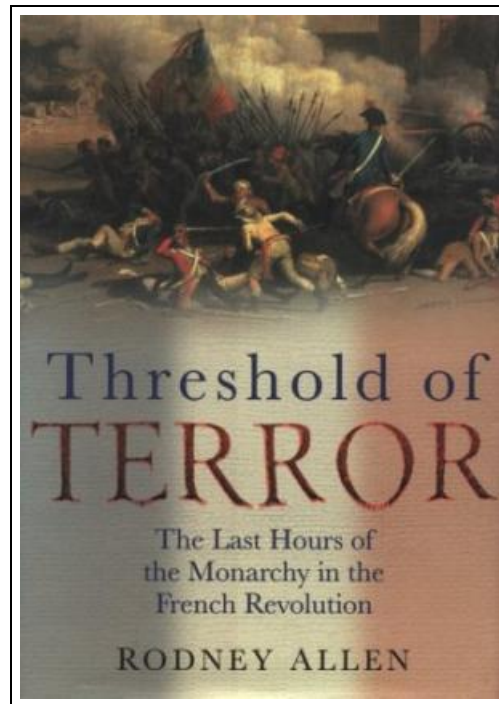


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THRESHOLD OF TERROR: THE LAST HOURS OF THE MONARCHY IN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION



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Sutton Pub Ltd, United Kingdom, 1999. Hardcover. Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. Illustrated by Drawings and Paintings (illustrator). The French Revolution of 1789 did not set out to end the French monarchy. It aimed to create liberal constitutional government, with the king continuing to be responsible for national administration. This objective was believed to have been attained by the establishment of the Constitution of September, 1791. However, radicals were not satisfied and France's declaration of war against Austria in April 1792 enhanced fears of counter-revolution led by aristocratic emigre forces based in Coblenz. Although the king tried to distance himself from the aristocratic faction, radical politicians agitated increasingly against the monarchy. On the fatal day of August 10, 1792, Louis XVI was abandoned by the constitutionalists, and only the Swiss Guards, reacting autonomously to an impossible situation, made a real effort to protect him. The chain of events following the fall of the king led to the September Massacres, and for 2 years a regime of growing political terror led to hundreds of thousands perishing as a result of the guillotine, mass executions, and civil war. The author describes in a detail never before attempted what happened, through a careful analysis of eyewitness accounts, official minutes of institutions, and journalist reports. Many of these witness sources have never been previously published in English. This heart-rending story of human and political tragedy should be required reading for anyone gripped by the drama of the French Revolution. 248 pages including a bibliography and index. 4to - over 9 3/4" - 12" tall.



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