

# Tim Judah

This gripping account of the last great European war of the twentieth century comes from a journalist who witnessed the full extent of the Balkan conflagration and its aftermath. Tim Judah provides a detailed analysis of the origins of the Serb-Albanian conflict, the course of the war and civil atrocities, the involvement of the Western powers, the issues and the personalities, and the context for the future.

Judah explains how it was that Kosovo became the crucible of a poisonous ethnic struggle between Serbs and Albanians that brought the destruction of the old Yugoslavia. He analyses the character and career of the Yugoslav president Slobodan Milošević and shows how Kosovo provided his springboard for mobilising the Serbs and seizing supreme power. An enthralling chapter exposes the lost opportunity of the February 1999 Rambouillet conference for peace and compromise in the southern Balkans. Judah shows how exiled Kosovar militants shifted their war from Swiss cafés to the mountains of northern Albania. And he examines how and why NATO launched its first-ever war – a 78-day campaign of high-tech air strikes against Serbia – believing the onslaught would be over in days.

Based on extensive research, eyewitness reports, and interviews with leading protagonists, Judah's book is compelling reading for anyone interested in the most vicious confrontation of our time.



Tim Judah has followed the conflict in the former Yugoslavia for a decade. Between 1990–95 he lived in Belgrade covering the wars in Croatia and Bosnia for the *London Times* and *The Economist*. During the Kosovo war he broadcast widely and wrote for the *New York Review of Books*, the *London Observer*, the *Sunday Telegraph*, and the *Guardian Weekend* magazine. Judah is also the author of the prizewinning *The Serbs: History, Myth, and the Destruction of Yugoslavia*, published in 1997 by Yale University Press.

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