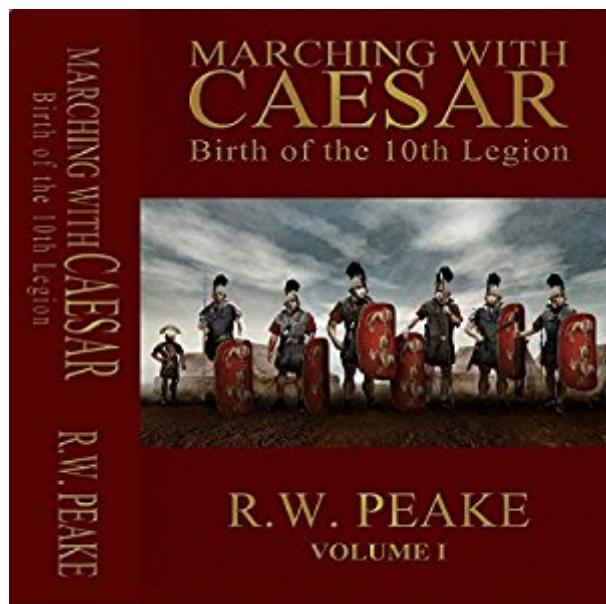


The book was found

Marching With Caesar: Birth Of The 10th Legion



Synopsis

Titus Pullus, the hero of the 10th Legion and the Marching With Caesar series, tells his story from the very beginning of his life, starting with his relationship with his father, how his friendship with Vibius Domitius began, and how their burning ambition to join the Legions was helped by a veteran nicknamed Cyclops. Enlisting in the 10th Legion, raised in 61 B.C. by Gaius Julius Caesar, Birth of the 10th Legion recounts the first campaign ever conducted by Julius Caesar as a commander, when he quells an insurrection in Hispania, as seen through the eyes and from the perspective of the men like Titus and Vibius who actually did the fighting.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This expanded version of Peake's original introduction to the tale of Titus Pullus sounds, as do his earlier books, like the account we have of Caesar's last campaign, in Spain in 45 BCE, which has been described as "the work of a hard-bitten old centurion who fought better than he wrote." Which is, of course, precisely the author's goal and the charm of his work. If you are new to these stories, you should be aware that the author has two things going for him. One is the believability of his central character, Titus Pullus, whose narrative will soon have you convinced that you really are reading the recollections of an old soldier near the end of his life, and is here recalling when he was a naive kid from Spain, who eagerly joined and then struggled to adapt to life in a professional army. The other thing Peake has going for him is the quality of his backstory, which is easily on a par with those of Sidebottom and McCullough. He has done his homework extremely well, and also engaged

in a great deal of personal research. It makes a difference: even a reader who's very familiar with Roman history, society, and military practice will find nothing to distract him or her from what's really important, i.e., the story. Peake's combination of his research with his own military experience has produced a narrative from "a grunt's-eye view," which is probably as close as anyone will ever come to re-creating the life of a legionary soldier. If you're already familiar with these books, the great value of this one is to provide a more leisurely and engaging introduction to Pullus and his comrades. Only one caveat.

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