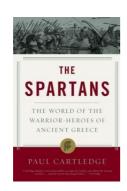
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Paul Cartledge describes this work as his first attempt to write a properly general history of Sparta. It would not be wholly inaccurate to describe his style as, on the one hand, too erudite to be considered truly popular, yet on the other hand, too informal to be truly academic. He lands, then, in the unfortunate territory of patronizing...

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