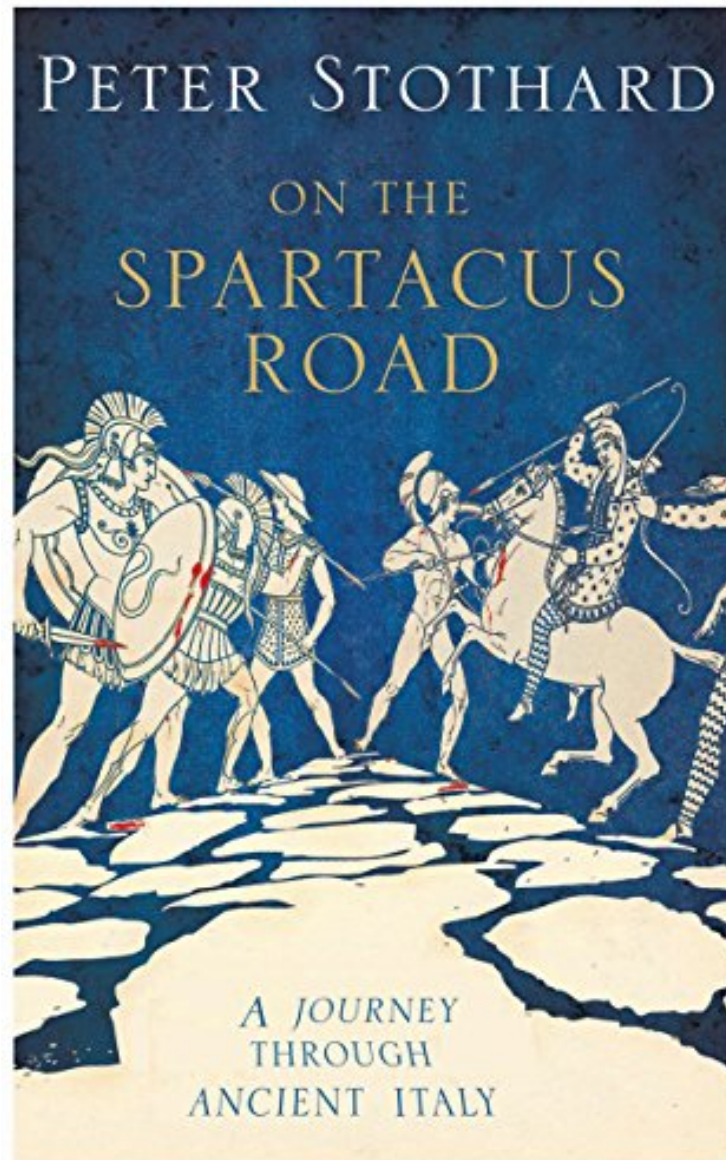


The Spartacus Road

Peter Stothard

*DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#2376875 in Books Overlook Hardcover 2010-06-10 2010-06-10 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.83 x 1.20 x 5.66l, 1.28 #File Name: 1590203232368 pages | File size: 51.Mb

Peter Stothard : The Spartacus Road before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Spartacus Road:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Introspecful History With Personal CommentaryBy CI should have read the other reviews more carefully; this is not a purely historical story of Spartacus, which is what I was looking for. As some of the other reviews before this one indicate, this book is a historical account of Spartacus and ancient

roman history, interspersed with the author's commentary on his travels in Italy while gathering the information/reasearch for this book. So along with the historical information, you read about the author's interaction with modern Italian business owners, tour guides, locals, other tourists... Some of this additional stuff is mildly interesting, some of it is banal and boring and I have to power through it to get back to the meat of the historical story. I will read it all, but it is not as interesting a read as I had hoped it would be. If you want just the facts, this is not the book for you; if you like history with personal observations about modern life in Italy, you may enjoy this book.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Nothing wrong, but...By G. StuccoPeter Stothard is a first class classicist. He knows his sources and his Latin, no question about that. However, as I purchased the book, I had high expectations to learn more about Spartacus. I was expecting a book like "The Spartacus War," only better. I was disappointed, in that the book is a mixture of the author's musings on life and death and his bout with cancer; recollections about his trip and his encounters on the road with various persons, including fellow turists and local guides; historical information about Spartacus and his journey; lots of un-edited pictures and drawings. Again, no complaints about the author's writing; I just felt very un-interested about his commentary on the Spartacus' journey.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Unique blend of history, travelogue, and journey of personal exploration,By Ramblin ManThis is one of the most unique books I have ever read. It is 3 books in one--history, travelogue and a description of one mans personal journey of inner exploration after recovering from cancer. I have been interested in Roman history since I studied Latin in high school. This book explores not just Spartacus' revolt, but the institutions of slavery and gladiatorial combat and its place in Roman society. As the author traces Spartacus' movements, he reports not only on modern day Italy and the travelers he meets, but on the nature of Roman life as reflected in the ruins he finds along the way. For me, it helped me understand better how Rome functioned as an organized society. He also brought a new perspective on travel and how to see my own journeys through new eyes. A great read. Even my wife, who is not interested in history books wants to read it.

The name Spartacus is one familiar to most. He was the Thracian gladiator who rose up from slavery in 73 B.C. to defeat every Roman army sent to destroy him. Today, his struggle is widely perceived as the fight for freedom, but this hasn't always been the case; the ancient Romans were embarrassed by Spartacus's victories over them; the Greeks admired him; and others viewed his uprisings as the embodiment of cruelty. In this fascinating and original work, Stothard retraces the journey taken by Spartacus and his army of rebels, taking us back to an ancient world which confronted similar issues to those we face today

From BooklistStothard is a classicist and the editor of the Times Literary Supplement. A decade ago he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer; after a grueling regimen of surgery and chemotherapy, he managed to survive, and that struggle is interspersed with the struggle of the Thracian slave Spartacus and his followers to gain their freedom from Roman oppression in the first century BCE. This is a quirky, sometimes confusing work, part travelogue, part historical account, and part personal memoir. Stothard takes us across Italy, following in the footsteps of the slave army while recounting their triumphs and eventual destruction. He digresses to describe his personal struggle against a pernicious and formidable enemy. Stothard offers fine descriptions of the battles as Roman armies and the forces of Spartacus move across large areas of southern and central Italy. Spartacus himself remains an understandably murky charater, since accurate source material is sparse, but Stothard provides valuable insights into the nature of Roman society and culture in which as much as a third of the population may have endured various forms of slavery. --Jay Freeman Mr. Stothard's engaging book reminds us that, for all the secrets the story of Spartacus refuses to give up, it still leads us back to the heart of things." Wall Street JournalAbout the AuthorPeter Stothard is the editor of the Times Literary Supplementand author of Alexandria and The Spartacus Road. From 1992 to 2002 he was the Editor of The Times. In 2012 he was chairman of the judges for the Man Booker Prize.