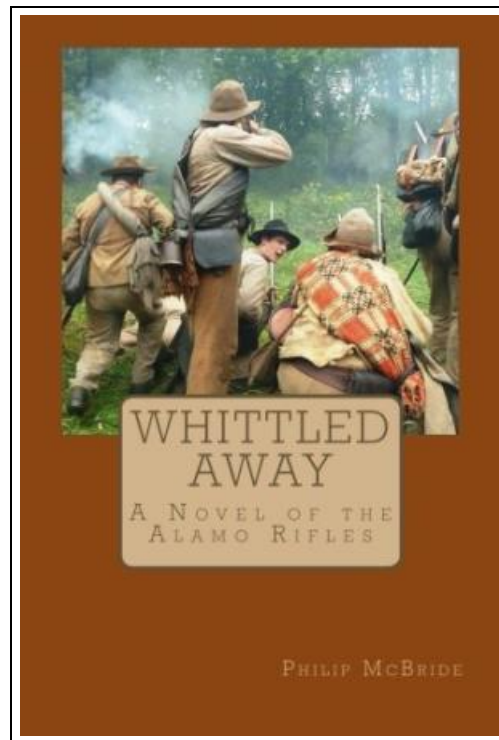


Whittled Away: A Novel of the Alamo Rifles in the Civil War



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WHITTLED AWAY: A NOVEL OF THE ALAMO RIFLES IN THE CIVIL WAR

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Philip McBride, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The novel Whittled Away is the tale of Corporal Bain Gill and Private Jesus McDonald. In 1862, Bain and Jesus enlist in the Confederate army in San Antonio, Texas, joining fifty-six other Texans as soldiers in the Alamo Rifles-Company K of the Sixth Texas Infantry regiment. The two young friends, not yet twenty when they put on their first uniforms, grew up on ranches on the western edge of civilization, herding stubborn longhorns and always wary of Comanche raiders and rattlesnakes. Naive, as are new soldiers everywhere, they come of age during the next three years, far from home, experiencing the hardships and horrors of men in combat. This is a story of soldiering, friendship and loss during America's nightmare, the Civil War. For Bain and Jesus it begins with marching to central Arkansas. There, at a river fort called Arkansas Post they endure their first frightful artillery barrage, but also learn first-hand a lesson that in the years ahead will confound the generals of both armies: Soldiers in trenches and behind breastworks usually survive and prevail. But facing a Union force of over 30,000 infantry and several armored gunboats, there is a mass surrender of the 4,000 Rebel defenders of Arkansas Post. Capture leads to a freezing boat ride upriver to prison camp where deprivation, brutality, and disease take a heavy toll. So concludes Part I of Whittled Away, setting the stage for two more years of war. After a short time in prison camp, the Confederates captured at Arkansas Post are part of a prisoner exchange. The Texans are moved by Union trains to Richmond, Virginia, ready to again take up arms for the...

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