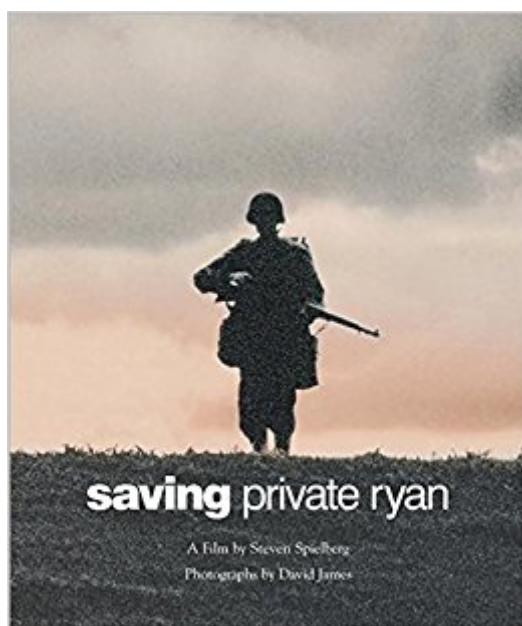


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# Saving Private Ryan: The Men, The Mission, The Movie (Newmarket Pictorial Moviebook)



## Synopsis

Over 50,000 sold— the only illustrated companion book to the extraordinary film. Includes excerpts from Stephen Ambrose's books, screenplay extracts, and commentary by Steven Spielberg, Tom Hanks, Matt Damon, Janusz Kaminski and others. 100 illustrations, 130 color plates.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The photos and snippets of dialog and celebrity quotes in this tie-in book to Steven Spielberg's D-day film Saving Private Ryan are a continuation of the movie by other means. (Be forewarned that the book reveals one major plot point concerning Matt Damon's Private Ryan character.) If the color pictures look a bit washed-out compared to, say, Disney's The Art of Mulan, that's the idea--Spielberg renounced his razzle-dazzle visual magic in order to convey a brute reality honestly. "I didn't want to shoot the picture as a Hollywood gung ho Rambo kind of extravaganza," Spielberg says in the book. "Janusz [Kaminski, the cinematographer] stripped all the glossy filters and the filaments from the lenses so they were just like the kind of lenses they actually used in the Second World War. We shot a lot of the war sequences with the shutter speed used by those Bell and Howell cameras of the 1940s for making newsreels.... If we've done our jobs, [the audience] will think we were actually on the beach on D-day." Time magazine opined that the film boasts "quite possibly the greatest combat sequence ever made." The photos in this book give an inkling of that

impact, and also evince the intense empathy for the GIs that won Spielberg the allegiance of the leading historian Stephen E. Ambrose, whose stunning book *Citizen Soldiers* was the director's prime influence. "I wanted to write about the lives of the GIs," Ambrose said in an .com interview. "Books are always written from the generals' point of view, but I'm sick of the generals and their point of view. It's more refreshing to be with the guys who did the fighting." After seeing the film or reading this book (or the novelization *Saving Private Ryan*), you may not feel refreshed, but you will be enlightened. And you will immediately want to read two other sagas of ordinary heroism by Ambrose, *D-day and Undaunted Courage*, his ode to Meriwether Lewis. *Saving Private Ryan* is, in a sense, a companion volume to Tim O'Brien's masterpiece *Going After Cacciato*, about soldiers hunting down a deserter during the Vietnam War. Spielberg's story of GIs risking their lives hunting down an endangered dogface to save his life helps measure what it was that Americans lost between World War II and Vietnam. --Tim Appelo

James' book, an extension of the message of the film, is a valuable artifact of cinematic history. Inspired by those who sacrificed their lives for liberty, the memory of the images is not soon forgotten. -- Photo Insider

Get some Kleenex, still don't know how Tom Hanks did not get the Academy Award. Saw it at the theater and you could have heard a pin drop, also heard a lot of crying. the first thirty minutes is brutal.

Nice book with great stills from the movie but disappointingly little content. Very surprised that the author did not make it a more comprehensive review of the script. (Perhaps licensing limitations?)

I think Spielberg's a genius. There, I've said it. He takes simple men, surely John Miller, Captain, 2nd Ranger Battalion is just that, a simple man, and paints a canvas of such detail of Armageddon, putting these simple men all over the painting. Hell. The end of the world. Good versus evil. Call it what you may. "I'm a history teacher," he says in the movie in one extraordinarily tense scene. "I teach history in a small high school in Pennsylvania. . . .when I'm done here I don't know if I can go back to it."I'm reminded of another 'simple man' that came from Pennsylvania in novel lore. Lieutenant Harry Brubaker, the lawyer who flies F-9 Panther Jets in Michner's brief story about the carnage in Korea, 'Bridges at To Ko Ri.'But the point is Spielberg tells us that they were all simple men and we don't believe him at first. We keep looking for Arnie Schwarznegger or Chuck Norris or

The Rock. But they are and were normal guys, guys from Brooklyn New York and Brooklyn Michigan. Guys from towns you never heard of in Iowa, where Jimmy Ryan and his brothers came from. Just guys in the greatest carnage the world ever knew. And Spielberg shows us what they did. They changed the world. The five Sullivan brothers all went down with their ship in the middle of the war and after that the powers that be would not commit one brother in a theater of combat where another brother was also serving in harm's way. So here, one of Jimmy Ryan's brothers is killed in the Pacific and one brother is killed in Anzio Beach. And Sean Ryan is killed in the landing at Omaha Beach. And Captain John Miller and a squad of men he picks are asked to find him to send him home. A wonderful book to compliment a movie that should be preserved forever about an unbelievable body of men and women. "Was I a good man," asks James Ryan 50 years later? My Dad asked me the same question a few years ago. Five stars is not enough. Larry Scantlebury.

This book was just as I expected it to be a behind the scenes look at a very intense movie. The photos are spectacular and the narrative very informative. My only complain is there is not enough of either. It left me wanting more. Maybe that is what a good book is supposed to do but I still had unanswered question concerning how the movie was made. I love those production stories full of little details of how they did it, what went wrong and how they made it all work somehow. Was it worth the price, yes but I would have paid more to get more.

The book and movie are so real that you'd believe they are real live. How Spielberg made it? Tracers flashed on the breach, bullets shot into sea water,....., the scenes are just so true! If you experienced any real gun combat, you know what I mean. I won't use the word "beautiful" to describe the book and the movie, war isn't beautiful, killing or being killed is not fun. But the book and movie are wonderful! I did not feel comfortable when I stepped out from cinema but I like the book so much that it can remind me how good the movie was.

This beautiful coffee-table companion is a must for anyone who has seen, and appreciates, Spielberg's superb film. The book chronicles the making of the movie from boot camp, to the construction of Ramelle, to the actual shoot. The behind the scenes photos and interviews with various actors and crew members only serve to enrich what is a truly amazing film-going experience.

Spielburg made a cheap mistake in this award hunting movie. After the battle which killed the black

guy in the rain and find a wrong ryan, before the battle of ryda station, THERE WERE STILL 8 SOLDIERS WALKING THROUGH THE SCREEN! If this sort of mistake was made by someone else, its not so bad. But with spielburg, just become a shame. He look like too desperate to win the award, maybe before that he should think about improve his working attitude.

good

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