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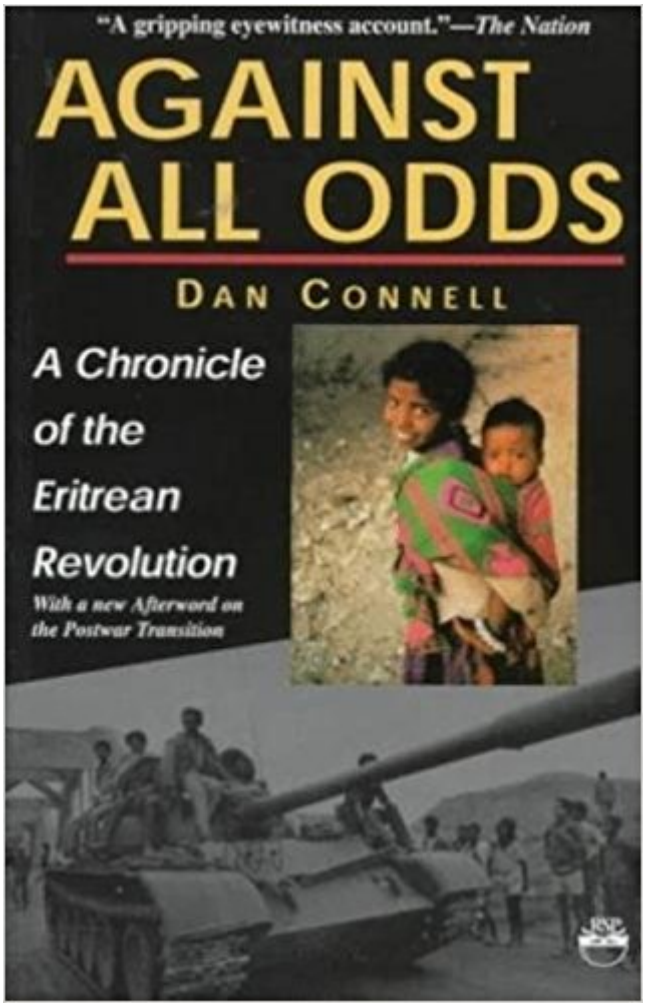

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Synopsis

Book by Connell, Dan

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Customer Reviews

Book by Connell, Dan

For those wanting to understand the Eritrean - Ethiopian conflict of the 1960s through 2000, Dan Connell's book is a great place to start (and possibly finish). Connell is a journalist. He covered the war between these two African countries as an embedded reporter with both the ELF, (Eritrean Liberation Front), the original guerrilla group that haunted the Americans at Kagnew Station in the '60 and '70s, and the EPLF (Eritrean People's Liberation Front) that became victorious. Connell walked and occasionally drove the countryside with these groups, assessing their structure and mode of operation, and their military tactics. Under fire at times, he spoke and lived with the activists, capturing their thoughts and hopes. One of these was the EPLF's leader, Isaias Afewerki, the guerrilla who became Eritrea's president (and remains so). His detail is compelling and his writing style is highly readable. The book is a lasting record of a little-covered war and is a tribute to journalism as it should be practiced.

This is very informative book about the longest and costliest civil war in Africa, It is a compilation of narratives based on-location first hand observation and not on hearsay from third party story tellers.

It is well written book.

Incredibly written!. Dan Connell lived in the region and was present during battles in which(battles) he describes in detail giving vivid descriptions. Against all odds is smoothly written and Dan Connell captures Eritrean culture and attitudes very well in this book!.

Perfect

This work is a clear account of how the Eritrean people stood up for freedom and great personal cost. It recounts the amazing story of their resiliency in the face of great odds, their innovation, and their love for freedom and independence that finally led to a free country. The story provides a compelling understanding of why the Eritrean people and government today are determined to find their own pathway into the future instead of turning over control to another countries vision for their future.

Being an Eritrean who was born and brought up in Europe, I got this book in an attempt to educate myself about the 30 year old guerilla movement that led to the independence of Eritrea. Dan Connell unravels the Eritrean liberation movement in a very personal and heartfelt way that goes beyond the hard facts of the military story that has been portrayed by so many before. In this book you encounter the average Eritrean and their story during the tough times of the war. Their commitment, dedication, tenacity and strong will power shines through and highlights the superhuman effort of the Eritrean people's David & Goliat struggle against its oppressor Ethiopia and the superpowers of the world (Soviet, US, Israel etc..)....Dan Connell has written a truly impressive book on the Eritrean struggle for freedom, based on years and years spent in the area during the war, this is an essential read about Black Africa's most ingenious society.

This is an excellent book:I recommend it for anybody interested in history of the Eritrean struggle.This book, written by an author who, in the process had a near death experience(Missed by a fighter jet!!) ,offers a very realistic and indepth look at the longest civil war in Africa.It happens to be one of the few books wriiten about a traumatic and tragic time for the people of Eritrea. The author ,a journalist,whose intention was to cover Africa from Cairo to Johannesburg was caught up in development in Addis Ababa(Ethiopian capital).For the next couple of decades has practically been part of the struggle.He shares his experience and insigths in this book. The book begins with a

raid into Asmara (Eritrean capiltal)by the then guerrila figthers.Then the reader is taken deep into rebel territory in the sahel mountains for an upclose and personal with the "tegadelti" liberation fighters. It gives a very vivid account several battles and the descrptions of them by both rank and file guerrilas and the highest commanders. You will meet in the book courageous souls who survived a thousand mile subsea level trek.You will meet...Fana,stereotypcal Eritrean highlander woman who was just as rebelious to tyranny as the ones actually figting it out with an AK47. The book explores the reasons behind the conflict (eventhougth not as detailed as the struggle itself).It presents a decent view of the oppossing sides. It is one of the most exciting and educational books I have ever read.

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