# THE BOOK OF WAR: THE MILITARY CLASSIC OF THE FAR EAST

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The Book of War: The Military Classic of the Far East by E. F. Calthrop

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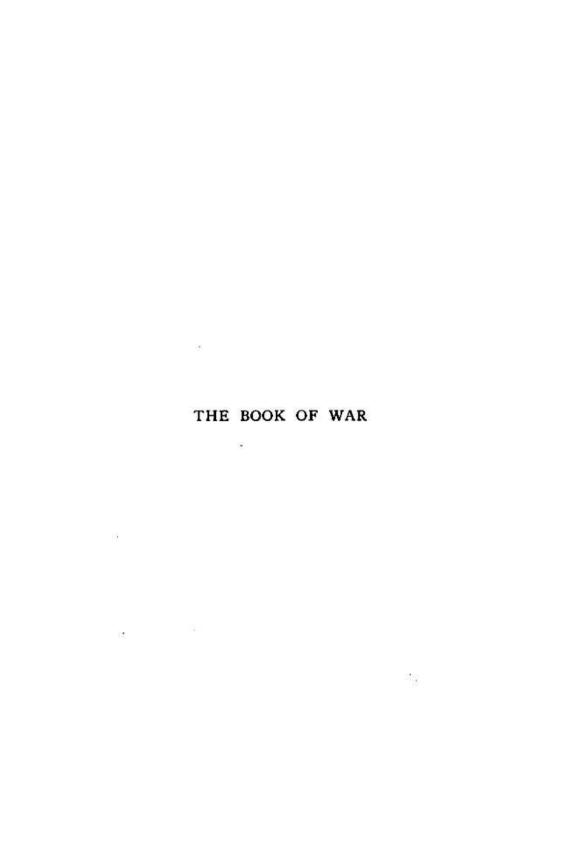
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## E. F. CALTHROP

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## .THE BOOK OF WAR

### THE MILITARY CLASSIC OF THE FAR EAST

CAPTAIN E. F. CALTHROP, R.F.A.

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### THE BOOK OF WAR

### INTRODUCTION

1

Written in the fifth century B.C., Suntzu and Wutzu still remain the most celebrated works on war in the literature of China. While the chariot has gone, and weapons have changed, these ancient masters have held their own, since they deal chiefly with the fundamental principles of war, with the influence of politics and human nature on military operations; and they show in a most striking way how unchanging these principles are.

When these books were written, China was a conglomerate of principalities in continual ferment. Personal ambition and