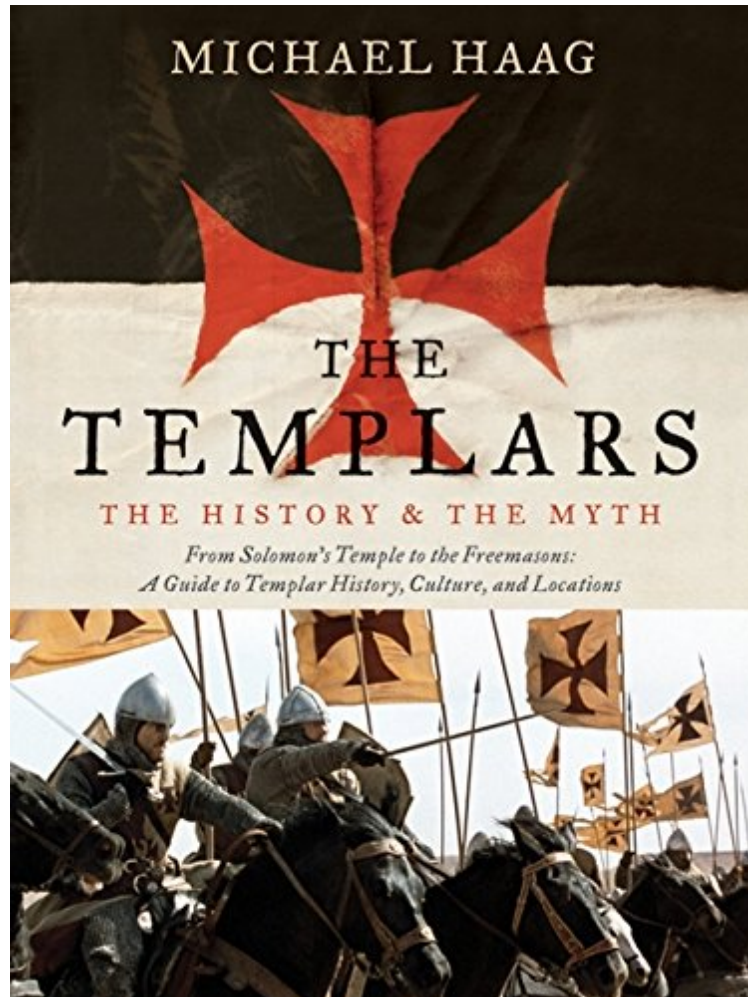


The Templars: The History and the Myth: From Solomon's Temple to the Freemasons

Michael Haag

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Michael Haag : The Templars: The History and the Myth: From Solomon's Temple to the Freemasons before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Templars: The History and the Myth: From Solomon's Temple to the Freemasons:

54 of 56 people found the following review helpful. A total history of the crusades By Dr. B. Wisnubroto This book gives a very good narration about the history of The Crusades from the First Crusade to the 13th. The explanation about the crusades, from the causes, the principal actors etc is very comprehensive but written in an easy to understand style. On the other hand, the history about The Templars is also written comprehensively, but only fills about 30 - 40 % of the book's content, so most of this book's contents is more about the history of The Crusades. Whatever, after reading this book, I have reached the conclusion that what has been popularly written or filmed about The Templars by

authors such as Dan Brown etc, is more myth or fiction than historical facts. At the end of the book Michael Haag also gives a list of other books, films, videos currently on the market about the Templars, so the reader can delve deeper about the subject or just find other material for comparison. Anyway, Micael Haag's book provides good reading and is a must for history buffs. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great book with all the info in one place. By James L. Sellers Great book. Explains a lot about what's going on in the World today. I've read a lot about the Templars in many different books. This book puts it all in one place. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I liked the first 3 quarters of the book approximately. By J. H. Eric Cousineau I liked the first 3 quarters of the book approximately. But after that it gets too much into the conspiracy theories that arose after the Templars had long disappeared; in other words all the false stories that were written about the Templars. I didn't get into a feeling of being a holy knight on a crusade in the book. Nonetheless the book deserves its four stars from the interesting facts I learned about how the crusades would have failed long before they did were it not for the Templars (and the Hospitalers).

Arguably one of the most provocative, puzzling, and misunderstood organizations of medieval times, the legendary Knights Templar have always been shrouded in a veil of mystery, while inspiring popular culture from Indiana Jones to Dan Brown. In *The Templars*, author Michael Haag offers a definitive history of these loyal Christian soldiers of the Crusades—sworn to defend the Holy Land and Jerusalem, but ultimately damned and destroyed by the Pope and his church. A bestseller in the United Kingdom—the first history of the enigmatic warriors to include findings from the Chinon Parchment, the long-lost Vatican document absolving the Knights of heresy—*The Templars* by Michael Haag is fascinating reading.

“Haag sifts through the history and the legends to illuminate these mysterious Holy Warriors. . . . Readers of *The Da Vinci Code* and other fictions relating to the Templars will enjoy this well-written, copiously illustrated, and solidly researched book. Highly recommended.” (Library Journal) From the Back Cover The first history of the legendary knights since the Vatican momentarily released the records of their trial and exoneration Who were the Templars? What was the secret of their wealth and power? Why did the pope and the king of France act to destroy them? The Knights Templar were founded on Christmas Day 1119, on the very spot in Jerusalem where Jesus Christ was crucified. A religious order of fighting knights, the Templars defended the Holy Land and Christian pilgrims in the decades after the First Crusade. Legendary for their bravery and dedication, the Templars became one of the wealthiest and most powerful bodies of the medieval world—until they were condemned for heresy two centuries after their foundation, when the order was abolished and its leaders were burned at the stake. In *The Templars*, renowned historian Michael Haag investigates the origins and history, the enduring myths, and the soaring architecture of an enigmatic order long shrouded in mystery and controversy. The hand of the Templars, many believe, can be found in everything from Cathar heresy to Masonic conspiracies, and the Knights Templar still inspire popular culture, from Indiana Jones to Xbox games, to the novels of Dan Brown. About the Author Historian and writer Michael Haag has written widely on the Egyptian, Classical, and Medieval worlds. He is the author of *The Templars: The History the Myth* and *Alexandria: City of Memory*, a definitive study of Cavafy, Forster, and Lawrence Durrell in the city, as well as travel guides to Syria, Lebanon, and Egypt. He lives in London.