Romans, and unmatched to this day. Julius Caesar was a man of the people, a brilliant orator and statesman who managed to literally talk his way into the highest position in the Roman Senate. His military exploits have been admired by leaders and historians alike, but he was not always above board in his dealings. As with most leaders of his kind, he gained his reputation, at least in part, by conquering in the name of Rome, and he died by the same underhanded tactics he had dealt to others. Attila ruled from 434 CE until his death in 453, but he began his rise by shedding the blood of his brother. Rome paid him tribute for his protection, but he nevertheless invaded Italy, simply sparing the city in his campaign. He allegedly declined to strike a bargain with the vision of the saints, Peter and Paul, who told him they would strike him dead if he did not make amends with Pope Leo I, and Attila died the following year, telling the world "There where I have passed the grass will never grow again." Concise, intelligently written, and easy to read, *Fierce Ruthless Warriors Who Shaped Ancient History Volume II* is a treasure of facts gathered together in one volume to bring you a look at the lives of three extraordinary men and the impression they left on the world. Their stories are filled with hostility and bravery, governments and mediation, revolutionary strategies and personal crises. And each of these men made a mark on history as someone who followed the beat of his own drummer, employing his vision and drive for control to achieve some of the most remarkable feats ever accomplished in military history.

## Legendary Warriors

For as long as there have been humans, there has been conflict. You don't need a private investigator to realize that we are, in general, a combative species. Throughout all of human history we have seen some amazing, bloody, and deadly battles. Today we are looking at fierce ruthless warriors who shaped ancient history. This is a treasure of facts gathered together in one volume to bring you a look at the lives of three extraordinary men and the impression they left on the world. Their stories are filled with hostility and bravery, governments and mediation, revolutionary strategies and personal crises. And each of these men made a mark on history as someone who followed the beat of his own drummer, employing his vision and drive for control to achieve some of the most remarkable feats ever accomplished in military history.

## Fierce and Ruthless Ancient Warriors That Shaped History

*Fierce & Ruthless Warriors That Shaped History: Their Greatest Moments and Violent History*, is the first volume in this series. You will find 5 amazingly true histories of the greatest warriors and warrior classes to have ever lived. Follow me as we discover their greatest and most violent hours in history and the moments that solidified their place among the world's most elite warriors that shaped the future of our world.

## Fierce Ruthless Warriors In The Ancient World

For as long as there have been humans, there has been conflict. You don't need a private investigator to realize that we are, in general, a combative species. Throughout all of human history we have seen some amazing, bloody, and deadly battles. Today we are looking at fierce ruthless warriors who shaped

ancient history. This is a treasure of facts gathered together in one volume to bring you a look at the lives of three extraordinary men and the impression they left on the world. Their stories are filled with hostility and bravery, governments and mediation, revolutionary strategies and personal crises. And each of these men made a mark on history as someone who followed the beat of his own drummer, employing his vision and drive for control to achieve some of the most remarkable feats ever accomplished in military history.

### Most Fierce Ruthless Warriors That Shaped History: Shinobi Ninja

Infiltration, ambush, assassination, and espionage are the trademarks of the ninja. Their techniques are precise, timed, and their skills are that of legends. The mystery and mystique that surround the ninja have been popularized in Hollywood for decades. Their skills force us to bend our beliefs on what we believe is humanly possible. To their enemy they are ghosts. They make a kill before their presence is even known and disappear while the body hits the ground. They move in silence and stealth as individuals or in small teams. They are now facing a foe who intends to exterminate them. If they are to avoid extinction they will need to muster all their skills and talents to ensure their continued existence. This is the incredibly true story of the Shinobi Ninjas of Iga and their extraordinary rise to become an irreplaceable force in the Japanese war machine.

Interview With the Author

Q - So, what makes your new series, Most Fierce Ruthless Warriors That Shaped History, special?

A - Honestly, it is a mix of things. I love diving deep into history and the lesser known stories of those who shaped history. I'm not referring to the popular historical figures like Genghis Kahn, Alexander the Great, Charlemagne, or Julius Caesar. I mean the history regarding them is awesome stuff but this series makes a conscious effort to go beyond the typical textbook history. In this series you get Ancient Assassins and the birth of terrorism, ancient Germanic Ghost Warriors and Rome's greatest defeat, Viking Berserkers and the invasion of England, and Viking Varangian Guard in the Byzantine Empire. We even cover the great Eagle Warriors of the Aztec Empire and Kamehameha's Hawaiian Koa warriors, two cultures that were forced to face overwhelming odds when they encountered European forces for the first time. The history is fascinating; it goes into depth regarding how the cultures viewed the Europeans as gods and the recorded omens in their history that foretold the arrival of these strange forces. This series tells the histories of the greatest and most elite warriors throughout the world and history.

