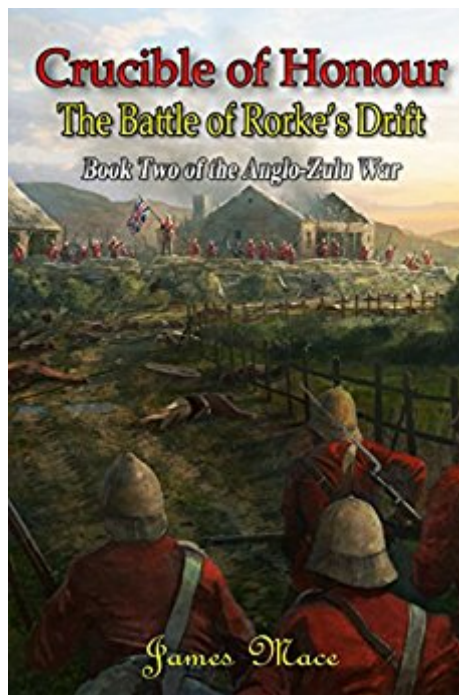




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Crucible Of Honour: The Battle Of Rorke's Drift (The Anglo-Zulu War Book 2)



Synopsis

It is January of 1879. While three columns of British soldiers and their African allies cross the uMzinyathi River to commence the invasion of the Zulu Kingdom, a handful of redcoats from B Company, 2/24th Regiment are left to guard the centre column's supply depot at Rorke's Drift. On the morning of 22 January, the main camp at Isandlwana, just ten miles to the east, comes under attack from the entire Zulu army and is utterly destroyed. Four thousand warriors from King Cetshwayo's elite Undi Corps remained in reserve and were denied any chance to take part in the fighting. Led by Prince Dabulamanzi, they disobey the king's orders and cross into British Natal, seeking their share in triumph and spoils. They soon converge on Rorke's Drift; an easy prize, with its paltry force of 150 redcoats to be readily swept aside. Upon hearing of the disaster at Isandlwana, and with retreat impossible, the tiny British garrison readies to receive the coming onslaught. Leading them is Lieutenant John Chard, a newly-arrived engineer officer with no actual combat experience. Aiding him is B Company's previously undistinguished officer commanding, Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead, along with 24-year old Colour Sergeant Frank Bourne, and a retired soldier-turned civilian volunteer named James Dalton. Unbeknownst to either the British or the Zulus, half of the centre column, under Lord Chelmsford's direct command, was not even at Isandlwana, but fifteen miles further east, at Mangeni Falls. However, with a huge Zulu force of over twenty-thousand warriors between them and the drift, their ammunition and ration stores taken or destroyed, and an impossible distance to cover, Chelmsford's battered column cannot possibly come to the depot's aid, and must look to their own survival. The defenders of Rorke's Drift stand alone.

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Customer Reviews

This is not Mace's best, but it is one of his most informative. It offers a "real" history that departs from the excellent but not precisely historically accurate film, "Zulu". And it contains much information about the Zulu nation and Zulu culture that I found fascinating. The story itself is compelling, no matter how it is told. And Mace tells it well.

Exciting historical novel. You know the outcome, but still a great read.

great piece of history.

Excellent historical novel. Based on fact with human feelings

Excellent! Both books in the series have been excellent. Very detailed yet Mace writes an interesting story to guide you through the events. A very easy read. He did a wonderful job on these books. One can really see that the movie 'Zulu' (an excellent film BTW) was hopelessly filled with errors and while it is one of my most favorite films I will never be able to watch it again without noting them. Also, the true story is much more heroic and interesting than the film.

I have been a fan of the movie Zulu since it first came out and have always been curious about the "real" story. The author has done a brilliant job of putting life into a historically accurate narrative that reads like a novel. It is fun to remember how the movie portrayed the characters and then find out what they really were like. It really is a shame that they weren't show as they really were because in real life they were much more interesting.

Please read this book. The author was in South Africa in April 2017, and I got to read the book in August of 2017. That's cool in my book. I consider the movie, Zulu, as a top 10 movie in my list of all time special movies. I was stirred by the story, and as a Texan, put it up there with Remember The Alamo. I came upon the first book in this series while considering a list of suggested books on . The two books in this series were greeted with great anticipation. I was not disappointed. I slowed my reading speed as I neared the final chapters of this book. I didn't want it to end. Looking forward to the next book!

Read several books about the Anglo Zulu war, this one it's comprehensive, factual, with well developed characters. Enjoyed this volume as much as I did the previous one. Will be waiting for the next one to see the completion of the war. Highly recommended

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