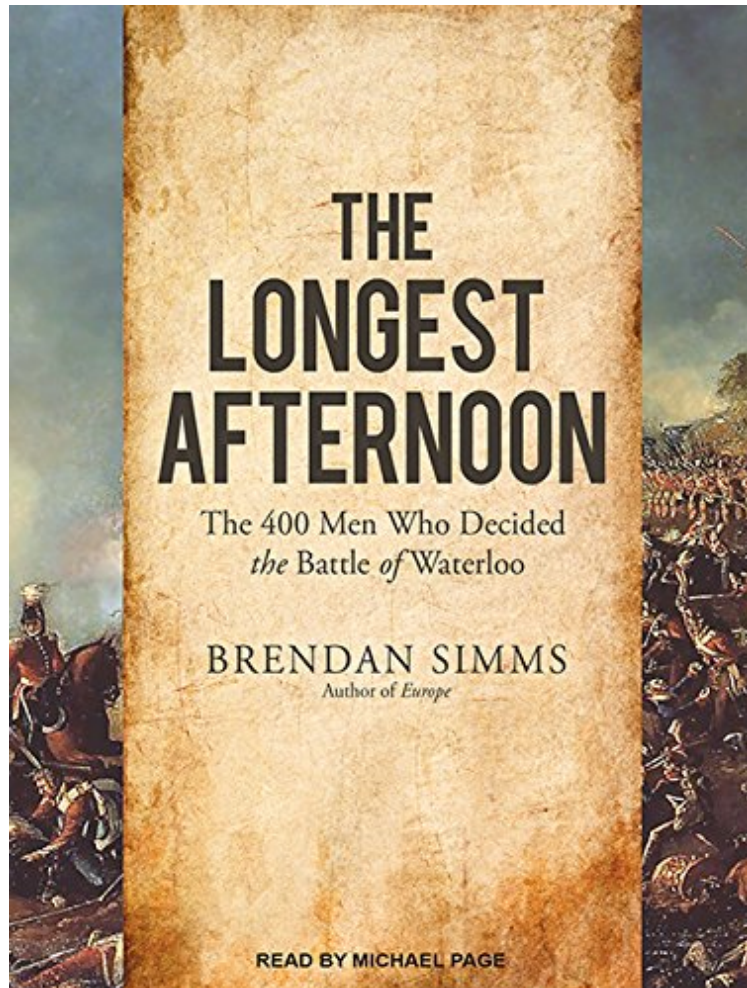


(Download ebook) The Longest Afternoon: The 400 Men Who Decided the Battle of Waterloo

The Longest Afternoon: The 400 Men Who Decided the Battle of Waterloo

Brendan Simms

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In 1815, the deposed emperor Napoleon returned to France and threatened the already devastated and exhausted continent with yet another war. Near the small Belgian municipality of Waterloo, two large, hastily mobilized armies faced each other to decide the future of Europe-Napoleon's forces on one side, and the Duke of Wellington on the

other. With so much at stake, neither commander could have predicted that the battle would be decided by the Second Light Battalion, King's German Legion, which was given the deceptively simple task of defending the Haye Sainte farmhouse, a crucial crossroads on the way to Brussels. In *The Longest Afternoon*, Brendan Simms recounts how these four-hundred-odd riflemen beat back wave after wave of French infantry until they were finally forced to withdraw, but only after holding up Napoleon for so long that he lost the overall contest. Their actions alone decided the most influential battle in European history.

"Simms takes advantage of abundant letters and memoirs to deliver an engrossing, often gruesome nuts-and-bolts description of that afternoon." ---Kirkus
About the Author
Brendan Simms is a professor of the history of international relations and a fellow at Peterhouse College, Cambridge. He is the author of *Unfinest Hour*, *Three Victories and a Defeat*, and *Europe*, which was shortlisted for the Lionel Gelber Prize. Brendan lives in Cambridge, England.
Michael Page has been recording audiobooks since 1984 and has over two hundred audiobooks to his credit. He has won several AudioFile Earphones Awards, including for *The Lies of Locke Lamora* by Scott Lynch. A professional actor, Michael is currently a professor of theater at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan.