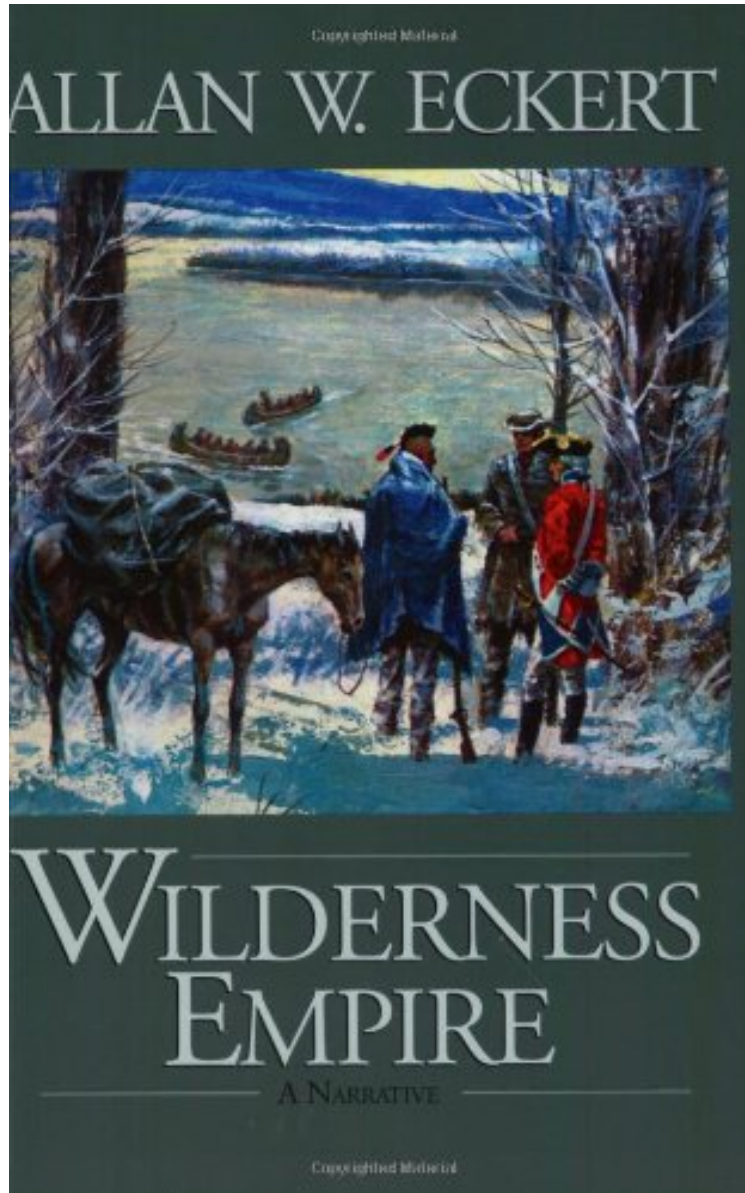


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Wilderness Empire: A Narrative (Winning of America Series)

Allan W. Eckert

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Allan W. Eckert : Wilderness Empire: A Narrative (Winning of America Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wilderness Empire: A Narrative (Winning of America Series):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A HISTORICAL AND EPIC STORY OF THE SETTLING OF THE EARLY NORTHWEST TERRITORYBy richard e whitelockDecades ago, as young students, the American

Wilderness was a topic that we studied in detail. But now, this part of our American history along with the American Revolution are treated very lightly and in little detail in most school's history curriculum. The author of this series, Allan Eckert, is a marvelous author and well deserving of the six Pulitzers his works were nominated for. Historical Narratives present factual evidence along with the author's attempt to portray what the characters were thinking, how they might have reacted to certain situations and why they did what they did in terms of reacting. This era of the late 1700's and early 1800's come to life and their stories actually jump off the page. Simon Kenton, Pontiac, Tecumseh, Cornstalk, and Blue Jacket, Simon Gerty, William Harrison, Thomas Jefferson, Daniel Boone come to life and their stories unfold nicely. The influences of the French, British, the many Native American Tribes, the early American settlers, and our military and political leaders at the time come to life in vivid colors. The settling of the Indiana Territories, statehood and epic conflicts between the Native Americans and French and English Army along with colonial militia members come to life in vivid details. The Ohio River ran red with blood from our early ancestors and the reasons for the conflict between the two opponents are well developed by the author. British leadership from London, to Colonial Governors, assemblies and British Generals and armies that were sent to protect the colonies were so subpar that our early settlers were ripe for picking. The British military was out of their element when European styles of warfare were applied to Indian and Canadian styles of "hit and run" warfare. The British generals were so unprepared for frontier type warfare and frankly they lacked the backbone to fight this new style of combat. The French and Indians came so close to capturing Albany, Philadelphia and even New York city. The Americans had their chances to win the war in its earliest goings, but deferred to allowing the French and Indians to run roughshod over our forts throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York state. For a time, the American colonies were in a bad way of surviving the onslaught of the French, Indians and our poor tactic and strategy formulated by the English generals. The atrocities that the Native Americans subjected our settlers to was unforgivable. The greed and land snatching that the English subjected the Native Americans to were equally unforgivable. As I suggested in my earlier reviews, I would recommend that you own and carefully read all six volumes that Eckert wrote in his Americana Series. I thoroughly enjoyed reading these epic works and meeting the many characters that contributed to the history known as the settling of early American territories west of the Appalachians and east of the Mississippi River. Great reading!

10 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Some very good parts in the book that gave more information than ...

By Bucky Badger

Some very good parts in the book that gave more information than I was familiar with so I generally enjoyed the book. But I liked his earlier one, *The Frontiersman*, much more. Too many short and long letters from characters in it and I thought the beginning 1/4 of the book dragged some. If you read this book, and I don't discourage that, I would suggest skimming some of the lesser parts and drilling down into more captivating areas for the best results. The Indians (especially the Iroquois) tried to play off the French and British from each other and regretted not teaming up with the other Indians against all whites. Some similarities in the Middle East during the Cold War.

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. History Brought to Life

By Howard Covey

Hope to see the rest of this series in Kindle soon!

Another instance of history brought to life in a very readable and entertaining narrative. This is the telling of the French and Indian War which established the English Colonies dominion of Eastern North America and Canada. What I love about the way Eckert tells these stories is that we see it through the eyes of the Indians, Frontiersmen and soldiers who were most directly involved - rather than the politicians and would be founders who were bit players here - though would play huge rolls in the actual shaping of America. George Washington is a character - as he did serve and command in the war - but the focus is not on him - and shouldn't be. The overlying story is the beginning of the end of the League of the Six Nations - The Iroquois. How they are courted by both factions of "invaders" -and how they chose to fight the war ultimately affected their own dominion of the same lands. A great story - a great book!

For over two hundred years no Indian force in America was so powerful and feared as the Iroquois League. Throughout two thirds of this continent, the cry of "The Iroquois are coming!" was enough to demoralize entire tribes. But these Iroquois occupied and controlled a vast wilderness empire which beckoned like a precious gem to foreign powers. France and England secured footholds and suddenly each was claiming as its own this land of the Iroquois. Alliance with the Indians was the key; whichever power controlled them could destroy the other. Wilderness Empire is the gripping narrative of the eighteenth-century struggle of these two powers to win for themselves the allegiance of the Indians in a war for territorial dominance, yet without letting these Indians know that the prize of the war would be this very Iroquois land. It is the story of English strength hamstrung by incredible incompetence, of French power sapped by devastating corruption. It is the story of the English, Indian and French individuals whose lives intertwine in the greatest territorial struggle in American history--the French and Indian War.

About the Author Allan Eckert has molded the raw facts of history into a moving, perceptive and penetrating narrative filled with the grace and pathos, action and beauty, humanity and savagery of which survival on the American frontier was all a part. A seasoned writer, noted naturalist and historian, he is author of *The Great Auk*, *Wild Season*, and *The Crossbreed*. Wilderness Empire is the second work in his great series "The Winning of America". *The Frontiersmen*, the first volume in the series, is the thrilling narrative of America's first major thrust westward. Watch for the third

volume, *The Conquerors*, in 2002.