In a world desperate for authentic heroes, the story of Alvin C. York reminds us of the true meaning of heroism. York's bravery on the battlefield made him famous, but it was his decision to turn down the easy riches of celebrity that secured his position as one of history's greatest Christian patriots. Based on new interviews with all of York's living children, and York's own diaries, this exhaustive biography follows the young soldier from the hills of Tennessee to the battlefields of France, down Broadway in a triumphant ticker-tape parade, and back home to his family farm where he spent the rest of his life in service to his community and his God.
After reading his life of Mary Custis Lee, which was quite impressive and
turned up many unique insights into a tragically misjudged lady, I sought
out other books by Tennessee's own and only John Perry. I found a copy
of UNSHAKABLE FAITH, but it had mildewed badly and was nearly
unreadable. But faith must have led me to a path of light because on a
dark shelf in an East Bay bookstore my hand crept down past a row of
Elizabeth Peters books, and landed almost by a miracle on this earlier
book by Perry.

I knew very little about Alvin York, except that my grandfather, whose
name was Alvin, always blamed the remarkable fame of Sgt York on the
popularity of this previous unknown name. He said when he went to
school there were thirty-four boys in his graduating class called Alvin.
John Perry addresses this amazing renown. His exploits in the Argonne
Forest became the stuff of legend, and the Gary Cooper biopic in 1941
muffed the facts a bit to give York more of a country background than
actually he had. Many members of his extended family were quite erudite,
and my grandfather always used to say that one of York's aunts had
written the very first home economics textbook in English, predating
Boston's Fannie Farmer by some years.

Perry has a sincere way of writing, and the excitement doesn't let down
when York comes back home a hero. You see him doing good works in
the name of the Lord and, although many politicians and lawmakers were
ever ready and anxious to buy up a piece of his ass, hoping to enlist him
into one or another misbegotten crackpot scheme. To his credit York paid
them no mind and just continued on his humble way. As with his life of
Mary Lee, Perry shows how a good writer concentrates on the facts and
lets the legend go its own way, like a small boy cutting the string to a kite
and waving it goodbye. The truth is, what becomes a myth is something
we have no control over, and Perry acknowledges this with good grace
and a wry smile.

Highly recommended not only to Tennesseans and to Christians, but to
everyone out there interested in a good life story.

For More 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price:
Sgt. York: His Life, Legend & Legacy: The Remarkable Untold Story of Sgt. Alvin C.
York by John Perry 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!