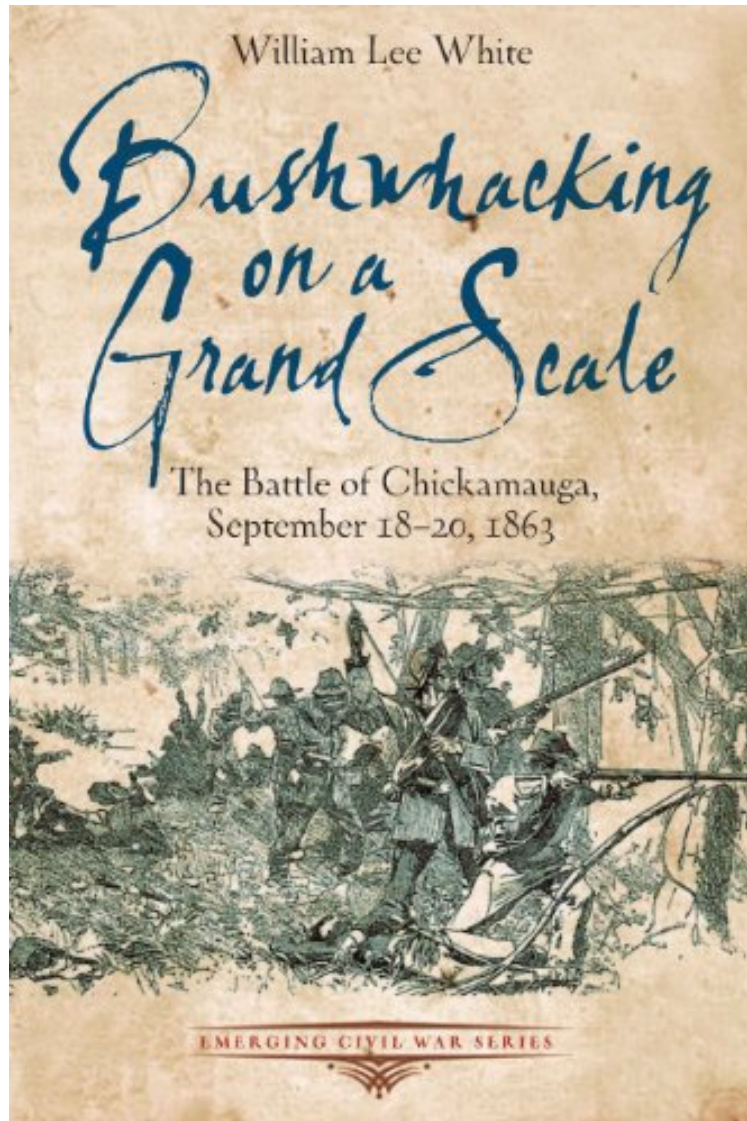


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Bushwhacking on a Grand Scale: The Battle of Chickamauga, September 18-20, 1863 (Emerging Civil War Series)

