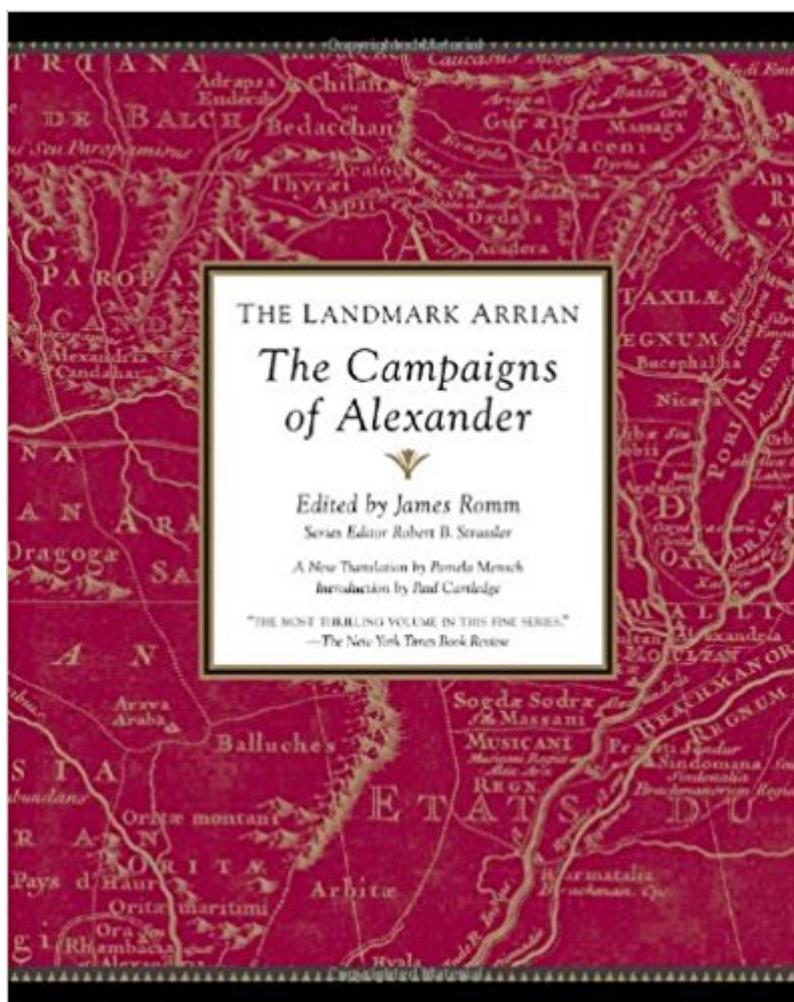


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# The Landmark Arrian: The Campaigns Of Alexander (Landmark (Anchor Books))



## Synopsis

Arrian's *Campaigns of Alexander*, widely considered the most authoritative history of the brilliant leader's great conquests, is the latest addition to the acclaimed Landmark series. After twelve years of hard-fought campaigns, Alexander the Great controlled a vast empire that was bordered by the Adriatic sea to the west and modern-day India to the east. Arrian, himself a military commander, combines his firsthand experience of battle with material from Ptolemy's memoirs and other ancient sources to compose a singular portrait of Alexander. This vivid and engaging new translation of Arrian will fascinate readers who are interested in classical studies, the history of warfare, and the origins of East-West tensions still swirling in Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan today. Enriched by the series' trademark comprehensive maps, illustrations, and annotations, and with contributions from the preeminent classical scholars of today, *The Landmark Arrian: The Campaigns of Alexander* is the definitive edition of this essential work of ancient history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Anabasis Alexandrou (The Campaigns of Alexander), by Lucius Flavius Arrianus, a Roman of the second century, is the principal literary source for modern accounts about the Macedonian conqueror. If its composition three centuries after Alexander the Great lived inherently raises scholarly questions, Arrian's account possesses a narrative momentum that will always interest general readers of ancient Greek history. To that audience, the editors have directed their

Landmark series, which counts Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon in its prior lineage. Its formula of maps, photographs, chronologies, footnotes, and appendixes exceptionally elucidates texts without impeding their flow; readers may digress into academic controversies or forge ahead to the next battle, according to their wont. Arrian satisfies the latter inclination: historians use his information to reconstruct Alexander's battlefield tactics, which this volume's charts graphically depict. Arrian's Roman audience harbored additional curiosities about Alexander, such as omens of his divinity, purges of his retinue, or incidents damaging to his reputation such as the destruction of the Persian capital Persepolis. A dual-use technology, the Landmark package is ideal for library needs: students may study, and browsers may browse.

--Gilbert Taylor --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"The most thrilling volume in this fine series." • The New York Times Book Review "A sumptuously annotated and lavishly illustrated new edition of The Campaigns of Alexander. . . . Arrian is by far our best and most reliable source for the events he describes." • The Wall Street Journal "Pamela Mensch's new translation is both literal and fast-paced. . . . An ideal introductory text to the career of Alexander, [that] will introduce readers to an accessible ancient historian." • The New Criterion "Illuminating. . . . Alexander's conquests stretched across the known world." • this is the first edition of Arrian to show that world in all its vastness. • The NationalPraise for the Landmark Series "The Landmark Xenophon's Hellenika" "Lavish. . . . Outstanding. . . . There is nothing else like [it]." • The New York Review of Books "Truly worthy of the series name. . . . Strassler and the other contributors bring Xenophon to life." • Sacramento Book Review "The Landmark Herodotus" "The most densely annotated, richly illustrated, and user-friendly edition of his Histories ever to appear." • Daniel Mendelsohn, The New Yorker "A real service. . . . Considerably improves accessibility by integrating hundreds of maps and extensive timelines . . . [and] amplifies the first historian's own epic accomplishment." • Forbes "The Landmark Thucydides" "Without question, this is the finest edition of Thucydides' history ever produced. It is a treasure." • The Washington Times "The editor and his contributors have asked themselves the fundamental question: how can one best present and interpret the work of one of the most fascinating but difficult of ancient authors to a modern audience? They have answered this question brilliantly." • The Classical Quarterly "A

