Disaster In The West Woods General Edwin V Sumner And The Ii Corps At Antietam

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the heavy fog that shrouded antietam creek on the morning of september 17 1862 was disturbed by the boom of federal artillery fire the carnage and chaos began in the east woods and cornfield and continued inexorably on as mcclellan s and lee s troops collided at the west woods bloody lane and burnside bridge though outnumbered the rebels still managed to hold their ground until nightfall chief historian of the antietam national battlefield ted alexander renders a fresh and gripping portrayal of the battle its aftermath the effect on the civilians of sharpsburg and the efforts to preserve the hallowed spot maps by master cartographer steven stanley add further depth to alexander s account of the battle of antietam

in this book the author provides an hour by hour tactical history of the battle beginning before dawn on september 17 and concluding with the immediate aftermath of the battle including general mcclellan's fateful decision to not pursue lees retreating forces back across the potomac to virginia but this is not only an operational history

of antietam the author also offers the reader insight into the experiences of enlisted soldiers the terror of the fighting itself and the emotional aftermath for those who survived

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america s bloodiest day the battle of antietam on september 17 1862 left more dead american soldiers in its wake than any other 24 hour period in history antietam and the related battles of the maryland campaign that led up to the lethal confrontation did not result in decisive defeats for either side but they did serve as a brutal warning to an out gunned out commanded and out organized union army eyewitness accounts by battle participants make these guides an invaluable resource for travelers and nontravelers who want a greater understanding of five of the most devastating yet influential years in our nation s history explicit directions to points of interest and maps illustrating the action and showing the detail of troop position roads rivers elevations and tree lines as they were 130 years ago help bring the battles to life in the field these guides can be used to recreate each battle s setting and proportions giving the reader a sense of the tension and fear each soldier must have felt as he faced his enemy

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