



 Get Print Book

Flashman: A Novel

By George MacDonald Fraser



Download



Read Online

Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser

"If ever there was a time when I felt that 'watcher-of-the-skies-when-a-new-planet' stuff, it was when I read the first *Flashman*."—P.G. Wodehouse

The first novel in the Flashman series

Fraser revives Flashman, a caddish bully from *Tom Brown's Schooldays* by Thomas Hughes, and relates Flashman's adventures after he is expelled in drunken disgrace from Rugby school in the late 1830s. Flashy enlists in the Eleventh Light Dragoons and is promptly sent to India and Afghanistan, where despite his consistently cowardly behavior he always manages to come out on top. Flashman is an incorrigible anti-hero for the ages. This humorous adventure book will appeal to fans of historical fiction, military fiction, and British history as well as to fans of Clive Cussler, James Bond, and The Three Musketeers.



[Download Flashman: A Novel ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Flashman: A Novel ...pdf](#)

Flashman: A Novel

By George MacDonald Fraser

Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser

"If ever there was a time when I felt that 'watcher-of-the-skies-when-a-new-planet' stuff, it was when I read the first *Flashman*."—P.G. Wodehouse

The first novel in the Flashman series

Fraser revives Flashman, a caddish bully from *Tom Brown's Schooldays* by Thomas Hughes, and relates Flashman's adventures after he is expelled in drunken disgrace from Rugby school in the late 1830s. Flashy enlists in the Eleventh Light Dragoons and is promptly sent to India and Afghanistan, where despite his consistently cowardly behavior he always manages to come out on top. Flashman is an incorrigible anti-hero for the ages. This humorous adventure book will appeal to fans of historical fiction, military fiction, and British history as well as to fans of Clive Cussler, James Bond, and The Three Musketeers.

Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #41304 in Books
- Brand: Plume Books
- Published on: 1984-08-01
- Released on: 1984-08-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.98" h x .60" w x 5.40" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 256 pages



[Download Flashman: A Novel ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Flashman: A Novel ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

Praise for the Flashman series

“Hilariously funny.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

“Great dirty fun!”—*Grand Rapids Press*

“The most entertaining anti-hero in a long time... Moves from one ribald and deliciously corrupt episode to the next... Wonderful and scandalous.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“Raises dastardliness to the level of an art... One of the most amusing and sardonic novels I have ever read!”—*Omaha World*

“As irreverent and picaresque as *Tom Jones* and always more dramatic... Flashman is a one-man demolition squad!”—*Chicago Today*

“Marvelously entertaining... A delight!”—*Providence Journal*

About the Author

George MacDonald Fraser was a bestselling historical novelist, journalist and screenwriter. He is perhaps most famous for his series of Flashman novels, featuring his antihero Harry Flashman. In addition to his novels, he wrote numerous screenplays, most notably *The Three Musketeers* and the James Bond film *Octopussy*. George MacDonald Fraser died in 2008 at the age of 82.

Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

‘Don’t wait to die on the field of honour. Heroes draw no higher wages than the others.’ – soldier of fortune Paolo di Avitabile in *Flashman*

Just before World War I, Mark Franklin, the hero of George MacDonald Fraser’s Mr American, travels to London, where he spends a bibulous evening with an elderly military man by the name of Sir Harry Paget Flashman. ‘He had looked Sir Harry up in Who’s Who and read incredulously through the succinct list of campaigns and decorations – that gnarled old man sleeping there had seen Custer ride into the broken bluffs above the Little Big Horn, and fought hand to hand with Afghan tribesmen more than seventy years ago; he had ridden into the guns at Balaclava and seen the ranks form for Pickett’s charge at Gettysburg; he had known Wellington and Lincoln . . .’

Who wouldn’t be incredulous? Sir Harry’s numerous honors include not only England’s Victoria Cross, but also the French Legion of Honour and the American Congressional Medal of Honor. His Who’s Who entry – should you ever happen upon it – requires four inches of small type just to list some of his nearly unbelievable exploits. During the course of a long life, Sir Harry Paget Flashman (1822–1915) served as a political adviser to Chancellor Bismarck on the Schleswig-Holstein question, briefly functioned as chief of staff to the Rajah of Sarawak, rode with both John Brown and Jeb Stuart, and even assisted the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico as an aide-de-camp. Over the years this far-ranging traveler also spent some time as a buffalo hunter, western scout, Australian prospector, ‘reluctant deputy marshal to J. B. Hickok, Esq.,’ and native interpreter – Sir Harry spoke nine languages fluently and could ‘rub along’ in another dozen or so.

Naturally, *Who's Who* – with British discretion – barely hints that Harry Flashman frequently spied for Her Majesty's government and that he was mixed up in both the African slave trade and the Underground Railroad. Moreover, through a run of astonishing bad luck, the man seems to have landed smack in the middle of virtually every major battle or civil insurrection of the nineteenth century – the Siege of Gandamak in Afghanistan, the Zulu attack at Rorke's Drift, the rising of the Mahdi at Khartoum, the Charge of the Light Brigade, the Battle of Chancellorsville, the Peking Rebellion of 1900. During the American Civil War he even inexplicably managed to serve as a major in the Union forces and a colonel in the army of the Confederacy.