Landmark's edition of Arrian's "Anabasis Alexandrou" (The Campaigns of Alexander) is absolutely fantastic. Each time I started to read it, I had a hard time putting it down. That Alexander did so much before turning 33 years old is just not believable. And furthermore, beyond the historical and political importance of Alexander, from a purely literary standpoint, the story of the expedition is always exciting and changing. Although there were many contemporaneous accounts made by people intimately involved with the expedition available to Arrian when he wrote, all these accounts have since disappeared. We are lucky to have Arrian's account. With respect to this particular edition of Arrian's account, the translation was new and extremely easy to read. The footnotes were excellent because they provided a continuous scholarly commentary. How many times do you make the effort to read all the footnotes, just to realize that you could have read the text twice as fast without missing anything important? Not here. This text has been the subject of much scholarly writing, and you get this information in the footnotes. More specifically, the footnotes very frequently bring in Plutarch's Alexander, Diodorus Siculus, and Quintus Curtius. Sometimes these notes provide new, additional information. Sometimes these footnotes provide conflicting information. Other times the notes address current day scholarly debate and research. Either way, you're left with a deeper appreciation of Arrian and the legend of Alexander. As with the other books in the Landmark series, there were frequent maps showing not only where the cities were, but also where they were in relation to other landmarks. Each chapter starts with an overview map of where the expedition went during that chapter in addition to more focused maps sprinkled frequently within each chapter. There are also maps in the beginning and the end of the book of all the locations mentioned, as well as maps of the whole expedition and the whole expedition mapped up against present-day political borders. There are also pictures of what the geography and locations look like today as well as artifacts from the era. The 25-page intro by Paul Cartledge was good and the 2-6 page essays at the back of the book by various scholars, about 15 of them, were also very interesting, but not essential. But without a doubt, the star of the whole show was the excellent writing and research by Arrian, made accessible and appreciable by the translation and footnotes. Read the second introductory paragraph of Arrian's text and then smile. Arrian was a little full of himself, but he told the truth! My only regret about this edition was that it did not include a monograph by Arrian called the *Indika*, which described Nearkhos' parallel-to-Alexander's journey from the mouth of the Indus through the Persian Gulf by water. The Landmark edition frequently alludes to the *Indika* and could easily have included it. I'm not sure a good modern day translation of the *Indika* in English exists.

The entire 'son of god' mythos in the Greek and Latin venue stems -- not from Horus -- from Alexander. Thereafter, the other roman gods - Gaius Julius Caesar, Vespasian, and Titus - were Alex wanna-bes. I bought this in the wake of Atwill's work. Atwil "purchased the rights to [his] work "Caesar's Messiah" from the publisher and in May 2011 released a second edition. Unlike Atwill, this book needs no additional editorial help. The writing is crisp, succinct, and scholarly. It is a page-turner for history buffs. One of the best - IF NOT THE BEST - books on Alex the G. ever!

The first Landmark edition I bought was Xenophon's Hellenika. I was so impressed that I bought the Herodotus, Thucydides and now the Arrian. I would not recommend buying these editions in paperback. Definitely buy the hardcover even if they are more expensive. If you want to study Alexander the Great, this Landmark edition is the place to start. The bibliography at the end lists books for further reading. JFC Fuller's Generalship of Alexander the Great is listed and I would recommend it since General Fuller was also a soldier and brings a soldier's perspective.

Another great production from the Landmark series. As with many of the reviewers I have purchased and read the other three (Herodotus, Xenophon and Thucydides) while I have read other translations of those three sadly my education was lacking and this was my first experience with Arrian. It is well worth the effort to read this description of Alexander's campaigns and as with all the Landmark series the extras (maps, essays, photos) make the book. This review is based on the hardback version.

is a kind of heirloom edition, worthy of being owned by the Greekless and Classicists alike. Arrian's Greek is brought up to date, and the marginalia introduce the reader to the subject being read at the moment, which enhances the comprehension of the event(s) described. The text is supported by maps and illustrations, and an extensive Index. Moreover, deal with various facets of Alexander and Arrian. by Eugene N. Borza is again treating an old theme of >, with an undocumented statement . Such a misleading statement should not have appeared in this otherwise attractively produced edition. Elias Kapetanopoulos, Professor Dr., Emeritus

Excellent information contained within however, I feel the quality of the manufactured book is a significant downgrade from the previous "Landmark" series releases (of which I have purchased all). Quality of paper, quality of binding, quality of boards, all below specs of the previous releases. I have no idea why. If this is the expected quality for future planned volumes then regretfully, I will

purchase the information I desire from other sources.

An important and informative classic done the right way, i.e., a highly readable translation with numerous maps, illustrations and hundreds of edifying annotations. I'm waiting for Xenophon's *Anabasis* to come out in this format. And Caesar's *War Commentaries*. And... You get the idea.

Like all landmark Editions the Maps and Notes make the text a joy to read. No additional source material is needed. Existing to read the real sours material almost as Arrian wrote it. Only the transcription stands between you and the author.

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