



Of Those We Loved: A Narrative 1914-1919 Remembered and Illustrated

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The Author was among the first to respond to Kitchener's call for volunteers in 1914. He joined 8th Battalion, The Leicestershire Regiment at the outbreak of war as a Private and, within weeks, he and the Battalion were heading for Northern France with the British Expeditionary Force.

In this superb memoir we see how the spirit of adventurous patriotism that carried him to war gradually turns to sober reflection as the fighting intensifies and he loses so many friends and comrades at the Battles of the Somme and the Marne.

In 1917 he is commissioned into the Royal Sussex Regiment and makes a long, hazardous journey to Egypt to join his new battalion only to be recalled to take part in the Second Battle of the Marne, where his leadership and bravery win him the Croix de Guerre. Written with great modesty and insight, Dick Read's account contains a wealth of graphic descriptions of his experiences over the whole period of The Great War including the Somme 1916, Hindenburg Line, Egypt, Flanders and the Final Advance. The book is further enhanced by the inclusion of excellent drawings by the Author himself.

Many memoirs will be published to commemorate the Centenary of 'the War to end all Wars' but it can be said with confidence that *Of Those We Loved* is unlikely to be bettered. It makes for gripping reading both at home and as a companion on any visit to the Battlefields. Refined over the years, but retaining a rare sense of authenticity, this is a moving personal record of a survivor's war and a profoundly moving epitaph for a lost generation.

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