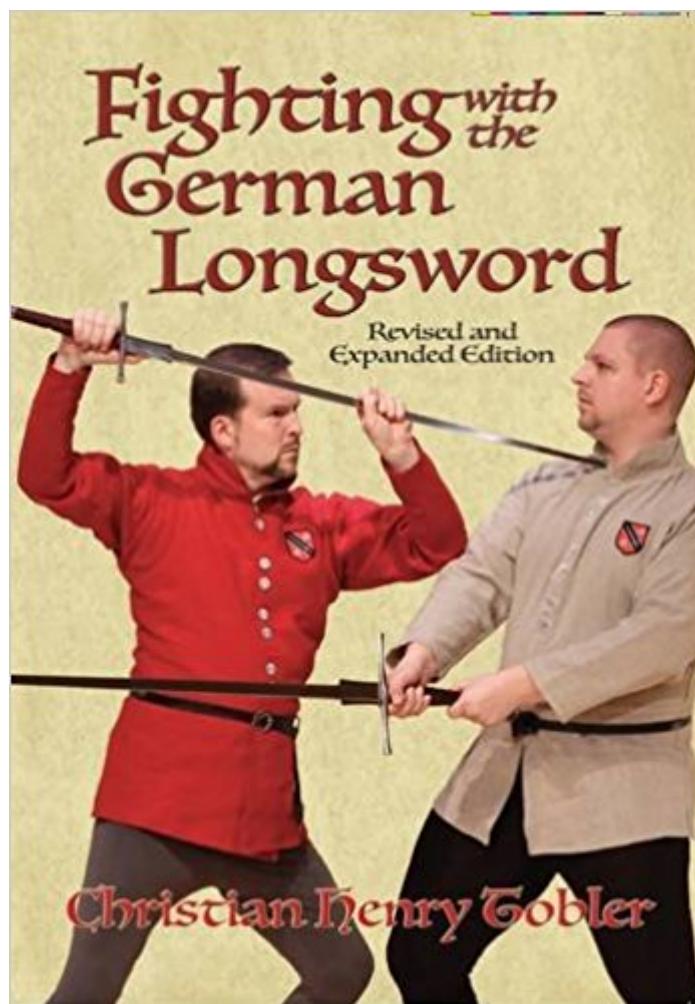


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Fighting With The German Longsword



Synopsis

Recorded over six centuries ago, the teachings of the 14th-century Master-at-Arms Johannes Liechtenauer have been given new life by a world-wide community of modern swordsmen and women, fascinated by the elegance, efficiency and depth of his unique martial art. Christian Henry Tobler was one of the pioneers in reviving the medieval Masterâ€™s art, creating the first, published syllabus for training with the two-handed longsword back in 2004. This fully rewritten, revised and expanded edition brings to bear a decade of refinement, creating a definitive, “how to” guide for students. Beginning with a short historical overview of the art, Mr. Tobler teaches stance, footwork, methods for gripping the sword, and step-by-step instructions for executing the core techniques of the Liechtenauer tradition. Additional chapters introduce students to wrestling, spear and armoured combat; demonstrating the artâ€™s depth and breadth. Heavily photo-illustrated, the book also makes use of decision-trees and training drills to aid in learning. Used as a complete, self-contained course, or a primer for studying the original medieval works themselves, this unique book will be invaluable to martial artists, reenactors, medieval historians, or anyone who has ever wondered “how did knights fight?”

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Customer Reviews

Christian Henry Tobler has been a longtime student of swordsmanship, focused on the study of medieval Fechtbucher (fight books) since the late 1990s. Now with five books, two instructional DVDs and a growing number of published articles and essays to his credit, he was the first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award for Historical European Martial Arts in 2013. Mr. Tobler serves

as Principal Instructor for the Selohaar Fechtschule. He lives with his wife in the United States, in rural Oxford, Connecticut, where he teaches a weekly class on medieval German combat, surrounded by far too many books and pieces of arms and armour for the size house that they live in.

I love this book. Our group had a single copy of the out of print 1st edition, which was a great resource, and this second edition is even better. There are a few changes--which really shows how our understanding of longsword is evolving. Even if you have the 1st edition, I recommend this purchase. If you can find a group, terrific! If you can't, the book is clear enough to work with on solo practice. It's pretty detailed, so don't expect to understand it all the first go-through, but it's worth reading a time or two.

I have been interested in the art of German longsword fighting for a long time. This book has been very helpful for me to understand the detail of this art. However, there is one problem I want to say about the price of this book on . I think maybe it is because this book becomes rare nowadays that makes it quite expensive. Originally, the price marked on the book itself is just \$24.95. However, right now (as in February 16, 2012), you will need to spend more than \$100 to get a copy on . And, it looks like it is difficult to get a brand new copy nowadays. It is true that the information in this book is very valuable and it is very helpful for those who are serious with German Longsword fighting. However, while originally a brand new copy for this book is \$24.95, you will need to spend more than \$100 to get a used copy nowadays. I don't know what to say about this circumstance.

A great resource for those that don't have access to an instructor. The images and text are clear, and don't confuse the reader, as some other books tend to do. Just don't forget to end your opponent rightly.

I've been taking a medieval martial arts course at a local fencing school for a little over half a year. The class covers German Longsword, Messer, some hafted weaponry based off Hans Talhoffer's work plus sword and buckler from MS I.33. I picked this book up about a month ago from and I was very pleased with it. It provides a good reinforcement for the lessons I am learning in class and its very useful to have a practical guide on hand. The descriptions are clear and straightforward and the photos are very useful. Being a software developer by trade I got a kick out of the flowcharts detailing the decision tree for the master cuts at the end of the chapters. All in all I'm glad I picked

up this book.

I purchased this book after watching the documentary, Reclaiming the Blade, and Fighting with the German Longsword by Christian Henry Tobler has far exceeded my expectations. Not only is this a wonderful training guide for Western martial arts, this book is also filled with loads of history. As for the martial arts aspect, all of Mr. Tobler's exercises are thoroughly explained and each one has 3 to 4 black and white pictures that cover a step by step of the movements for that particular exercise. Even my younger brother had no problem working through several of the exercises. I would highly recommend this book to anyone interested in western martial arts.

This book, or rather this manual makes me smile, and sigh, "at last." Tobler, has constructed a fine tool to teach his students and a great aid to us. The book is well laid out, with charts and corresponding photographs, it is however not a stand alone product. I am quite sure one would think it goes with "Secrets of German Medieval Swordsmanship", and that would be correct. I would suggest however that it is used as a Companion to David Lindholm's "Sigmund Ringeck's Knightly Art of the Longsword", and Tobler's "Secrets" can be used as the source. With these books most of the practicing WMA community's bookshelves are looking more Respectable, or at least one can tear them both apart and construct one's own drills and focused study.

Fighting with the German Longsword is one of the best martial arts books I have ever seen. I have quite a collection of them, and most have extreme difficulty conveying the actual practices. This book not only explains the moves very well, but the set up of the book is ideal for learning. I have practiced Japanese swordsmanship for many years and wanted to expand my knowledge to include European methods. This book was perfect for that.

Aside from his NEW release of the same book, Tobler still has the best book on the German Longsword in the world. Find a club, read and reread this book every night and you'll have all you need to become a very potent fencer.

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