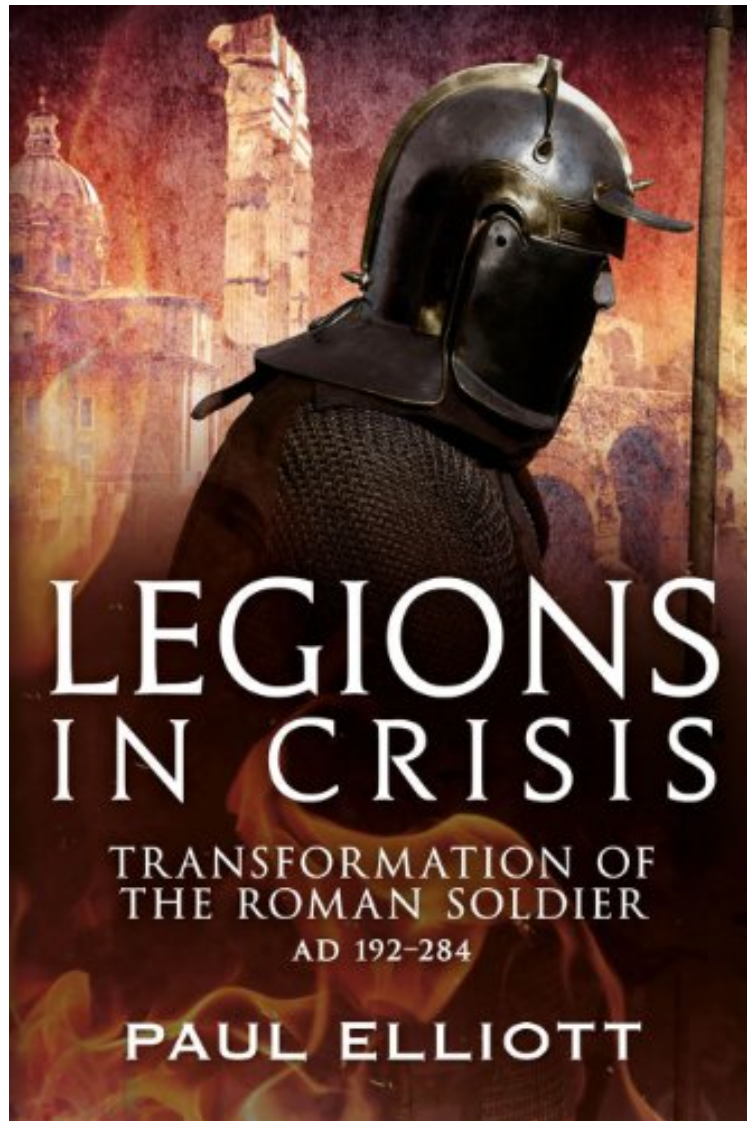


(Free) Legions in Crisis: Transformation of the Roman Soldier AD 192–284

Legions in Crisis: Transformation of the Roman Soldier AD 192–284

Paul Elliott

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Paul Elliott : Legions in Crisis: Transformation of the Roman Soldier AD 192–284 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Legions in Crisis: Transformation of the Roman Soldier AD 192–284:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Moving to an End of EmpireBy Joseph D. White, Jr.The third century marks the end of the Roman Princeps and the transition to the what would eventually become an Eastern

potentate form of government. Essentially, the Classical Roman Empire ceased to exist, replaced by a more eastern form of dictatorial power supported only by the will of the army. Paul Elliot skillfully traces these changes through the experience of an army in transition; an army lacking essential training and funds to maintain the elite fighting forces of previous emperors. In this book we can read how the army struggles to maintain its capabilities while the world changes around them. The illustrations are excellent and the photographs highlight how the soldier used his arms. Every reader of Roman history needs to book in his/her library. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Recommended for anyone interested in the history of Rome By J. Groen This book is a good review of the changes that occurred to the Roman legions during the great Roman crisis of the 3rd century. Also, the author describes in an overview fashion the history of Rome during that period, and also covers the siege of Dura Europa, which, when found, uncovered a huge amount of 3rd century artifacts. I find this period of the Roman empire to be very interesting because of the change occurring. And, this book does a good job of covering it. The best parts of the book however, have to do with the impact and changes in the legions. I recommend this book for anyone interested in the history of Rome. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Adds color to the Legions By txdino Not a deep dive into the evolution of the Roman legions equipment and tactics, more an explanation of the functions of various equipment and clothing that appear in statuary, frescoes, or of artifacts. It does provide good insight into the function of various soldier accouterments and the color plates are worth the price alone.

The third century AD was a turbulent and testing time for the Roman Empire. A new and powerful foe in the east had risen up to challenge Rome directly. Barbarians on the northern frontiers were now more aggressive and more numerous than before and internally the population of the empire had to contend with rampant inflation and a series of terrible plagues. Unfortunately, the chaos became magnified by a lack of continuity on the imperial throne. The army had real political power in the third century, making and unmaking emperors as it saw fit. It had been aided in this by Septimius Severus, the African emperor who had won out in the civil wars following Commodus' assassination. He increased the army's pay and granted other privileges. While the army gained rapidly in size, stature and political savvy during the reign of Septimius Severus, it also accelerated a material transformation. Armor, shields, helmets, swords and javelins all began to be replaced with new styles. *Legions in Crisis* looks closely at the new styles of arms and armor, comparing their construction, use and effectiveness to the more familiar types of Roman kit used by soldiers fighting the earlier Dacian and Marcomannic Wars. What did this transformation in military technology mean for the tactical choices used on the battlefield? Although the outcome had looked in doubt, the army and the empire it protected weathered the storm to emerge into the fourth century fully able to tackle the challenges of a new age.

A good read for anyone interested in the Roman Army or in how military institutions learn and grow. (Strategy Page) About the Author Paul Elliott has a degree in Ancient History and Archaeology and has written books on military history, cults and secret societies. His previous books for Fonthill were *Legions in Crisis* and *A Roman Soldier on Hadrian's Wall*. He has also written several articles for *Ancient Warfare* magazine. For the past decade he has been active in historical reconstruction and even taught Roman drill and cookery to primary school children.