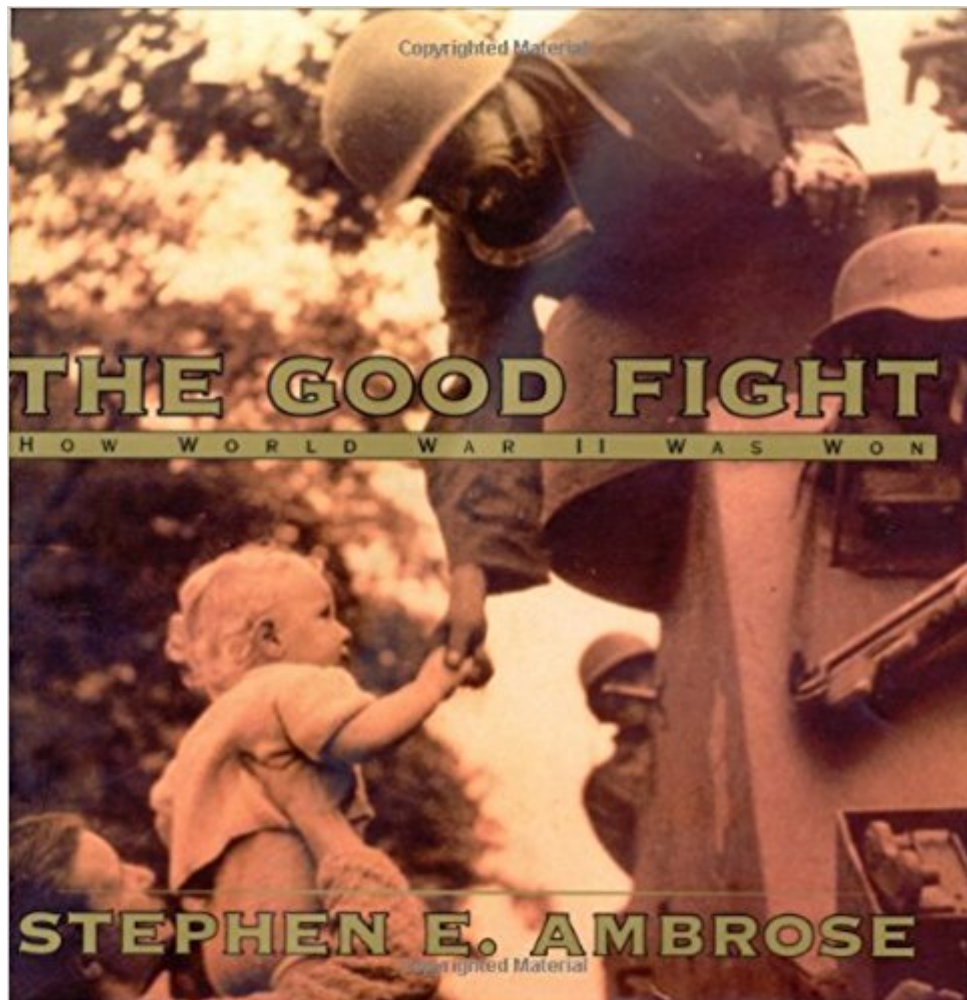




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The Good Fight : How World War II Was Won



Synopsis

Stephen E. Ambrose, one of the finest historians of our time, has written an extraordinary chronicle of World War II for young readers. From Japanese warplanes soaring over Pearl Harbor, dropping devastation from the sky, to the against-all-odds Allied victory at Midway, to the Battle of the Bulge during one of the coldest winters in Europe's modern history, to the tormenting decision to bomb Nagasaki and Hiroshima with atomic weapons, *The Good Fight* brings the most horrific -- and most heroic -- war in history to a new generation in a way that's never been done before. In addition to Ambrose's accounts of major events during the war, personal anecdotes from the soldiers who were fighting on the battlefields, manning the planes, commanding the ships -- stories of human triumph and tragedy -- bring the war vividly to life. Highlighting Ambrose's narrative are spectacular color and black-and-white photos, and key campaign and battlefield maps. Stephen E. Ambrose's singular ability to take complex and multifaceted information and get right to its essence makes *The Good Fight* the book on World War II for kids.

