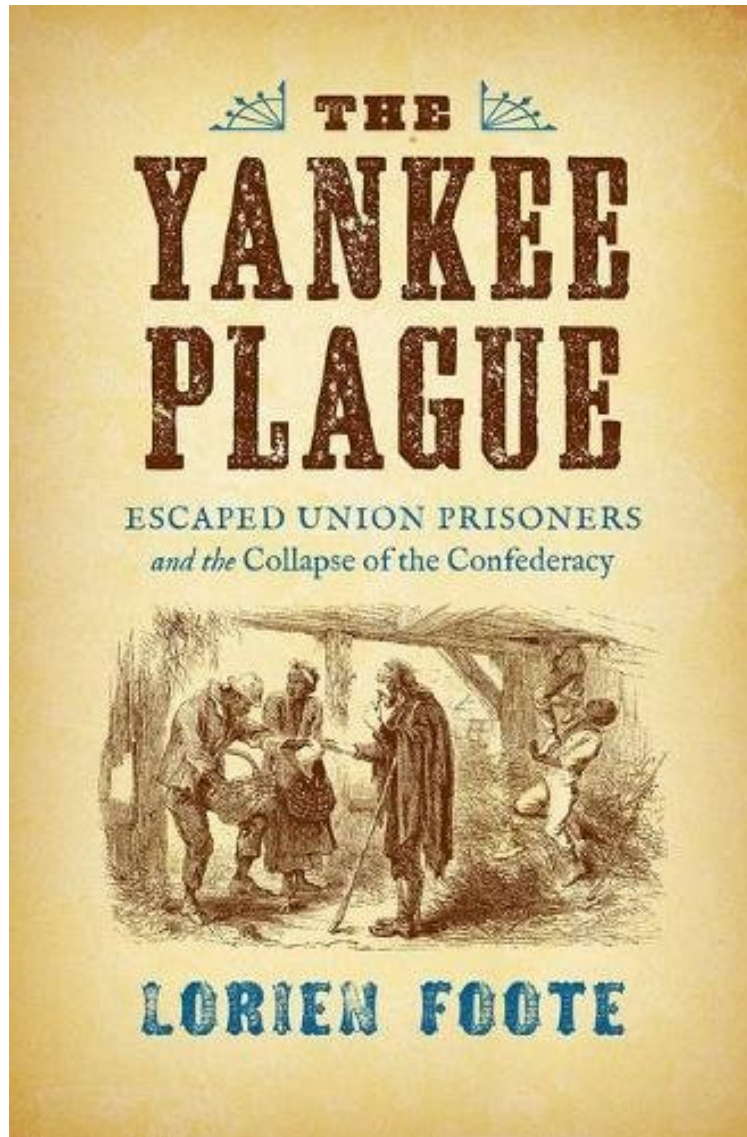


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## The Yankee Plague: Escaped Union Prisoners and the Collapse of the Confederacy (Civil War America)

Lorien Foote

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**Lorien Foote : The Yankee Plague: Escaped Union Prisoners and the Collapse of the Confederacy (Civil War America)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Yankee Plague: Escaped Union Prisoners and the Collapse of the Confederacy (Civil War America):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This book contains some wonderful stories of escaped union POW's that shed light on ...By Kerry Cowman This book contains some wonderful stories of escaped union POW's that shed light on both the human condition and the collapsing Confederacy. The author's thesis is that escapes showed the hollowness of the confederacy in the late war; and helped lead to its downfall. The only thing I dislike about this book is that the author's writing style is riddled with current academic cliché phrases. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. You won't be disappointed! By Carole Collopy Great read for Civil War historians. The stories of the last months of the Confederacy and the trials that the Union prisoners suffered were so well written, you wanted to find out more about the men themselves. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great read! By Elizabeth Hardy Fantastic read - very detailed about the last few months of War in the Carolinians. It is very nice to see a fresh take on a under researched portion of the War. Highly recommended.

During the winter of 1864, more than 3,000 Federal prisoners of war escaped from Confederate prison camps into South Carolina and North Carolina, often with the aid of local slaves. Their flight created, in the words of contemporary observers, a "Yankee plague," heralding a grim end to the Confederate cause. In this fascinating look at Union soldiers' flight for freedom in the last months of the Civil War, Lorien Foote reveals new connections between the collapse of the Confederate prison system, the large-scale escape of Union soldiers, and the full unraveling of the Confederate States of America. By this point in the war, the Confederacy was reeling from prison overpopulation, a crumbling military, violence from internal enemies, and slavery's breakdown. The fugitive Federals moving across the countryside in mass numbers, Foote argues, accelerated the collapse as slaves and deserters decided the presence of these men presented an opportune moment for escalated resistance. Blending rich analysis with an engaging narrative, Foote uses these ragged Union escapees as a lens with which to assess the dying Confederate States, providing a new window into the South's ultimate defeat.

The Yankee Plague makes for an important addition to the literature on Civil War prisoners and the collapse of the Confederacy.--Civil War Monitor An illuminating and powerful study that enhances both Civil War history and POW studies. Essential.--Choice Anyone interested in the Carolinas during the war, prisoners of war, or the war on the Southern home front will not regret adding this book to their library.--Journal of America's Military Past The rare title that delivers new information and challenges readers to reconsider what they are confident they already know."-Indiana Magazine of History Packs a very powerful scholarly punch. . . . Definitely merits award consideration and will likely earn a spot on many of this year's 'Best Of' lists.--Civil War Books and Authors In this utterly fascinating look at the collapse of the Confederacy, Lorien Foote narrates the history of the South's disastrous attempts to move prisoners into and around South Carolina as the Union army began rolling up victories in late 1864. Brimming with energy, the book relates the chaos of the Confederacy's final days like no other.--Stephen Berry, University of Georgia This is one of the most original, intriguing, and satisfying books I have read in years. Superbly researched and interpreted, Lorien Foote has added layers of complexity to our understanding of the chaotic Confederate home front and the last gasps of rebel resistance.--Daniel E. Sutherland, author of *A Savage Conflict: The Decisive Role of Guerrillas in the American Civil War* About the Author Lorien Foote is professor of history at Texas AM University.