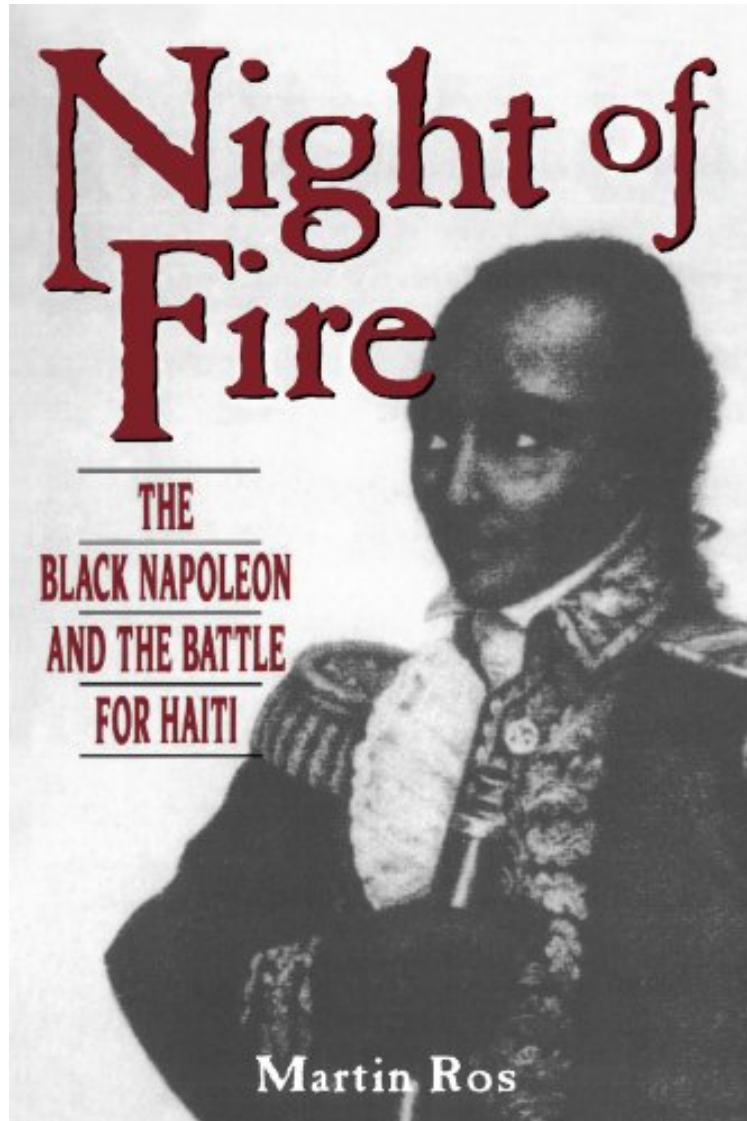


Night Of Fire: The Black Napoleon And The Battle For Haiti

Martin Ros

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Martin Ros : Night Of Fire: The Black Napoleon And The Battle For Haiti before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Night Of Fire: The Black Napoleon And The Battle For Haiti:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. HistoryBy TaameirIt is most certainly not for the faint of heart. Not having been educated on the history of Haiti, I was interested when some suggested that the natural disasters occurring in Haiti in the past few years were God's punishment for its past. Of course, I was generally familiar with Toussaint

Louverture which I had seen spelled a different way. However, I had not studied his life in detail and was not in any way familiar with the particulars of the history in that country. While I am a strong believer in the basic goodness of human nature, I am well aware of the many examples of man's inhumane treatment of his fellow man. The details provided in this book will not be appealing to most and should likely be avoided by those not desiring knowledge of the precise description of how slaves were tormented by their most perverse masters and what atrocities the slaves could inflict, themselves, when the tables are turned. But, of course, it is possible to skip over those graphic accounts and concentrate on the general history which is fascinating. The accounts of the fierce military campaigns, espionage intrigue and political machinations are all extremely interesting and intriguing. Reading about the day to day events in the life of a slave growing up in Haiti more than 200 years ago is illuminating. Being the son of a reported son of an African king, Toussaint Louverture is likely to have had a better life than most slaves. He was permitted to learn to read and write and also learned some Latin which is probably a better education than many of us are exposed to even today. I learned a great deal about the violent history of Haiti and commend this account to those seeking intimate knowledge of the "Black Napoleon" whose life was not nearly the "bowl of cherries" that one would have envisioned for one who successfully led a slave revolt and established a new order for a new nation. Like George Washington, Toussaint Louverture may have indeed been the father of his country but, more than 200 years ago, the differences between the nature of the lives of the two leaders are startling.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars
By Danie C
7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. slave rebellion in Haiti
By Deirdre Gaskin
This book was informative for me in that it brought a much deeper insight and understanding of the country and its people. This little island was so ravaged by France, England and America that it is no wonder that even today it remains one of the poorest, most disadvantaged countries in the world. There is evidence of remarkable research and documentation. The characters are well developed in personalities, beliefs and motives. The most outstanding character in the book is Toussaint Louverture, the slave who rose up with intelligence, courage and military expertise to inspire the fight for freedom from slavery. The dynamics between him and other military leaders represent fascinating reading. The switching of sides for personal gain was complex and the unbelievable treachery against Louverture was devastating. Yet, in the face of overwhelming opposition he remained strong in persevering freedom for his people until the very end. He died a noble death and his principles should live on in the hearts of not only Haitians, but all the racially disadvantaged people in the world. An excellent historical novel!

Napoleon was forced to divert badly needed troops to deal with a slave army in Haiti led by Jean Jacques Dessalines.