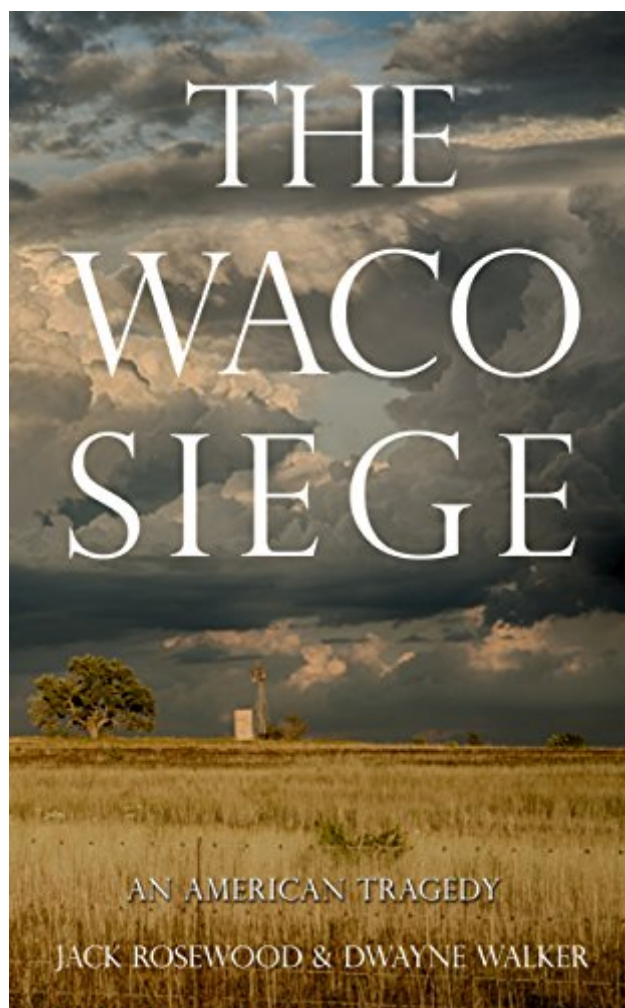


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The Waco Siege: An American Tragedy



Synopsis

During fifty one days in early 1993 one of the most tragic events in American crime history unfolded on the plains outside Waco, Texas. An obscure and heavily armed religious sect called the Branch Davidians was barricaded inside their commune and outside were hundreds of law enforcement angry because the former had killed four ATF agents in a botched raid. Open the pages of this book and go on an engaging and captivating ride to examine one of the most important true crime stories in recent decades. Read the shocking true story of how a man the government considered a psychopath, but whose followers believed to be a prophet, led a breakaway sect of the Seventh Day Adventist Church into infamy. You will follow the meteoric rise of the Branch Davidians' charismatic leader, David Koresh, as he went from an awkward kid in remedial classes to one of the most infamous cult leaders in world history. But the story of the Waco Siege begins long before the events of 1993. At the core of the conflict between the Branch Davidians and the United States government were ideas and interpretations of religious freedom and gun ownership, which as will be revealed in the pages of this book, a considerable philosophical gulf existed between the two sides. David Koresh and the Branch Davidians carried on a long tradition in American and Texas history of religious dissent, but in 1993 that dissent turned tragically violent. You will find that beyond the standard media portrayals of the Waco Siege was an event comprised of complex human characters on both sides of the firing line and that perhaps the most tragic aspect of the event was that the extreme bloodshed could have been avoided. The pages of this book will make you angry, sad, and bewildered; but no matter the emotions evoke, you will be truly moved by the events of the Waco Siege.

Book Information

File Size: 3722 KB

Print Length: 105 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publication Date: December 29, 2015

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B019ZZ2BCA

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #105,991 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #37

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Customer Reviews

I'm giving this book four stars because I feel that it is an adequate introduction to the events at Waco. It is by no means comprehensive, and is rife with grammar errors, but as a starting point and priced at \$11 it's worth the read if you're interested in Waco. It's relatively short so it shouldn't take more than a couple of days for the dedicated reader. Along with this I'd recommend watching the Rules of Engagement documentary.

