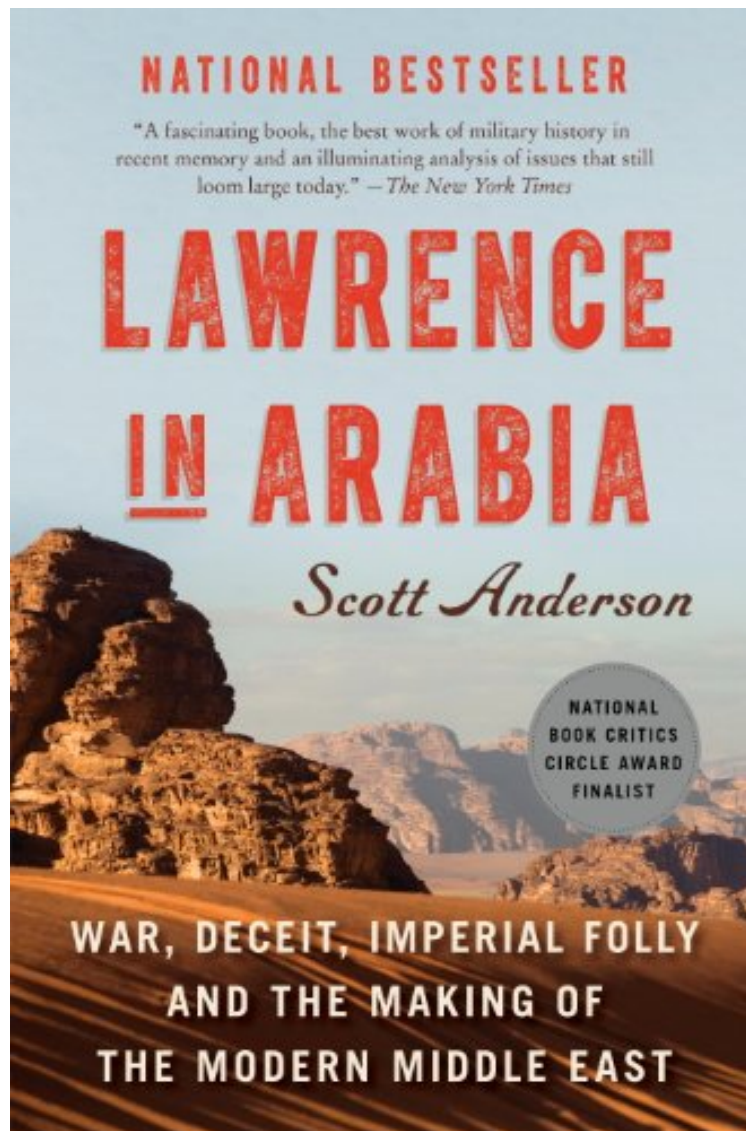


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Lawrence in Arabia: War, Deceit, Imperial Folly and the Making of the Modern Middle East (Ala Notable Books for Adults)

Von Scott Anderson

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Von Scott Anderson : Lawrence in Arabia: War, Deceit, Imperial Folly and the Making of the Modern Middle East (Ala Notable Books for Adults) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lawrence in Arabia: War, Deceit, Imperial Folly and the Making of the Modern Middle East (Ala Notable Books for Adults):

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Geschichte des Nahen Osten im 1. Weltkrieg
Von Thomas Fontanari
Das Buch erzht die Geschichte des Nahen Ostens im 1. Weltkrieg aus interessanter Perspektive. Nmlich jener von Akteuren der mittleren Fhrungsebene, die aufgrund der damaligen Kommunikationstechnologie heute kaum vorstellbaren Spielraum hatten. Zentrale Figur ist natrlich T. E. Lawrence. Weiters wird das Wirken des deutschen Agenten Dr. Curt Prfer, des Standard Oil Angestellten und Diplomaten William Yale sowie des zionistischen Aktivisten bzw. britischen Spions Aaron Aaronsohn geschildert.
Gelungene Verknpfung von politischer, Kriegs- und Diplomatiegeschichte, welche die heutigen Probleme in der Region verstehen hilft. Kernpunkte dieser Ursachengeschichte sind das kolonialistische SykesPicot Abkommen sowie die Balfour Deklaration. Erschtternd ist die Schilderung des Versagens der britischen Generle und das damit verbundene Verheizen der Empire Truppen im Kampf gegen eine militrisch drittklassige Macht, das Osmanische Reich. Die britischen Rckschlge auf dem Schlachtfeld machten die Untersttzung des arabischen Aufstands unabdingbar.
Gut geschriebenes Buch in ebenso gut verstndlichem Englisch. Kaufempfehlung fr jeden, der sich fr die Biographie Lawrence' oder die Geschichte der Region interessiert.
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Von Movingfeet
Good historical data and especially interesting to read right now. Some things are easier to understand with this background information.

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Seattle Times
St. Louis Dispatch
National Book Critics Circle Finalist --
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Notable Book
A thrilling and revelatory narrative of one of the most epic and consequential periods in 20th century history the Arab Revolt and the secret great game to control the Middle East
The Arab Revolt against the Turks in World War One was, in the words of T.E. Lawrence, a sideshow of a sideshow. Amidst the slaughter in European trenches, the Western combatants paid scant attention to the Middle Eastern theater. As a result, the conflict was shaped to a remarkable degree by a small handful of adventurers and low-level officers far removed from the corridors of power. Curt Prfer was an effete academic attached to the German embassy in Cairo, whose clandestine role was to foment Islamic jihad against British rule. Aaron Aaronsohn was a renowned agronomist and committed Zionist who gained the trust of the Ottoman governor of Syria. William Yale was the fallen scion of the American aristocracy, who traveled the Ottoman Empire on behalf of Standard Oil, dissembling to the Turks in order gain valuable oil concessions. At the center of it all was Lawrence. In early 1914 he was an archaeologist excavating ruins in the sands of Syria; by 1917 he was the most romantic figure of World War One, battling both the enemy and his own government to bring about the vision he had for the Arab people.
The intertwined paths of these four men the schemes they put in place, the battles they fought, the betrayals they endured and committed mirror the grandeur, intrigue and tragedy of the war in the desert. Prfer became Germany's grand spymaster in the Middle East. Aaronsohn constructed an elaborate Jewish spy-ring in Palestine, only to have the anti-Semitic and bureaucratically-inept British first ignore and then misuse his organization, at tragic personal cost. Yale would become the only American intelligence agent in the entire Middle East while still secretly on the payroll of Standard Oil. And the enigmatic Lawrence rode into legend at the head of an Arab army, even as he waged secret war against his own nation's imperial ambitions.
Based on years of intensive primary document research, LAWRENCE IN ARABIA definitively overturns received wisdom on how the modern Middle East was formed. Sweeping in its action, keen in its portraiture, acid in its condemnation of the destruction wrought by European colonial plots, this is a book that brilliantly captures the way in which the folly of the past creates the anguish of the present.
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"Lawrence in Arabia is a fascinating book, the best work of military history in recent memory and an illuminating analysis of issues that still loom large today" (Janet Maslin, New York Times)
'The research in this book is so daringly original, and the writing so spectacular, that it feels like I'm reading about the topic for the first time.' (Sebastian Junger, bestselling author of The Perfect Storm)
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'Thrillingly, Scott Anderson's Lawrence in Arabia does [real justice to the bureaucratic fumblings, the myriad spies, heroes and villains, the dense fugue of humanity at its best and worst operating in the Mideast war theater of 1914-17...] weaving enormous detail into its 500-plus pages with a propulsive narrative thread.' (USA Today)
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