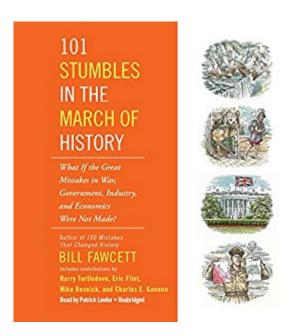
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101 Stumbles In The March Of History: What If The Great Mistakes In War, Government, Industry, And Economics Were Not Made?





Synopsis

Did I do that?! When asked to name a successor, Alexander the Great declared that his empire should go "to the strongest". But would rival factions have descended into war if he'd been a little more specific? What if the Vienna School of Art took a chance on a hopeful young student named Adolf Hitler? If Pope Clement VII granted King Henry VIII an annulment, England would likely still be Catholic today - and so would America. Bill Fawcett, author of 100 Mistakes That Changed History, offers a compendium of 101 all-new mammoth mistakes - from the ill-fated rule of Emperor Darius III to the equally ill-fated search for WMDs in Iraq - that will, unfortunately, never be forgotten by history.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 15 hours and 46 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Blackstone Audio, Inc.

Audible.com Release Date: September 6, 2016

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English
ASIN: B01L27JPQ4

Best Sellers Rank: #108 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > World #563 in Books >

Audible Audiobooks > History > Military #7296 in Books > History > Military

Customer Reviews

Originally posted at: [...]101 Stumbles in the March of History: What If the Great Mistakes in War, Government, Industry, and Economics Were Not Made? by Bill Fawcett is a book written for alternate historians. Don't get me wrong, I'm sure the publisher wants to reach as wide an audience as possible (and the book is good enough to do just that), but alternate historians are the audience that needs to read this book. This is a book for them. Anywho, 101 Stumbles is a collection of essays mostly written by Bill Fawcett, but with several other contributors including noted alternate history/SF writers like Harry Turtledove, Eric Flint and Mike Resnick. As the title suggests, the authors discuss famous historical mistakes such as the Aztec's indecisiveness over what do with the Spaniards or General MacArthur's complete refusal to see that the Chinese were getting ready to intervene in the Korean War, with the earliest mistakes coming first in the book. Thus, an

alternate title for 101 Stumbles is "The Big Book of Hindsight", but to be fair Bill admits early on that they are aware of this and are using these mistakes as a teachable moment for the present and future. As mentioned earlier, 101 Stumbles is a collection of essays, which makes it more of a counterfactual history, which is the scholarly side of the alternate history genre. The one exception is "Divine Calm" by Charles E. Gannon which is actually written like a traditional short story and where the Mongol army that invaded Japan in 1274 doesn't withdraw and gets caught in a typhoon.

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