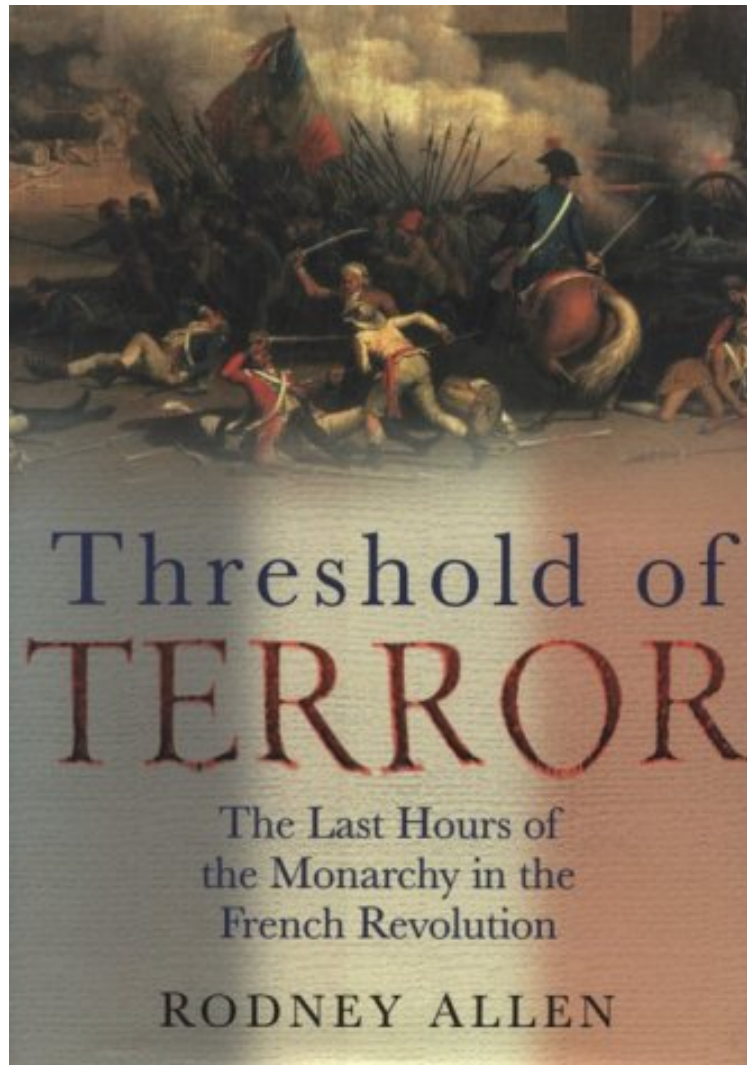


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## Threshold of Terror: The Last Hours of the Monarchy in the French Revolution

Rodney Allen

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**Rodney Allen : Threshold of Terror: The Last Hours of the Monarchy in the French Revolution** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Threshold of Terror: The Last Hours of the Monarchy in the French Revolution:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. As Described in TitleBy heretic666The title describes the book succinctly and ends with the death of the king and the Terror as an event is only mentioned as a footnote and not the inevitable outcome of an uprising for equality, liberty and fraternity as the stated objectives.Sometimes day by day, sometimes minute by minute, the book is an accumulation of the most reliable accounts and where discrepancies arrive

both or all versions are given to help preclude the apocryphal or fictional. One can't help wondering if small changes in circumstances at the right time might have produced different outcomes as there were so many players in this tragedy and some minor events were blown out of proportion for nefarious purposes and personal agendas. Not exactly a rattling good read but a thought provoking summary that dispels a few myths and forces speculation about what might have been.

The failure of the French Revolution of 1789 to establish stable political institutions based on a liberal constitutional monarchy led to terror, civil war and instability for France and twenty-three years of almost uninterrupted war for the rest of Europe. This account documents the crucial twenty-four hours over the 9 and 10 August 1792 which led to the fall of the king and set in motion the chain of events that culminated in the Reign of Terror. During this period, over 40,000 people were brought before the Revolutionary Tribunal and guillotined.

From Library Journal Independent scholar Allen (who read history at Oxford) sees in the August 10, 1792 Revolution in France the same failed attempt to establish "a new social and political era" that marked the October 25, 1917 Revolution in Russia. Using a number of eyewitness accounts previously unpublished in English, with direct quotations and paraphrases interwoven into the text, Allen has produced a marvelously detailed picture of the final hours of this crucial collapse and transformation of the high hopes that had begun in France with the fall of the Bastille in 1789. Its aftermath would be totalitarian politics, terror, civil war, and external conflict as a means both to rejoin a fractured society and to spread ideology. Recommended for academic libraries and larger European history collections. A Robert C. Jones, formerly with Central Missouri State Univ., Warrensburg Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.