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 and up

Grade Level: 6 and up

Customer Reviews

Packed with photos (color and black-and-white), maps, personal stories, and concise, readable descriptions of the major events of World War II, bestselling author Stephen E. Ambrose's *The*

Good Fight is a stunning resource for students of history. Though this horrific war has been written about innumerable times over the last half-century, this chronicle for young readers (14 and older) is one of the most vivid, insightful, and straightforward perspectives around. Ambrose pulls no punches. In the first paragraph of his introduction, he reminds us that "more people were killed, more houses, apartment buildings, factories, bridges, and other works of man were destroyed than ever before or since." From Hitler's rise to power to Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor to the air war over Europe to the War Crimes Trials, the major events of the war are thoughtfully examined and depicted. Each chapter features one of the most important campaigns, players, situations, or battles, with a full-page, often chilling photograph covering half the two-page spread and inset photos on the narrative page as well. Quick Facts boxes appear in every chapter to highlight interesting and relevant details. Large campaign and battlefield maps are interspersed throughout. Readers will come away with a painfully real sense of what life was like in the 1930s and '40s for the soldiers, families, women workers (Rosie the Riveter is included, of course), heroes, and victims of this most devastating, cruel war. (Ages 14 and older) --Emilie Coulter

Veteran adult historian Ambrose (D-Day June 6, 1944; Citizen Soldiers) hits the mark with this patriotic photo-survey of America's involvement in WWII. His highly visual and textually concise approach make clear the giant scope of a war that truly spanned the world. The author covers a great deal of factual information by breaking down the events into digestible sections of one to two spreads each (the D-Day invasion, photos of the concentration camps, and the bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki each have two spreads). Topics vary from the origins of the war in both Germany and Japan to Japanese-American relocation camps to the Manhattan Project and women in the work force, always keeping an eye to the human side of war and sacrifice. Carefully selected quotes reinforce the individual's experience, such as Major Richard Winters's reaction when his troops liberated concentration camp prisoners at Dachau: "Now I know why I am here." Ambrose also points out the irony that the U.S. battled a racist Hitler with a segregated army, and effectively argues that the exemplary performance of African-American troops paved the way for integration in the army and, eventually, for the civil rights movement. Haunting and powerful full-page and inset photographs bring each subject to life, including Joe Rosenthal's famous flag-raising after the battle of Iwo Jima. Because of the brevity, some issues such as Russia's temporary alliance with Germany are not discussed. The format succeeds in allowing Ambrose to flash back and forth between events around the globe, creating a heartpounding urgency. Ages 9-up. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Beautifully written. Mr. Ambrose communicates with gratitude the courage, sacrifice and hope the heroes of World War II had. All the major events of the war are divided up into sections with wonderful pictures to truly illustrate the truth and the tragedies of the war, but he keeps it appropriate for children. This book was purchased for my sixth grader and I read through every page before giving it to him. I want my children to understand the sacrifices our country and our allies made to protect the world from evil, but also keep them from the horrors of the war for now. This book does this perfectly.

I like all of Ambrose's stuff.

It is an excellent very easy read and can give you a foundational history of WWII especially for a young reader. Everyone needs to know whether it is this book or another what citizen soldiers did to save our freedoms and their sacrifices made in WWII.

Bought it for my grandson but I read it before I gave it to him. It's wonderful and concise so not too difficult for an 11 year old. Not too easy and not too difficult to understand - just right for any age.

This book is not an introduction to WWII history. It is a patriotic guide to American victories in WWII. It starts at 1941, skipping the first 4 years of fighting in China and 2 years in Europe. It does not bother with the few setbacks the US experienced nor the early deficiencies in US military organizations and equipments. It has no in-depth analysis into how the battles were fought and why the outcomes came about the way they did. In short, it is a piece of triumphal propaganda. Knowing that this book was meant for kids, I did not really expect an objective and comprehensive work of history. I thought it would suffice for my eight-year-old, who is a real WWII buff. Well, he read the first few pages and began to flip through the rest. He then looked up to me and said, "This book sucks. It is for babies!" Fortunately, I had "War in European History" on the shelf. He was satisfied.

Good book for younger people who have not been taught true history about WWII. It breaks down the major battles and give side notes to explain the results and the costs of human life.

I bought this for my grandson who is interested in history. Great photos, maps and descriptions of

most of the battles.

Another well-written Stephen Ambrose book. Great pictures. Easy to read and follow. Shouldn't take more than a day or two to finish.

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