Q - What order should I read the series in?

A - Well that's another awesome part of this series. Each one stands independently. I did this so my readers could pick and choose the stories that interest them most or they can buy the entire volume and get all five stories for considerably less than purchasing them individually. However, two of the stories are connected even though they can both be read independently. The historical tales on the Varangian Guard and the Viking Berserkers respectively both evolve around Harald Hardrada. In this case they should be read in their respective order if the reader chooses to purchase both. But it is laid out in Volume 1 with that in mind.

Q - So why should readers give your books a go?

A - Simply put they're exciting reads. Most are short reads, 30-40 pages, and they are written in the present tense. As you read these books you really feel as though you're there watching the Shinobi appear from the fog and attack the Samurai, or the Germanic Ghost Warrior appear from the darkness and strike into the Roman legions, or feel the true terror that the Christian monks felt right before they were slaughtered by the Viking Berserkers. History is my passion and that translates in my writing. I want my readers to thoroughly enjoy learning about history so I give it to them in a thrilling and exciting read. I don't bog them down with trivial information. I give them the historical facts presented in an awesome telling of history.

### Women Warriors

Who says women don't go to war? From Vikings and African queens to cross-dressing military doctors and WWII Russian fighter pilots, these are the stories of women for whom battle was not a metaphor. The woman warrior is always cast as an anomaly—Joan of Arc, not GI Jane. But women, it turns out, have always gone to war. In this fascinating and lively world history, Pamela Toler not only introduces us to women who took up arms, she also shows why they did it and what happened when they stepped out of their traditional female roles to take on other identities. These are the stories of women who fought because they wanted to, because they had to, or because they could. Among the warriors you'll meet are:

- \* Tomyris, ruler of the Massagetae, who killed Cyrus the Great of Persia when he sought to invade her lands
- \* The West African ruler Amina of Hausa, who led her warriors in a campaign of territorial expansion for more than 30 years
- \* Boudica, who led the Celtic tribes of Britain into a massive rebellion against the Roman Empire to avenge the rapes of her daughters
- \* The Trung sisters, Trung Trac and Trung Nhi, who led an untrained army of 80,000 troops to drive the Chinese empire out of

Vietnam \* The Jōshūgun, a group of 30 combat-trained Japanese women who fought against the forces of the Meiji emperor in the late 19th century \* Lakshmi Bai, Rani of Jhansi, who was regarded as the “bravest and best” military leader in the 1857 Indian Mutiny against British rule \* Maria Bochkareva, who commanded Russia’s first all-female battalion—the First Women’s Battalion of Death—during WWII \* Buffalo Calf Road Woman, the Cheyenne warrior who knocked General Custer off his horse at the Battle of Little Bighorn \* Juana Azurduy de Padilla, a mestiza warrior who fought in at least 16 major battles against colonizers of Latin America and who is a national hero in Bolivia and Argentina today \* And many more spanning from ancient times through the 20th century. By considering the ways in which their presence has been erased from history, Toler reveals that women have always fought—not in spite of being women but because they are women.

## Warriors 2

A collection of seven stories from the anthology "Warriors" includes contributions by such authors as Naomi Novik, Peter S. Beagle, and David Weber.

## Beacon Lights of History (All 14 Volumes)

Beacon Lights of History is a fourteen volume study by American historian John Lord which covers the history and the development of civilization from the old pagan civilizations through to modern Europe and America. Table of Contents: Volume 1: The Old Pagan Civilizations Volume 2: Jewish Heroes and Prophets Volume 3: Ancient Achievements Volume 4: Imperial Antiquity Volume 5: The Middle Ages Volume 6: Renaissance and Reformation Volume 7: Great Women Volume 8: Great Rulers Volume 9: European Statesmen Volume 10: European Leaders Volume 11: American Founders Volume 12: American Leaders Volume 13: Great Writers Volume 14: The New Era

