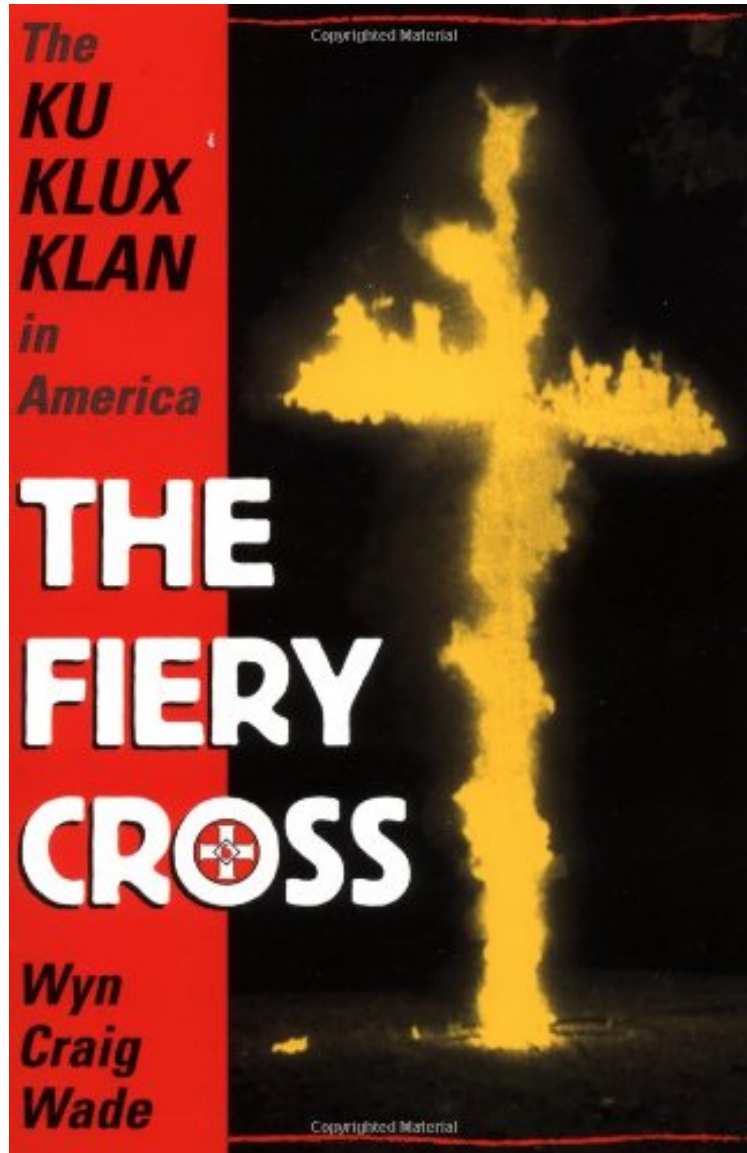


The Fiery Cross: The Ku Klux Klan in America

Wyn Craig Wade

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#310915 in Books Wyn Craig Wade 1998-11-19 Original language: English PDF # 1 6.10 x 1.30 x 9.10l, 1.65
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Wyn Craig Wade : The Fiery Cross: The Ku Klux Klan in America before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fiery Cross: The Ku Klux Klan in America:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Like several books in one. By The Seeker "The Fiery Cross: The Ku Klux Klan in America" is a 1987 United States History/Social Science book by the late historian and clinical psychologist, Wyn Craig Wade, who also wrote "The Titanic: End of A Dream". I decided to read "The Fiery Cross" because I have been intrigued by the KKK my whole life. I regrettably lived in a city full of intolerance. A large