This is one of the best books I have read so far this year. It gives a highly unbiased and objective account of this grave tragedy that happened on American soil in 1993. I really like the lucid writing style of Jack Rosewood and how he gets to the point so quickly without any apparent loss of detail whatsoever. I have read numerous accounts of this historic tragedy and even watched a few documentaries but this book helped connect all missing links and gave answers to all other questions I had on what, why and how some things happened on this day. I really recommend this book for anyone who is interested in learning about this chapter in 20th century. @Jack Rosewood: Really looking forward to your other books. Best, S

Living in Texas, with a son at Baylor university, I was very aware of the siege and was home at lunch watching the news and could not believe what I was seeing. There were many at that time, including me who thought it was unnecessary. This very competent review of facts along with other's show the reality of what happened.

Although relatively unbiased, this is only a very brief summary with limited insight into why the Waco seige unfolded the way it did. There seems to be very little by the way of primary sources

i.e. interviews with the people involved. It is also poorly edited (i.e. "martial law" is expressed as "marshal law".)

Florida author Jack Rosewood inherited his fascination for heinous crimes from his father, a journalist covering major grim crimes, e.g. Ted Bundy. He is fascinated with serial killers and their development psychologically, their preparation for their life of crime, and the details of how they made their bloody black marks on the world. The movie star handsome Rosewood lives in Jupiter, Florida with his wife and two children. This is now his third book co-authored by Dwayne Walker who has written a number of non-fiction books on Texas history, world history, the history of warfare, and now has conducted research and writing on the topic of terror and how it affects populations. The reason he joins Jack on the series on the criminally insane. For those who need refreshing on the subject of this book, the authors have provided a very fine summarizing comment; "During fifty-one days in early 1993 one of the most tragic events in American crime history unfolded on the plains outside Waco, Texas. An obscure and heavily armed religious sect called the Branch Davidians was barricaded inside their commune and outside were hundreds of law enforcement angry because the former had killed four ATF agents in a botched raid. Open the pages of this book and go on an engaging and captivating ride to examine one of the most important true crime stories in recent decades. Read the shocking true story of how a man the government considered a psychopath, but whose followers believed to be a prophet, led a breakaway sect of the Seventh Day Adventist Church into infamy. You will follow the meteoric rise of the Branch Davidians' charismatic leader, David Koresh, as he went from an awkward kid in remedial classes to one of the most infamous cult leaders in world history. But the story of the Waco Siege begins long before the events of 1993. At the core of the conflict between the Branch Davidians and the United States government were ideas and interpretations of religious freedom and gun ownership, which as will be revealed in the pages of this book, a considerable philosophical gulf existed between the two sides. David Koresh and the Branch Davidians carried on a long tradition in American and Texas history of religious dissent, but in 1993 that dissent turned tragically violent. You will find that beyond the standard media portrayals of the Waco Siege was an event comprised of complex human characters on both sides of the firing line and that perhaps the most tragic aspect of the event was that the extreme bloodshed could have been avoided. But as is becoming the custom with Rosewood his comment at books end bring important aspects into focus: "the government, from President Bill Clinton down to ground level federal agents, can only blame themselves for allowing the plethora of conspiracy

theories to proliferate in the years since the Waco Siege. By not being more forthcoming initially, the average American has since viewed the congressional hearings of 1995 and 2000 as little more than kangaroo courts, which has given more credence to the conspiracy theorists. More government transparency in the weeks after the siege may have prevented this attitude from taking hold. Ultimately, when people ask if the tragedy of the Waco Siege could have been prevented the answer is not so simple. Yes, both sides made numerous mistakes along the way that aggravated the situation, but the essence of the situation – a breakaway sect in possession of an extremely large amount of guns – is something that is protected by the United States Constitution for the most part. Yes, there are limits to both the First and Second Amendments, but determining those limits can be costly as evidenced by the Waco Siege. The authors offer free bonus books with this publication - Arnold Sodeman: The True Story of the Schoolgirl Killer and The Wild Wild West In The Deep South: The Second Seminole War. Great way to start the New Year with significant books. Grady Harp, January 15

This is really just a pamphlet, and not an actual book. Check the number of pages before buying. With a little work, you could find this information on the internet.

Did not give an unbiased account of this tragedy. Admittedly, I could stomach about 3 chapters before I had to put it down because I found it hard to believe.

It was not what I expected. Thought it was a real book, not a short story. Very disappointing.

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