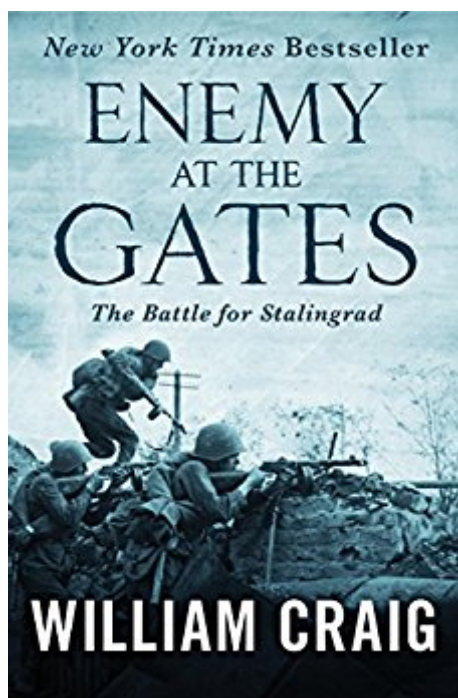


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Enemy At The Gates: The Battle For Stalingrad



Synopsis

A New York Times bestseller that brings to life one of the bloodiest battles of World War II—the beginning of the end of the Third Reich. On August 5, 1942, giant pillars of dust rose over the Russian steppe, marking the advance of the 6th Army, an elite German combat unit dispatched by Hitler to capture the industrial city of Stalingrad and press on to the oil fields of Azerbaijan. The Germans were supremely confident; in three years, they had not suffered a single defeat. The Luftwaffe had already bombed the city into ruins. German soldiers hoped to complete their mission and be home in time for Christmas. The siege of Stalingrad lasted five months, one week, and three days. Nearly two million men and women died, and the 6th Army was completely destroyed. Considered by many historians to be the turning point of World War II in Europe, the Soviet Army's victory foreshadowed Hitler's downfall and the rise of a communist superpower. Bestselling author William Craig spent five years researching this epic clash of military titans, traveling to three continents in order to review documents and interview hundreds of survivors. *Enemy at the Gates* is the enthralling result: the definitive account of one of the most important battles in world history. It became a New York Times bestseller and was also the inspiration for the 2001 film of the same name, starring Joseph Fiennes and Jude Law.

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Customer Reviews

A great book on the Battle of Stalingrad. Finally, I am really glad to see this gem available in the kindle format. I am a history buff who has been reading books since I was a teenager. I specifically have an interest in Military History throughout ages. Stalingrad was definitely the turning point in World War II. The Eastern Front was the war theatre where the outcome of World War II was decided. No doubt about this. As part of this mammoth struggle, arises Stalingrad as the bloodiest and biggest battle of world war II. It lasted for about 6 months and its tragic outcome was close to the 2 million casualties on both sides (about 750 thousand soviets and 840 thousand axis where circa 400 thousand were Germans). Probably the title of this book sounds familiar to you and this is because the Hollywood movie directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud with good actors like Judd Law, Ralph Fiennes and Ed Harris. Let me tell you, the whole movie is based in less than 10 pages of William Craig's book! you can imagine that Craig's "Enemy at The gates" is much more than that. This great American novelist and historian (Craig was a graduate from Columbia University) spent 5 years of his life traveling three continents interviewing survivors of this horrendous battle (Italians, Germans, Russian, Israelis) given that in the German offensive many soldiers of different nationalities were serving with the German Wehrmacht and its allies (Germans, Austrians, Croats, Romanians, Italians, and Hungarians). William Craig put a human face to the battle, something that other historians grossly ignore. Moreover at the end of the book, Craig talk about those former soldiers whose stories appear in the book and what they were doing at the time "Enemy at the Gates" was completed (1973). World War 2 was still fresh in the minds of those who were interviewed as actors in that drama. Let me add at the end that I have been reading about Stalingrad for decades, I had read the best that has been published on the topic and I can assure you that William Craig's "Enemy at The gates" is among the Best! I have 2 copies of this book bought used in e-Bay (hardcover) and one paperback bought in England (Penguin books). Now I have the kindle edition and I am again reading it. Anthony Beevor's "Stalingrad" is a great book. It would be a very hard decision to decide which book describes better the battle with all its drama and ferocity. I would give my vote for "Enemy at the Gates" (by a narrow margin indeed).

The real war was in Russia. The western front was a side show. This was a war between two opposing world views. Nationalism vs. globalist communism. Germany had many allies with them in the Russian campaign, although largely ineffectual. Romanians, Italians, Vichy French, Hungarians and even Croats and some Ukrainians. USA and Britain supplied and supported the Stalin regime. The end result was half of Europe fell behind the Iron curtain, North Korea, Vietnam,

Chinese communism. Why did we take sides in a European civil war of ideology. Germany had no globalist plans of conquest, they wanted communism destroyed and eastern Russia for settlement. National socialism was a movement for Germans only. Read the egomaniacs own words in Mien Kampf. WW2 and the final result was a disaster for western civilization. The beginning of our death spiral and a new world order where Chinese hegemony will be the future.

Absolutely riveting, and essential reading for anyone who knows more about the war in Western Europe than the war in Eastern Europe. It ranks with "Band of Brothers" for its portrayal of war from the viewpoints of everyday soldiers.

Excellent description of one of the bloodiest battles in the History of War. Craig provides historical information in a very easy to read narrative that keeps the reader engaged from beginning to end. This is the definitive book on this historic battle.

The complete battle of Stalingrad. The story of those who participated, not only the Generals, and tyrannical leaders, but the foot soldiers and residents of the city. Totally terrifying in places (the execution of the wounded prisoners). This battle changed the course of WWII and the world.

just a heads up- this isn't like the movie this is a great book for history/military history buffs. there's a lot of names and places to keep up with so its a slow read but i was never bored with it. the number of deaths and atrocities is staggering. each side was responsible for truly evil things. crazy to read about the terrible things that happened to these men.

William Craig has done a terrific job of detailing and explaining a very complicated series of moves and countermoves by two antagonists. Both the Germans and the Russians had numerous combat and support units involved in the battle and the authors does a very nice job making it very clear how the various units interact. Craig illustrates how the action or inaction of the High Command of each country, including the Dictators Hitler and Stalin, impacts the outcome of this battle.

I enjoyed this book and even though there are some inconsistencies believe that this is a solid tomb to the memories of the men at Stalingrad

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