Klaven was located just a few towns away. I always find them to be equally mysterious and villainous, and have been compelled to study them my whole life. Doctor Wade examines the origins of the creation of the Invisible Empire and how it started off being a group of young men pulling pranks, to evolving into terrorists harassing, beating and murdering black people. From there, the Hooded Knights went to being loved in the popular press after the release of the motion picture, "The Birth of a Nation". This led to European-Americans cheering the Klan on in the film and even dressing up as Klansmen for Halloween. Finally, the author looks at the Sheeted Order's major decline, which in due time made it into a shadow of its former self, but as dangerous as ever and still filled with the same kind of narrow-minded human beings. The book shows how leaders of the Hooded Order for generations and from all over the United States were able to manipulate poor, insecure, bored, lazy and uneducated Caucasians to fork over what little cash they had to join this so-called "sacred" organization called the Ku Klux Klan. Just being fair-skinned in the U.S.A. was enough for illiterate Aryans to be told by the law, pop-culture and the mainstream media that they were superior to African-Americans. For hundreds of years (even as far back as slavery days) plenty of impoverished and bitter white people all over the U.S.A. have taken full advantage of the racial privilege they were handed at their birth, and have happily taken out their anger for life and their own shortcomings on innocent black people. The book includes plenty of actual literature that was written by Klan members such as membership forms. My favorite subject to read concerning the Ku Klux Klan are the fearless people who went after them and how they took them down such as groups of Union soldiers, Ulysses S. Grant and Benjamin Butler in the 1860's and 1870's, Julian Harris of Georgia and the Texas Rangers in the 1920's and then in the 1960's, the F.B.I., President Lyndon B. Johnson and Civil Rights workers. They are all my heroes for being so brave against a gang of bullies. The KKK have intimidated a lot of people, but the men and groups I listed were clearly not going to be frightened in the least. "The Fiery Cross" is like several books in one. It covers each Klan of different eras in great detail. It is an easy read and stays highly entertaining through-out the entire book. It is wonderful. I have read it twice since buying it in the summer of 2014. I highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in racism, history and social science. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very interesting and informative read!! By MistyGood info. First time I read this book noticed a part about the town I spent my middle and senior high years living in. It was such that when a granddaughter talked to my sister (who had read the book) about a History paper and was told about this certain incident from the book, she later said the teacher had never heard the story and therefore, was not true. Well---anyway, this is quite an interesting read. Arrived in time. Thanks. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Got more than expected. By CustomerGreat book. Perfect condition.

Few groups in our history are as fascinating and mysterious as the Ku Klux Klan. Its story is one of violence, political manipulation and intrigue, absurdity, and mesmerizing organizational and propaganda skills. Through shrewd political tactics and powerful leadership, the Klan has often been a potent force, as it encouraged Americans to protect themselves from those they find "unacceptable." Its actions have made it one of the most feared groups in America. In *The Fiery Cross*, Wyn Craig Wade traces the Klan from its beginnings after the Civil War as a social club in Pulaski, Tennessee, to the present. Wade provides us with the history of the group, which has gone through a number of declines and renaissances over the last hundred years. We follow the Klan's resurgence in 1915 after D.W. Griffith's epic film *The Birth of a Nation* depicted Klan members as heroic saviors of the old Southern society, to the swearing in of President Warren G. Harding as a Klansman in the Green Room, and from the Klan's championing of white supremacy as a response to the Civil Rights movement in the 60s, to their present day activities, aligning themselves with a variety of neo-fascist and right-wing groups in the American West. Finally, Wade provides us with an assessment of the Klan's future. *The Fiery Cross* provides an exhaustive analysis and perspective on this dark shadow of American society. It is long overdue.

From Publishers Weekly This doggedly researched history of the American racist group is bloated with clichés, overstatements, colloquialisms, sensationalistic accounts of sexual atrocities and nonsensical connections (a detailed description of Grant's second inaugural ball that took place in an unheated building is followed by the observation that "over the next four years, the Republican ardor for civil rights would cool"). Wade's historical insights are often inane, as when he discusses Grant's suspension of habeas corpus in implementing the Ku-Klux Act: "Although it must be admitted that martial law is never pleasant, the effects of military occupation in South Carolina were far less dreadful than the picture anti-Reconstruction historians would popularize." And his psychological analyses are ludicrous: "Klan attacks on scalawags often involved some kind of sexual abuse. . . . as if the behavior of the scalawags represented a form of infidelity to the South, and Klansmen gladly assumed the role of vengeful spouses." Wade is the author of *The Titanic: End of a Dream*. Photos not seen by PW. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Wade's journalistic approach brings alive the hydra-headed Klan: from its 19th-century Southern origins; to its 20th-century celebration in film; to its 1915-20s national emergence as a small-town, rural mix of narrow-mindedness, prejudice, and violence against blacks, Catholics, and Jews; to its increasingly anti-Communist poses since the New Deal; to its most recent incarnation in such varied and conflicting types as the "intellectual" David Duke and the

paramilitary Bill Wilkinson. Although more descriptive than analytical, Wade's book shows how the Klan has assumed various guises over time, and how recent groups have lapsed back into the anarchy that prevailed in the KKK's infancy. Wade discovers the Klan as a singularly American beast, created by the very democratic ideals it mocks and inverts. Recommended for public and university libraries. Randall M. Miller, History Dept., St. Joseph's Univ., Philadelphia Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Excellent popular history, huge, smart, and fast-paced."--Village Voice "[A] detailed, carefully documented and vivid account of the Klan."--San Jose Mercury News "Spiritual death brought vividly to life."--Kirkus s "Wade discovers the Klan as a singularly American beast, created that way by the very democratic ideals it mocks and inverts."--Library Journal