The first edition of this book represented a pioneering attempt to provide a new synthesis and a full-scale reassessment of the history of the British Empire between 1815 and 1914. In it, Peter Jackson argues that the history of the British Empire is by far the most important imperial system in the world. The British Empire controlled the world at its largest extent, and its influence was felt around the globe. The book is a comprehensive account of the history of the British Empire during this period, covering political, social, economic, and cultural developments. The book is divided into two main sections: the first section focuses on the political and military aspects of the Empire, while the second section deals with the cultural and social developments. The book is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of the British Empire and its impact on the world. The book is well-researched and provides a nuanced understanding of the complexities of the Empire's history.