William Lee White

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William Lee White : Bushwhacking on a Grand Scale: The Battle of Chickamauga, September 18-20, 1863 (Emerging Civil War Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bushwhacking on a Grand Scale: The Battle of Chickamauga, September 18-20, 1863 (Emerging Civil War Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A solid work on Chickamauga--serving two major purposesBy Steven PetersonIf interested in the battle at Chickamauga, one of the nastiest and most confused (and confusing) battles of the Civil War, this book contributes at two levels: (a) a pretty good (although not greatly detailed description of the battle) and (b) a description of the battlefield today and how to get around to see various parts of the battlefield. The latter, in the Savas Beatie series, is a nice contribution of the series. One can get a sense of the battle--but if visiting the battlefield, the second contribution becomes awfully special!When one reads about this battle, one of the main takeaways is how confusing it was and how much of the battle was feeding rather small units--brigade and regiment level--into combat. Given the inability to be sure where units were and who was doing what, many engagements led to units being outflanked and driven from the field. Wild and somewhat chaotic.The book does a nice job of providing a bigger picture--great acts of generalship and moments of mediocrity. Some did well--Longstreet to some extent (although luck helped him, although his tactical use of his columns was productive), George Thomas, the unfocused Gordon Granger (who often seemed more interested in sighting cannons than leading troops). On the other hand, some generals did not perform well. Not surprisingly, Braxton Bragg would be on this list (although his subordinate generals had some bad days--such as D. H. Hill and even Nathan Bedford Forrest). On the Union side? William Rosecrans had some real ability, but he sometimes lost control of a situation (e.g., his army strung out with different units not in supporting distance of one another). A garbled order led to disaster--just as Longstreet's horde attacked an area that had become barren of troops.At any rate, a nice addition to this series!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent companion for touring the battlefieldBy Ross L. LamoreauxAfter having recently re-read Archibald Gracie's "The Truth About Chickamauga", I was curious as to how this recent addition to the books dedicated to one of the least covered major battles of the war would compare. There is no comparison needed, as they have to complete different missions for the reader. "Bushwacking" is not, nor was it meant to be, the "be all, tell all" book, but it succeeds highly in providing excellent background, key information, and pivotal places to visit on the battlefield. I've been to that field several times over the years, I've been blessed to be with some excellent living historians/reenactors and presented vignettes of battlefield history, but I sincerely wish this book had been out for those visits. I'm not a novice historian, but this book shed light on several factors of the battle that I didn't know. It is far and away the most balanced view (despite the one poor reviewer who has an axe to grind with the modern Federal government - and mid 19th century Federal government it seems) of the battle and gives excellent perspectives utilizing period accounts paired with modern details. I recommend this book both to students of the western theater of the Civil War, but to novices or those with little knowledge of the battle and area.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Overview of the Battle of ChickamaugaBy Joseph SwansonLee White has a long history of leading tours and talks about the Battle of Chickamauga, and this shows in his book "Bushwacking on a Grand Scale." He writes a perfect companion piece to my other favorite book on the battle by Peter Cozzens. Lee does an outstanding job on describing the battle, not only in a way that is easy to read, but also helping the reader to visualize the actions he describes. I was able to read it before visiting the battlefield again a month ago, and found that it really helped in more fully understanding what each portion of the battlefield played in the grander story of the battle.If you're interested in Civil War history, or planning a visit to the Chickamauga National Battlefield, I highly recommend picking up this book. You can't go wrong.

The battle of Chickamauga brought an early fall to the Georgia countryside in 1863, where men fell like autumn leaves in some of the heaviest fighting of the war. The battlefield consisted of a nearly impenetrable, vine-choked forest around Chickamauga Creek. Unable to see beyond their immediate surroundings, officers found it impossible to exercise effective command, and the engagement deteriorated into what many participants later called "a soldier's battle." It was, explained Union General John Turchin, "Bushwacking on a Grand Scale."The stakes were high: control of Chattanooga, "the Gateway City" to the Deep South. The two-day battle of Chickamauga was the only major victory of the war for the ill-starred Confederate Army of Tennessee, which managed to break through on the second day and drive the Union army off the field in a wild rout. The victory, however, left a legacy of dashed hopes for Braxton Bragg and his Confederate army. Ironically, Bragg won the costly victory but lost the city, while Union commander William Rosecrans lost the battle but somehow managed to hold the city which President Lincoln considered as important as the Confederate capital of Richmond. Despite its importance, however, Chickamauga has been largely overlooked and is rife with myths and misunderstandings.Author William Lee White has spent most of his life on the Chickamauga battlefield, taking thousands of visitors through the wooded landscape and telling the story of the bloodiest engagement in the Western Theater. Bushwacking on a Grand Scale describes the tragic events of Chickamauga, but also includes many insights about often-neglected aspects of the fighting that White has gained from his many years studying the battle and exploring its scenic landscape.Bushwacking on a Grand Scale can be enjoyed in the comfort of one's favorite armchair or as a battlefield guide. It is part of the new Emerging Civil War Series, which offers compelling, easy-to-read overviews of some of the Civil War's most important stories. The masterful storytelling is richly enhanced with more than one hundred photos, illustrations, and maps.

"An excellent book that provides a general overview and gives enough detail for more knowledgeable readers." (Civil War News)"Those who want a relatively quick read with a level of detail that is more intermediate will appreciate many of the book's features." (Civil War Book)About the AuthorAuthor William Lee White has spent most of his life on the Chickamauga battlefield, taking thousands of visitors through the wooded landscape and telling the story of the bloodiest engagement in the Western Theater.