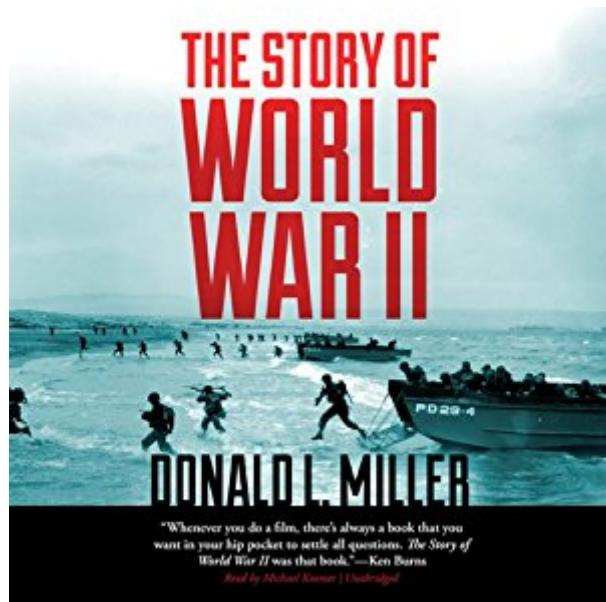


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# The Story Of World War II



## **Synopsis**

Drawing on previously unpublished eyewitness accounts, prizewinning historian Donald L. Miller has written what critics are calling one of the most powerful accounts of warfare ever published. Here are the horror and heroism of World War II in the words of the men who fought it, the journalists who covered it, and the civilians who were caught in its fury. Miller gives us an up-close, deeply personal view of a war that was more savagely fought - and whose outcome was in greater doubt - than one might imagine. This is the war that Americans on the home front would have read about had they had access to the previously censored testimony of the soldiers on which Miller builds his gripping narrative. Miller covers the entire war - on land, at sea, and in the air - and provides new coverage of the brutal island fighting in the Pacific, the bomber war over Europe, the liberation of the death camps, and the contributions of African Americans and other minorities. He concludes with a suspenseful, never-before-told story of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, based on interviews with the men who flew the mission that ended the war. Donald L. Miller is the John Henry MacCracken Professor of History at Lafayette College. He is a creator and associate producer of the HBO documentary *He Has Seen War* and has been chief consultant for numerous award-winning PBS productions. He is author of the prizewinning *City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America*.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Great, thorough history of WWII. Great for anyone who likes history and wants to more than whats covered in any general history classs

I was 12 years old when WWII started and so I only have vague remembrances of WWII. This book helped me understand about the war from beginning to end. There are quotes from men (and women) who actually fought in various battles. This really brings home the terrible price of war. The book gives details about various battles and the great casualties we took (something that I believe was not told to the American people). I found the book to be very informative, a great read. It is disturbing at times to realize the price we paid in American lives. It certainly convinces one that war should be avoided unless absolutely necessary.

This is a great book that covers the history of World War II. For a history book this is a very entertaining read

Very interesting. I must not have listened to history years ago in school because beyond it being interesting (and I don't necessarily have a keen interest in history - hence my not listening in school years ago), I am learning a lot.

Born the year after WWII ended, I read this as a fast way to become a little less uninformed about this enormously important series of events. It's impressive for its overview focused on the US involvement in both western and eastern theaters. It accomplished its purpose. A valuable feature is inclusion of much personal material from soldiers of many ranks. The editor/co-author had access to much material unclassified which the original author did not. As a novice, I could not identify errors in dates & places. The prose is well written which allowed easy reading.

Great item

My high school education prior to the reading of this book had World War II as some semi abstract event consisting of Nazis, Kamikaze pilots, The Holocaust, the dropping of the nuclear bomb. After reading this book, I feel I have a much more thorough and detailed understanding of World War II, from start to finish. I have a pretty good grasp of everything that was involved in the decisions that were made, rather than some abstraction. Besides providing a detailed account of events, this book also provides correspondence and quotes from people on both sides of the battlefields, which fleshes out the reality of many of the battles. It certianly doesn't track every individual soldier, but it lets you know pretty well the kind of brutality and hardship that the soldiers involved in any given

battle must have faced. The tragedies and the heroism involved in the battles and campaigns of the war are touched just upon the surface I imagine, but just the same, this account of World War II is moving not only in its honest portrayal of the brutality that mankind is capable of, but also the nobility that mankind is capable of. There is also an accounting of the people who were able to look past the slights they'd suffered in America and see the true enemy of fascism. The contribution of blacks from the 1940's south, and of Japanese-Americans who had relatives being held in camps in America, are accounted for in both the European battlefield and the Pacific battlefield. While such a thing is usually portrayed for political correctness, the accounts in this book are about individuals rather than groups, which preserves the true heroism of the individuals described. I highly recommend this book to anyone who would like to have a more thorough understanding of World War II. It will take a few months of dedicated reading to read through it all, and I found myself taking a day off sometimes just because of how powerful some events were, but when you are done with the read, you'll have a gift of knowledge that you will in turn want to share with your family and friends.

This history of World War II, which is an edited, expanded version of the original Henry Steele Commanger work, is outstanding in detail. It holds your attention, yet is filled with statistics and facts, many of which are no longer remembered. I recommend this work most highly to anyone interested in the world at war, 1939-1946.

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