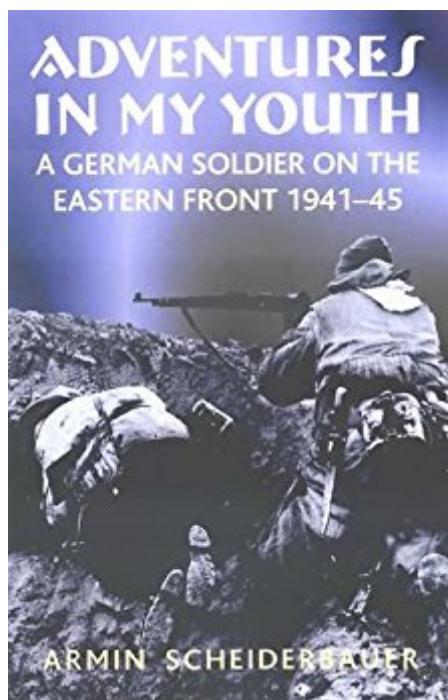


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Adventures In My Youth: A German Soldier On The Eastern Front 1941-45



Synopsis

The author could be described as a 'veteran' in every sense of the word, even though he was only aged 21 when the war ended. Armin Scheiderbauer served as an infantry officer with the 252nd Infantry Division, German Army, and saw four years of bitter combat on the Eastern Front, being wounded six times. This is an outstanding personal memoir, written with great thoughtfulness and honesty. Scheiderbauer joined his unit during the winter of 1941/42, and during the following years saw fierce combat in many of the largest battles on the Eastern Front. His experiences of the 1943-45 period are particularly noteworthy, including his recollections of the massive Soviet offensives of summer 1944 and January 1945. Participating in the bitter battles in East Prussia, he was captured by the Soviets and not released until 1947. Adventures in my Youth is a unique memoir - the author originally wrote it only for his daughter. It has never been published in any language, until now.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A good look at what a young German soldier experienced on the Eastern Front. I would buy this

again.

I enjoyed this book from start to finish. It is not as gripping as Peter Neumann's THE BLACK MARCH but Scheidenbauer is a more sympathetic protagonist. I would compare it more to Guy Sajer's THE FORGOTTEN SOLDIER (questions of authenticity aside). It is a very human story. What I find most interesting is in the narrative the author does not seem to have changed much from the time he went into the army to the time that he left Soviet captivity. Yet he must have because in his sister's notes she mentioned that he would not talk about the war not could you ask him. As with all memoirs of the war from the German side I am always dismayed to see the Nazis are perfect gentlemen even though their enemies (be they Russian or American) are not. All in all a very good read and I would encourage anyone with an interest in the subject to give it a try.

A very detailed accounting of his rich experiences. I enjoyed the read

The slow change of style and perspective in the book is interesting. It would be nice to have an epilogue detailing more of what happened post war to him and his family. A good read although at times I struggled a little with the very early German perceptions of the war and associated issues.

Clearly an intelligent writer with a great memory for details. Very vividly and realistically written so the reader can really get into the autobiographical story of the very intense experiences of a young German soldier.

Enjoyed reading it but at times it seemed a little impersonal with the feeling of an overview rather than detailed accounts. I would have enjoyed it more if there were more complete descriptions of the conditions.

Scheiderbauer took the reader to the battlefield. For those who have never seen combat, he gave a realistic picture of the horrors of war. For the veterans of conflict there was a feeling of support and understanding of his struggle during his days on the front, but more importantly his coming to grips with his life after war.

An interesting read, a bit disjointed in places and, as mentioned by other reviewers, really could benefit from some maps or charts. Having a glossary for the large number of German or Austrian

names and words at the end of a Kindle book doesn't work too well either. Otherwise, and intriguing view of the defeat of the German army from the perspective of a young officer of the German army.

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