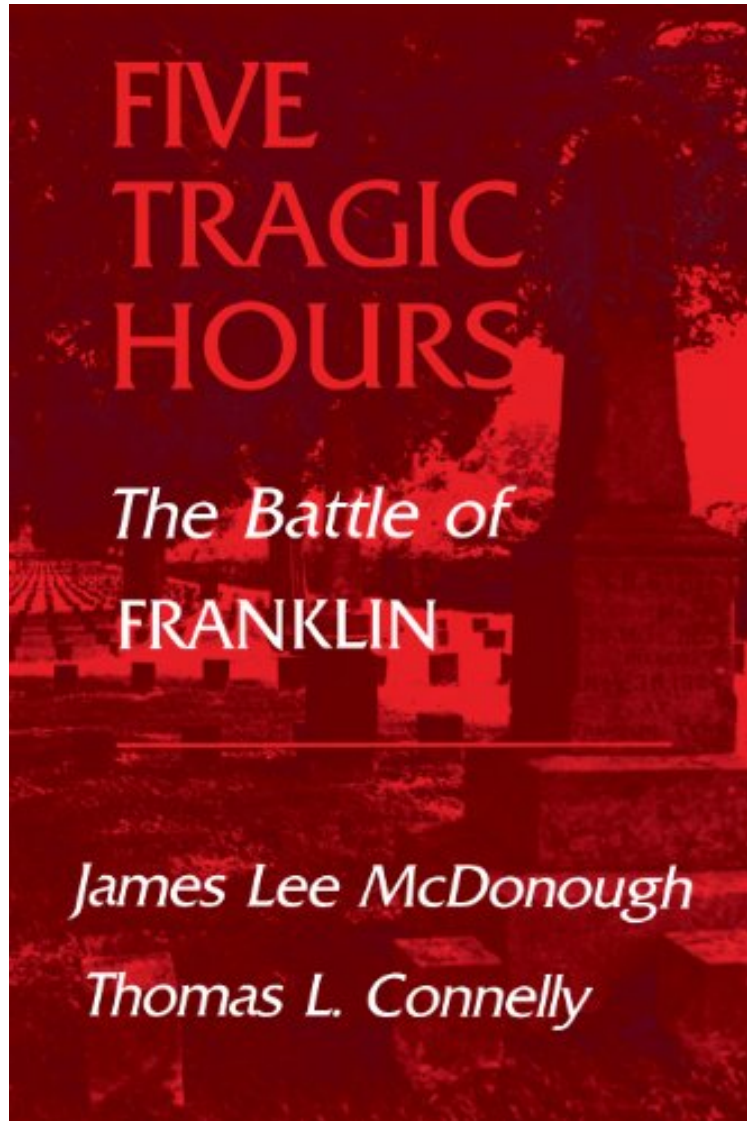


(Read and download) Five Tragic Hours Battle Of Franklin

## Five Tragic Hours Battle Of Franklin

*Von James Lee McDonough*

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**Von James Lee McDonough : Five Tragic Hours Battle Of Franklin** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Five Tragic Hours Battle Of Franklin:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. a fascinating book of a neglected battleVon Ein KundeThe Battle of Franklin has never had the coverage it deserved - it was the battle that finished the South in the West, a battle fought by a stupid commander who, having decimated his army at Atlanta, refused to accept responsibility for his actions. The result was the massacre at Franklin.I have always been intrigued by the gallantry of Pickett's Division - what this book emphasises is that Franklin was bigger than this

charge and even more tragic. Over 17,000 men were sent in a direct charge against entrenched positions - the fact that they came so close is testament to their courage. Their casualties were appalling - 6 generals died, including the best Southern general in the West, Pat Cleburne. One Southern officer charged into battle over ground that was part of the family farm - he died from wounds in his father's house. Franklin was an unnecessary battle - the way was there to outflank Schofield's army. But, spurred on by the debacle at Spring Hill, JB Hood decided to install some offensive spirit into his much abused army. "5 Tragic Hours" later, he had devastated it. I have never had much time for Hood - the book reinforces the picture of a man promoted way beyond his competency. His battlefield tactics and lack of control doomed the Army of Tennessee at Franklin as surely as it did in the final stages of the Atlanta campaign. The book evokes the tragedy of the Army of Tennessee's last campaign. It was a much abused army, led by a succession of incompetents (Bragg and Hood) or prevaricators (Johnson). The South was poorly served in the crucial Western Theatre - this book underlines how so much promise was squandered. I found this book very sad - sad at so much stupidity and sad at so much squandered bravery. If ever the futility of war needed ramming home, then this book is brilliant. An excellent book.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Hood-bashing overkill

Von Ein Kunde

Authors McDonough and Connelly's venomous vilification of Confederate General John Bell Hood soils this otherwise well written history of the Battle of Franklin. The rage against him is thrust upon the reader on the sixth paragraph of the opening chapter, and persistently distracts and annoys the reader until, literally, the book's final sentence, some 175 pages later. According to the authors, the Confederate defeat at Franklin is attributed solely to an irrational, glory-obsessed, ignorant commander. They ignore the quite simple fact that General Hood was appointed to command of the Army of Tennessee by President Jefferson Davis and ordered to take the offensive, and did so. The authors label Hood's grand strategy for the Tennessee Campaign as "quixotic" in that he hoped to capture Nashville, cut Sherman's supply lines, and perhaps march east to relieve Lee. With Lee's surrender indeed happening some four months later, many historians feel that Hood's strategy was desperate, but that desperation was called for. The authors frequently cite factual occurrences which they attribute to post-war memoirs of battle participants. Yet when Hood's own views and recollections conflict with the authors theories of blame, they discount the words in his own post-war autobiography and in many cases label them as outright lies. Hood's brilliant combat record at Gaines Mill, Second Manassas, Gettysburg, Antietam, and Chickamauga, and his later attack on Franklin are presented by the authors as actions of a man simply wanting to impress the belles in Richmond. Readers will also notice that the authors curiously omit footnoting specific sources, and only offer readers a summarized "Commentary on Sources". Had the authors written a history of the battle, instead of an editorial on their opinions of General Hood, the reader would have been better served.

**Kurzbeschreibung** On a November afternoon in 1864, the weary Gen. John Bell Hood surveyed the army waiting to attack the Federals at Franklin, Tennessee. He gave the signal almost at dusk, and the Confederates rushed forward to utter devastation. This book describes the events and causes of the five-hour battle in gripping detail, particularly focusing on the reasons for such slaughter at a time when the outcome of the war had already been decided. The genesis of the senseless tragedy, according to McDonough and Connelly, lay in the appointment of Hood to command the Army of Tennessee. It was his decision to throw a total force of some 20,000 men into an ill-advised frontal assault against the Union troops. The Confederates made their approach, without substantial artillery support, on a level of some two miles. Why did Hood select such a catastrophic strategy? The authors analyze his reasoning in full. Their vivid and moving narrative, with statements from eyewitnesses to the battle, make compelling reading for all Civil War buffs and historians. James Lee McDonough is Justin Potter Professor of History at David-Lipscomb College and is the author of *Shiloh* and *Stones River*. Thomas L. Connelly, professor of history at the university of South Carolina, is the author of *Army of the Heartland*, *The Marble Man*, and *Autumn of Glory*, a two-volume history of the Army of Tennessee.