As it happens, when Mr Franklin met Sir Harry the then 92- year-old general had recently completed his personal memoirs, memoirs so disturbing that after his death they were quickly sealed and, it would appear, instantly forgotten. Indeed, the memory of Sir Harry himself gradually faded away, so that otherwise reliable histories of the Victorian era failed to assign him even a footnote. But, then, in 1965 during a sale of household furniture at Ashby in Leicestershire, the manuscript miraculously resurfaced. Ably edited by George MacDonald Fraser, the so-called Flashman Papers were eventually published in twelve volumes, each 'packet' focusing on one or more episodes from their author's martial career. They begin with the teenaged Flashman's expulsion from Rugby School for drunkenness – an incident mentioned in Thomas Hughes's almost libelous *Tom Brown's School Days* – and follow him up to the unpleasantness, very late in his life, with Colonel Sebastian 'Tiger Jack' Moran. That last name may be familiar, as Moran was once described by the consulting detective Sherlock Holmes as 'the second most dangerous man in London' and 'the best heavy-game shot that our Eastern Empire has ever produced'.

But, really, what impropriety in these reminiscences could have offended the sensibilities of the Flashman family? The author was the most upright of eminent Victorians, the recipient of the San Serafino Order of Purity and Truth, the honorary president of the Mission for the Reclamation of Reduced Females, and the former governor of his alma mater, that bastion of muscular Christianity, Rugby School. Perhaps Sir Harry's family, in particular his clerical son, the Reverend

Bishop Harry Albert Victor Flashman, simply felt it wiser for posterity to honor a public career already well documented in *Dawns and Departures of a Soldier's Life* and *'Twixt Cossack and Cannon*. Yet time has not been kind to these stiffly official memoirs. They are as forgotten now as if they had never existed, while great scholars and common readers alike return regularly to the Flashman Papers for instruction and delight. And, it goes without saying, for the irresistible brazen effrontery of the man himself. For in these memoirs, Sir Harry Flashman, the supposed Victorian equivalent of a 'parfit gentil knyght,' reveals himself to be – in his own words – 'a scoundrel, a liar, a cheat, a thief, a coward – and, oh yes, a toady.'

In fact, Flashman is one of the world's most entertaining and beguiling rogues. He pursues life's pleasures with Casanovian gusto, regularly employs the colorful language of the barracks, and knows that 'there isn't any folly a man won't contemplate if there's money or a woman at stake.' With his gallant sidewhiskers, bold dark eyes with hooded lids, and strong, aquiline nose, this charming dastard – fourteen stone of sheer manliness – regularly seduces schoolgirls and queens, hides or runs away when fights break out, and manages, through deception and utter poltroonery, to survive when better men die. As he says (in *Royal Flash*): 'The ideal time to be a hero is when the battle is over and the other fellows are dead, God rest 'em, and you take the credit.'

The three startling, even shocking adventures reprinted in this *Everyman* omnibus provide the ideal introduction to Sir Harry's rumbustious life. In *Flashman* the youthful anti-hero spends his last day at Rugby, enlists in the army, captures the heart (and body) of the fair-haired Elspeth, and reluctantly embarks on a mission to mountainous, war-torn Afghanistan. In *Flash for Freedom!* the luckless Flashy joins the crew of an African slave ship, unwillingly assists the Underground Railroad, and fortuitously meets a rising young

American politician named Abraham Lincoln. (In later years, Lincoln was known to say: 'When all other trusts fail, turn to Flashman.' I believe that the word 'all' should be emphasized.) Finally, Flashman in the Great Game takes our man into the world of Kim, as he spies for the British, dallies with a luscious maharani, and desperately struggles to survive the blood-baths of the Sepoy Mutiny.

That he does so will hardly come as a surprise, nor that he emerges from his Indian nightmare not only alive but also elevated to a knighthood. Nevertheless, a few crudely unimaginative critics have suggested that nobody could actually have escaped from so many deadly ambushes and battles. Two or three have even gone so far as to speculate that George Mac-Donald Fraser is the author, not the editor, of the Flashman Papers, with the deeply cynical implication that Flashman himself is merely a character in a series of clever novels. Sigh. What can you expect these days from cloistered academics, none of whom is even half as alive as Flashman? Flashy may not be as admirable as, say, Don Quixote, Lord Greystoke or Sherlock Holmes, but he's certainly just as real.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lacie Young:

The book Flashman: A Novel give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You may use to make your capable a lot more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem with your subject. If you can make studying a book Flashman: A Novel to get your habit, you can get more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You can know everything if you like open and read a reserve Flashman: A Novel. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this book?

Ann Tuttle:

Hey guys, do you desires to finds a new book to read? May be the book with the title Flashman: A Novel suitable to you? The particular book was written by popular writer in this era. The particular book untitled Flashman: A Novel is the one of several books that everyone read now. This book was inspired many people in the world. When you read this publication you will enter the new dimensions that you ever know just before. The author explained their concept in the simple way, consequently all of people can easily to be aware of the core of this guide. This book will give you a lot of information about this world now. To help you see the represented of the world in this particular book.

Benjamin Deloatch:

The reason why? Because this Flashman: A Novel is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap it but latter it will shock you with the secret this inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such wonderful way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book include such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I had been you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

John Davis:

You can spend your free time you just read this book this book. This Flashman: A Novel is simple to deliver you can read it in the playground, in the beach, train and also soon. If you did not get much space to bring the particular printed book, you can buy the particular e-book. It is make you easier to read it. You can save the book in your smart phone. Thus there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Download and Read Online Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser #YMJ6TVD2NWH

Read Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser for online ebook

Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser books to read online.

Online Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser ebook PDF download

Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser Doc

Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser Mobipocket

Flashman: A Novel By George MacDonald Fraser EPub