

Book Review - January 24, 2007

*The Forgotten Soldier* by Guy Sajer, Potomac Books, Washington, D.C., 2000

(This book is recommended, not for Speedreading, but for pleasure.)

This gripping memoir (originally copyrighted in 1967) by a German soldier who fought on the Eastern front in World War II illustrates the development and value of loyalty and also the ever-present phenomenon of brutality. Sajer describes the horrors of war unsparingly and of his transformation from a naïve recruit of sixteen to a deadened veteran at war's end three years later. It is a rare depiction of the experience of being on the losing side. I recommend it highly and thank my son, Richard Davis, for giving me this gift.