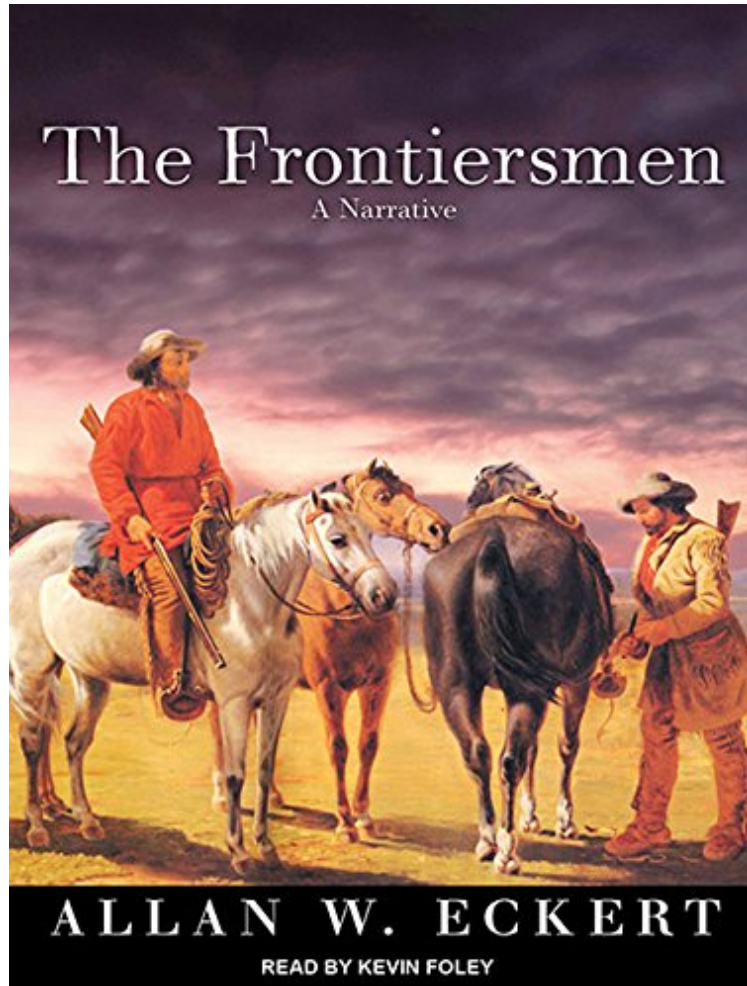


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## The Frontiersmen: A Narrative

Allan W. Eckert

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**Allan W. Eckert : The Frontiersmen: A Narrative** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Frontiersmen: A Narrative:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The book references are a gold mine for researchers. By Traveling Man This is an awesome book for anyone who has an interest in the history of the Trans Allegheny Frontier. I saw some similarities with some stories my grandfather told me when I was little, The real treasure is his references in the back. While in college I began doing research on my own family history using the author references to The Draper Manuscripts (correspondence with actual people who knew Simon Kenton) and located at University of Wisconsin, Madison. There I found in Kenton's own words his involvement with my family going back to 1760's and latter on. Also found correspondence between my family and Dr. Draper about Kenton. So I guess no book has ever affected me on personal level like this one. Why a four rating then? Well he does over use his literary license at times and makes some assumptions about some of the characters in the book and too much glorification of his main characters. 0 of 0

people found the following review helpful. Astonishing story, told the way histories should be toldBy Eugene D. MilenerThis true story is astonishing, and is rich with detail and side characters. Eckert dug deep in his research for all his books, and we are the beneficiaries. But what most impressed me about this book is the format that Eckert devised to tell the story. He writes history as if it were a novel, except he sticks to the truth. The characters talk to each other, instead of a narrator just telling us things like - "Bulter and Johnson agreed to meet again by the river the following summer". So many very knowledgeable historians write in such a dull manner that I appreciate how rare and wonderful Eckert's format is. (However, Eckert does use the narrator technique heavily in his book \*That Dark and Bloody River\*, which is a major disappointment to me.) This is one of a very few books I would recommend to anyone. Another might be \*Endurance\* by Alfred Lansing; and another might be \*Shadow Divers\* by Robert Kurson. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. For me, the greatest book I have ever readBy DavidI've read and reread this book since it was published. It is incredible. If someone were to make a movie from this book, no one would believe it because the story of Simon Kenton is beyond belief. Everyone should know what occurred around the time of the Revolutionary War on what was at that time, the frontier. By reading this book, you will be able to understand that there were good and the bad on all sides. That the "agendas" of all sides made sense - to them. I will admit that because of this book, I traveled to the burial site of Simon Kenton and looked upon it with tears in my eyes.

The frontiersmen were a remarkable breed of men. They were often rough and illiterate, sometimes brutal and vicious, often seeking an escape in the wilderness of mid-America from crimes committed back east. In the beautiful but deadly country which would one day come to be known as West Virginia, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, more often than not they left their bones to bleach beside forest paths or on the banks of the Ohio River, victims of Indians who claimed the vast virgin territory and strove to turn back the growing tide of whites. These frontiersmen are the subjects of Allan W. Eckert's dramatic history. Against the background of such names as George Rogers Clark, Daniel Boone, Arthur St. Clair, Anthony Wayne, Simon Girty, and William Henry Harrison, Eckert has re-created the life of one of America's most outstanding heroes, Simon Kenton. Kenton's role in opening the Northwest Territory to settlement more than rivaled that of his friend Daniel Boone. By his eighteenth birthday, Kenton had already won frontier renown as woodsman, fighter, and scout. His incredible physical strength and endurance, his great dignity and innate kindness made him the ideal prototype of the frontier hero. Yet there is another story to The Frontiersmen. It is equally the story of one of history's greatest leaders. Tecumseh, the brilliant Shawnee chief, welded together by the sheer force of his intellect and charisma an incredible Indian confederacy that came desperately close to breaking the thrust of the white man's westward expansion. Like Kenton, Tecumseh was the paragon of his people's virtues, and the story of his life, in Eckert's hands, reveals most profoundly the grandeur of the American Indian. No less important, The Frontiersmen is the story of wilderness America itself, its penetration and settlement, and it is Eckert's particular grace to be able to evoke life and meaning from the raw facts of this story. In The Frontiersmen, not only do we care about our long-forgotten fathers-we live again with them.

"Historian-novelist Eckert has fashioned an epic narrative history of the struggle for dominance of the Ohio River Valley that makes compelling [listening]." ---Publishers WeeklyFrom the PublisherDriven from their homeland, the Indians fought bitterly to keep a final stronghold east of the Mississippi. Savage cunning, strength, skill, and knowledge of the wilderness were their weapons, and the Indians used them mercilessly. But they couldn't foresee the white men who would come later, men who loved the land as much as they did, who wanted it for their own. Men who learned the Indian tricks and matched brutality for brutality."Reading Eckert is like listening to a master storyteller: he presents his material in vivid detail, using the novelist's technique to enhance dramatic events."--Publishers WeeklyFrom the Inside FlapDriven from their homeland, the Indians fought bitterly to keep a final stronghold east of the Mississippi. Savage cunning, strength, skill, and knowledge of the wilderness were their weapons, and the Indians used them mercilessly. But they couldn't foresee the white men who would come later, men who loved the land as much as they did, who wanted it for their own. Men who learned the Indian tricks and matched brutality for brutality.