## Beacon Lights of History: Volume 02: Jewish Heroes and Prophets

The first complete history of Central Eurasia from ancient times to the present day, *Empires of the Silk Road* represents a fundamental rethinking of the origins, history, and significance of this major world region. Christopher Beckwith describes the rise and fall of the great Central Eurasian empires, including those of the Scythians, Attila the Hun, the Turks and Tibetans, and Genghis Khan and the Mongols. In addition, he explains why the heartland of Central Eurasia led the world economically, scientifically, and artistically for many centuries despite invasions by Persians, Greeks, Arabs, Chinese, and others. In retelling the story of the Old World from the perspective of Central Eurasia, Beckwith provides a new understanding of the internal and external dynamics of the Central Eurasian states and shows how their people repeatedly revolutionized Eurasian civilization. Beckwith recounts the Indo-Europeans' migration out of Central Eurasia, their mixture with local peoples, and the resulting development of the Graeco-Roman, Persian, Indian, and Chinese civilizations; he details the basis for the thriving economy of premodern Central Eurasia, the economy's disintegration following the region's partition by the Chinese and Russians in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and the damaging of Central Eurasian culture by Modernism; and he discusses the significance for world history of the partial reemergence of Central Eurasian nations after the collapse of the Soviet Union. *Empires of the Silk Road* places Central Eurasia within a world historical framework and demonstrates why the region is central to understanding the history of civilization.

## Empires of the Silk Road

Deals with the period beginning at the close of the Neolithic era, from around the eighth millennium before our era. This period of some 9,000 years of history has been sub-divided into four major geographical zones, following the pattern of African historical research. Chapters 1 to 12 cover the corridor of the Nile, Egypt and Nubia. Chapters 13 to 16 relate to the Ethiopian highlands. Chapters 17 to 20 describe the part of Africa later called the Maghrib and its Saharan hinterland. Chapters 21 to 29, the rest of Africa as well as some of the islands of the Indian Ocean.--Publisher's description

## General History of Africa

The first in a four-volume set, *The Cambridge World History of Violence, Volume 1* provides a comprehensive examination of violence in prehistory and the ancient world. Covering the Palaeolithic through to the end of classical antiquity, the chapters take a global perspective spanning sub-Saharan Africa, the Near East, Europe, India, China, Japan and Central America. Unlike many previous works, this

book does not focus only on warfare but examines violence as a broader phenomenon. The historical approach complements, and in some cases critiques, previous research on the anthropology and psychology of violence in the human story. Written by a team of contributors who are experts in each of their respective fields, Volume 1 will be of particular interest to anyone fascinated by archaeology and the ancient world.

### The Athenaeum

Warrior of Rome: The Wolves of the North by Harry Sidebottom marks the start of a new trilogy within the Warrior of Rome series. AD263 - barbarian invasions and violent uprisings threaten to tear apart the Imperium of Rome. In the north, the tribes are increasingly bold in their raids on the Imperium - their savagery unlike anything Rome has known before. Ballista must undertake his most treacherous journey yet - a covert attempt to turn the barbarians of the steppe against each other. He must face the Heruli - the most bizarre and brutal of all the nomad tribes - the Eaters of Flesh, the Wolves of the North. As Ballista and his retinue make their journey, someone - or something - is hunting them, picking them off one by one, and leaving a trail of terror and mutilated corpses. Ballista is in a strange land, among strange people, but is it possible that the greatest threat may come from within his own familia? Dr Harry Sidebottom is a leading authority on ancient warfare - he applies his knowledge with a spectacular flair for sheer explosive action and knuckle-whitening drama. Fans of Bernard Cornwell will love Sidebottom's recreation of the ancient world. Praise for Harry Sidebottom: 'Sidebottom's prose blazes with searing scholarship' The Times 'The best sort of red-blooded historical fiction' Andrew Taylor, author of The American Boy Dr. Harry Sidebottom is Fellow of St Benets Hall, and Lecturer at Lincoln College, Oxford - where he specializes in ancient warfare and classical art.

### The Cambridge World History of Violence: Volume 1, The Prehistoric and Ancient Worlds

"This splendid work of scholarship . . . sums up with economy and power all that the written record so far deciphered has to tell about the ancient and complementary civilizations of Babylon and Assyria."—Edward B. Garside, New York Times Book Review Ancient Mesopotamia—the area now called Iraq—has received less attention than ancient Egypt and other long-extinct and more spectacular civilizations. But numerous small clay tablets buried in the desert soil for thousands of years make it possible for us to know more about the people of ancient Mesopotamia than any other land in the early Near East. Professor Oppenheim, who studied these tablets for more than thirty years, used his intimate knowledge of long-dead languages to put together a distinctively personal picture of the Mesopotamians of some three thousand years ago. Following Oppenheim's death, Erica Reiner used the author's outline to complete the revisions he had begun. "To any serious student of Mesopotamian civilization, this is one of the most valuable books ever written."—Leonard Cottrell, Book Week "Leo Oppenheim has made a bold, brave, pioneering attempt to present a synthesis of the vast mass of philological and archaeological data that have accumulated over the past hundred years in the field of Assyriological research."—Samuel Noah Kramer, Archaeology A. Leo Oppenheim, one of the most distinguished Assyriologists of our time, was editor in charge of the Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute and John A. Wilson Professor of Oriental Studies at the University of Chicago.

