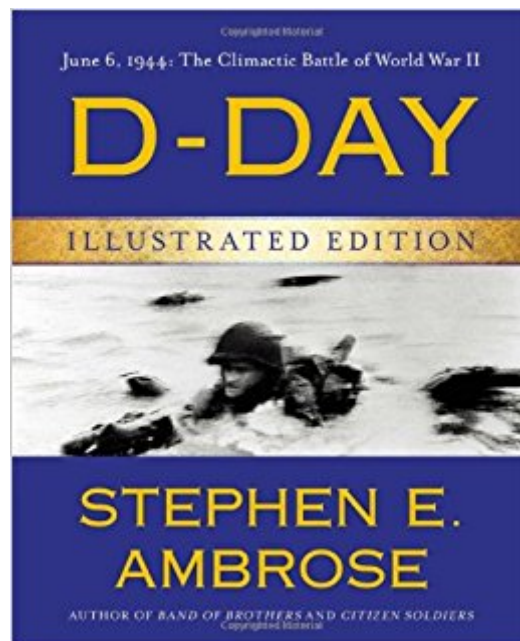




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D-Day Illustrated Edition: June 6, 1944: The Climactic Battle Of World War II



Synopsis

Now illustrated with an extraordinary collection of over 125 photos, Stephen E. Ambrose's D-Day is the definitive history of World War II's most pivotal battle, June 6, 1944, the day that changed the course of history. D-Day is the epic story of men at the most demanding moment of their lives, when the horrors, complexities, and triumphs of life are laid bare. Distinguished historian Stephen E. Ambrose portrays the faces of courage and heroism, fear and determination—what Eisenhower called "the fury of an aroused democracy"—that shaped the victory of the citizen soldiers whom Hitler had disparaged. Drawing on more than 1,400 interviews with American, British, Canadian, French, and German veterans, Ambrose reveals how the original plans for the invasion had to be abandoned, and how enlisted men and junior officers acted on their own initiative when they realized that nothing was as they were told it would be. The action begins at midnight, June 5/6, when the first British and American airborne troops jumped into France. It ends at midnight, June 6/7. Focusing on those pivotal twenty-four hours, the book moves from the level of Supreme Commander to that of a French child, from General Omar Bradley to an American paratrooper, from Field Marshal Montgomery to a German sergeant. Ambrose's D-Day is the most honored account of one of our history's most important days.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"D-Day is mostly about people, but goes even further in evoking the horror, the endurance, the daring and indeed, the human failings at Omaha Beach... Outstanding." (The New York Times Book Review) "Packed with drama and information, never losing sight of the horrors of combat,

Ambrose's D-Day is the best book yet on what many historians consider to be the most important day of the twentieth century. • (San Francisco Chronicle) • Historians and public alike should be profoundly grateful to Ambrose...for assembling this comprehensive and permanent record that will be forever a resource for remembering Normandy. • (Chicago Tribune) • Ambrose's account of the D-Day fighting on the Normandy beaches and bluffs is unsurpassed for detail, emotion and suspense. • (Publishers Weekly)

Stephen E. Ambrose was a renowned historian and acclaimed author of more than thirty books. Among his New York Times bestsellers are *Nothing Like It in the World*, *Citizen Soldiers*, *Band of Brothers*, *D-Day - June 6, 1944*, and *Undaunted Courage*. Dr. Ambrose was a retired Boyd Professor of History at the University of New Orleans and a contributing editor for the *Quarterly Journal of Military History*.

A great blow by blow account including the huge amount of planning and preparation involved. A compilation of historical recount and direct observation from many interviews. Those direct observations made it very personal and all the more compelling. Ambrose doesn't pull any punches on the mistakes in planning and execution by all those involved. A great read and I wish I had the luxury of being able to read it in one sitting. 4 stars just because it can be a slog at times with all the acronyms and military terms. Needs maps in every chapter to refer to. Some great pictures though.

Typical Ambrose all the way. No "whitewashing" of the Generals poor planning and execution at Omaha. Many of our boys died needlessly there. General Cota on the ground with the troops did a wonderful job along with many other leaders from private on up to save the day and make the invasion successful. The part about the Navy destroyer coming in so close to the beach, shelling hell out of the Germans while running parallel to the shore, reaching the end of that invasion area, then reversing engines, going back to the starting point and doing it again was very moving for me. The captain who did that would have been relieved if he grounded the ship but he did it anyway to save American lives.

I read this book on a Kindle and the only criticism is that the maps are hard to refer to. That is more of a problem with the technology than that of the book itself which is very enlightening on large and small scales.

This is a well written and detailed account of the events of June 6, 1944. Between the personal anecdotes from the soldiers and the overall picture presented, I felt that I really got a good picture of the magnitude and history of that day.

I love Military history. Especially WWII. This book was well written and made me feel like I was hovering over the beaches, watching as everything happened. It takes a good story teller to make you feel like you are actually there. The events and the people involved in them make me proud to be an American. And I thank each and every vet who has fought and sacrificed for our country.

Stephen Ambrose was one of the leading historians on WWII in Europe and D-Day. This is a well written narrative of the events of June 6, 1944 and the Normandy campaign that marked the beginning of the end of the Nazi domination of Europe. Ambrose is not only an expert on WWII, but a brilliant author. This is a great read for anyone who wants to revisit this important episode in the history of the 20th Century.

If you enjoyed "Band of Brothers," you will enjoy the wider coverage of D-Day in this book. Ambrose's writing style brings the event closer by integrating interviews with narratives that tie the individual experiences to the bigger picture.

Having just returned from a "Bucket List" trip to Normandy to see the D Day landing beaches for myself, I believe that Ambrose caught the true spirit and accurately described in detail the chronology of what took place hour by hour on June 6th, 1944 at H-hour on the beaches of Normandy, France. It was heart rending and emotionally overwhelming as one reads descriptions of the individual stories of the cream of American Youth that were slaughtered on that stormy morning of the landing. Visiting the American Cemetery at Normandy and seeing the row after rows of 9,600 American soldiers that were killed on the beaches of Utah and Omaha beaches that morning and are now laying at rest, bring Ambrose's D Day narrative to life and may help the reader to understand the magnitude of their sacrifice.

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