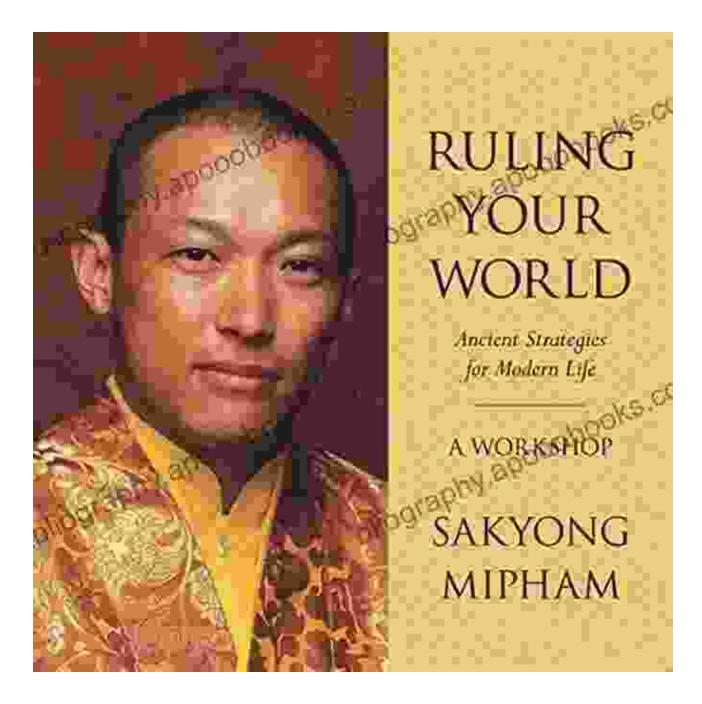
Masters of War: Ancient and Modern Strategy for the Modern World

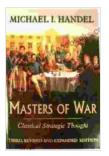


Masters of War: Classical Strategic Thought

by Michael I. Handel



: English



File size: 3876 KBText-to-Speech: EnabledScreen Reader: SupportedEnhanced typesetting : EnabledWord Wise: EnabledPrint length: 510 pagesX-Ray for textbooks: Enabled



By Victor Davis Hanson

In *Masters of War*, acclaimed military historian Victor Davis Hanson presents a sweeping narrative of the great strategic thinkers throughout history, from Sun Tzu to Machiavelli to Clausewitz to Mao Zedong. Hanson argues that these masters of war have much to teach us about the nature of conflict and the challenges of waging war in the modern world.

Hanson begins by examining the work of Sun Tzu, the ancient Chinese military strategist. Sun Tzu argued that war is a contest of wills, and that the best way to win is to defeat your enemy without fighting. He emphasized the importance of deception, surprise, and maneuver, and he advised commanders to avoid正面冲突 whenever possible.

Machiavelli, the Italian political philosopher, wrote about war in the early 16th century. Machiavelli believed that war is a necessary evil, and that it should be waged ruthlessly and efficiently. He argued that the ends justify the means, and that a prince should do whatever it takes to win.

Clausewitz, the Prussian general and military theorist, wrote about war in the early 19th century. Clausewitz believed that war is a complex and unpredictable phenomenon, and that there is no such thing as a perfect strategy. He emphasized the importance of friction, chance, and the human element in war.

Mao Zedong, the Chinese communist leader, wrote about war in the mid-20th century. Mao believed that war is a continuation of politics by other means, and that it can be used to achieve political objectives. He emphasized the importance of mass mobilization, guerrilla warfare, and psychological warfare.

Hanson concludes by arguing that the masters of war have much to teach us about the nature of conflict and the challenges of waging war in the modern world. He believes that we can learn from their successes and failures, and that their insights can help us to avoid the mistakes of the past.

Masters of War is a must-read for anyone who is interested in military history, strategy, or the nature of war. Hanson's insights are thought-provoking and challenging, and they offer a fresh perspective on the timeless subject of war.

Reviews

"*Masters of War* is a tour de force. Hanson has written a brilliant and provocative book that will change the way we think about war." - General David Petraeus

"*Masters of War* is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the nature of conflict and the challenges of waging war in the modern world." -

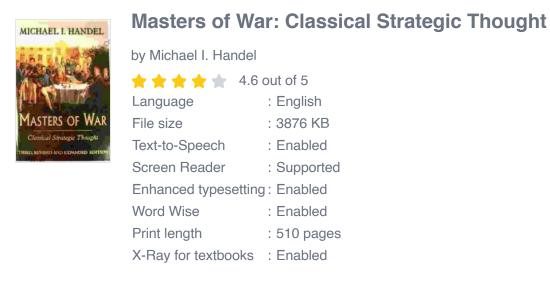
Robert Kagan

"*Masters of War* is a masterpiece. Hanson has written a book that is both erudite and accessible, and that offers a profound understanding of war." -

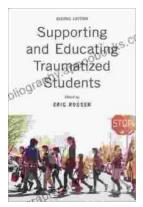
Max Boot

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