### The Corsair

For the first time ever, the complete Away saga (Volume 1: Beginnings and Volume 2: Keepers of the Alliance) is now available in one book. Spanning over fifty years, Away chronicles the adventures of quantum physicist Alberto Rys. Stumbling upon a scientific breakthrough that could revolutionize the transportation of people, resources, goods and even information around the globe, Dr. Rys begins a quest to realize the discovery's full potential. He's eventually joined by a group of equally brilliant and idiosyncratic souls, who help him to rapidly develop the technology. However, as they near their goal, they find themselves suddenly entangled in a web of deceit that shatters their team and inadvertently brings Dr. Rys to the faraway world of Onav. There he encounters the ghostly remnants of a once mighty interstellar alliance and learns of the invincible race of predators who almost destroyed it, the Grell. Dr. Rys is then asked to make a choice that will reverberate throughout humanity: Will Earth join the struggle against the Grell or will the disembodied spirits of Onav forever be all that remains of the Alliance?

### Warrior of Rome V: The Wolves of the North

The second volume of the 2 book set for "The Annals of Ireland by the Four Masters" as translated by Owen Connellan. This is the volume that contains the large fold-out map at the back of the book.

## Ancient Mesopotamia

One of the greatest adventure story writers of all time, H. Rider Haggard was a prolific novelist, whose exciting tales have entertained readers for over a hundred years. This comprehensive eBook offers readers the complete FICTIONAL works, with all 57 novels, as well as the usual Delphi bonus texts. (Version 3) Features: \* concise introductions to the novels and other works \* ALL 57 novels have their own contents tables \* images of how the novels first appeared, giving your Kindle a taste of the Victorian texts \* the complete novels and short stories, including rare works often missed out of collections \* many images relating to Haggard's life, works, places and film adaptations \* EVEN includes special ALLAN QUATERMAIN and AYESHA series contents tables \* features a selected non-fiction section, including Haggard's very first book \* includes both volumes of Haggard's autobiography— explore the writer's adventurous life! \* includes the rare bonus story PRINCE: ANOTHER LION, first time in digital print \* scholarly ordering of texts in chronological order and literary genres, allowing easy navigation around Haggard's immense oeuvre \* UPDATED with non-fiction book 'The Last Boer War' and revised texts CONTENTS: Allan Quatermain Series Ayesha Series The Umslopogaas Series The Rise and Fall of the Zulu Nation Series The Novels Dawn (1884) The Witch's Head (1884) King Solomon's Mines (1885) She (1886) Jess (1887) Allan Quatermain (1887) Mr Meeson's Will (1888) Maiwa's Revenge (1888) Colonel Quaritch, V.C. (1889) Cleopatra (1889) Allan's Wife (1889) Beatrice (1890) The World's Desire (1890) Eric Brighteyes (1890) Nada the Lily (1892) Montezuma's Daughter (1893) The People of the Mist (1893) Joan Haste (1895) Heart of the World (1895) The Wizard (1896) Dr Therne (1898) Swallow (1899) Elissa (1900) Black Heart and White Heart (1900) Lysbeth (1901) Pearl-Maiden (1903) Stella Fregelius (1904) The Brethren (1904) Ayesha: The Return of She (1905) The Way of the Spirit (1906) Benita (1906) Fair Margaret (1907) The Ghost Kings (1908) The Yellow God (1908) The Lady of Blossholme (1909) Morning Star (1910) Queen Sheba's Ring (1910) Red Eve (1911) Marie (1912) Child of Storm (1913) The Wanderer's Necklace (1914) The Holy Flower (1915) The Ivory Child (1916) Finished (1917) Love Eternal (1918) Moon of Israel (1918) When the World Shook (1919) The Ancient Allan (1920) She and Allan (1921) The Virgin of the Sun (1922) Wisdom's Daughter (1923) Heu-Heu (1924) Queen of the Dawn (1925) The Treasure of the Lake (1926) Allan and the Ice Gods (1927) Mary of Marion Isle (1929) Belshazzar (1930) The Shorter Fiction Allan the Hunter (1890) Allan's Wife and Other Tales (1899) The Mahatma and the Hare (1911) Smith and the Pharaohs and Other Tales (1913) The Non-Fiction Cetywayo and His White Neighbors (1882) The Last Boer War (1899) A Winter Pilgrimage (1901) The Autobiography The Days of My Life (1926)

## Away (Vol 1: Beginnings & Vol 2: Keepers of the Alliance)

One of the greatest adventure story writers of all time, H. Rider Haggard was a prolific novelist, whose exciting tales have entertained readers for over a hundred years. This comprehensive eBook offers readers the collected works, with the usual Delphi bonus texts. (Version 3) Allan Quatermain Series Ayesha Series The Umslopogaas Series The Rise and Fall of the Zulu Nation Series The Novels Dawn (1884) The Witch's Head (1884) King Solomon's Mines (1885) She (1886) Jess (1887) Allan Quatermain (1887) Mr Meeson's Will (1888) Maiwa's Revenge (1888) Colonel Quaritch, V.C. (1889) Cleopatra (1889) Allan's Wife (1889) Beatrice (1890) The World's Desire (1890) Eric Brighteyes (1890) Nada the Lily (1892) Montezuma's Daughter (1893) The People of the Mist (1893) Joan Haste (1895) Heart of the World (1895) The Wizard (1896) Dr Therne (1898) Swallow (1899) Elissa (1900) Black Heart and White Heart (1900) Lysbeth (1901) Pearl-Maiden (1903) Stella Fregelius (1904) The Brethren (1904) Ayesha: The Return of She (1905) The Way of the Spirit (1906) Benita (1906) Fair Margaret (1907) The Ghost Kings (1908) The Yellow God (1908) The Lady of Blossholme (1909) Morning Star (1910) Queen Sheba's Ring (1910) Red Eve (1911) Marie (1912) Child of Storm (1913) The Wanderer's Necklace (1914) The Holy Flower (1915) The Ivory Child (1916) Finished (1917) Love Eternal (1918) Moon of Israel (1918) When the World Shook (1919) The Ancient Allan (1920) She and Allan (1921) The Virgin of the Sun (1922) Wisdom's Daughter (1923) Heu-Heu (1924) Queen of the Dawn (1925) The Treasure of the Lake (1926) Allan and the Ice Gods (1927) Mary of Marion Isle (1929) Belshazzar (1930) The Shorter Fiction Allan the Hunter (1890) Allan's Wife and Other Tales (1899) The Mahatma and the Hare (1911) Smith and the Pharaohs and Other Tales (1913) The Non-Fiction Cetywayo and His White Neighbors (1882) The Last Boer War (1899) A Winter Pilgrimage (1901) The Autobiography The Days of My Life (1926)

## The Athenæum

Out of a lifetime of study of the ancient Near East, Professor Olmstead has gathered previously unknown material into the story of the life, times, and thought of the Persians, told for the first time from the Persian rather than the traditional Greek point of view. "The fullest and most reliable presentation of the history of the Persian Empire in existence."—M. Rostovtzeff

## Athenaeum and Literary Chronicle

Recounts the life of Olympias, the first woman to play a major role in Greek political history. This biography penetrates the myth, fiction and sexual politics, and conducts a close examination of Olympias through historical and literary sources.

## The Popular History of England

'The Alexander Trilogy contains some of Renault's finest writing. Lyrical, wise, compelling: the novels are a wonderful imaginative feat - Sarah Waters Alexander the Great died at the age of thirty-three, leaving behind an empire that stretched from Greece to India. Fire From Heaven tells the story of the years that shaped him. His mother, Olympias, and his father, King Philip of Macedon, fought each other for their son's loyalty, teaching Alexander politics and vengeance. His love for the youth Hephaestion taught him trust, while Aristotle's tutoring provoked his mind and fuelled his aspirations. Killing his first man in battle at the age of twelve and commanding Macedon's cavalry at eighteen, by the time his father is murdered, Alexander's skills have grown to match his fiery ambition. Books included in the VMC 40th anniversary series include: Frost in May by Antonia White; The Collected Stories of Grace Paley; Fire from Heaven by Mary Renault; The Magic Toyshop by Angela Carter; The Weather in the Streets by Rosamond Lehmann; Deep Water by Patricia Highsmith; The Return of the Soldier by Rebecca West; Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston; Heartburn by Nora Ephron; The Dud Avocado by Elaine Dundy; Memento Mori by Muriel Spark; A View of the Harbour by Elizabeth Taylor; and Faces in the Water by Janet Frame

## Annals of Ireland by the Four Masters as translated into English by Owen Connellan

The United States Literary Gazette