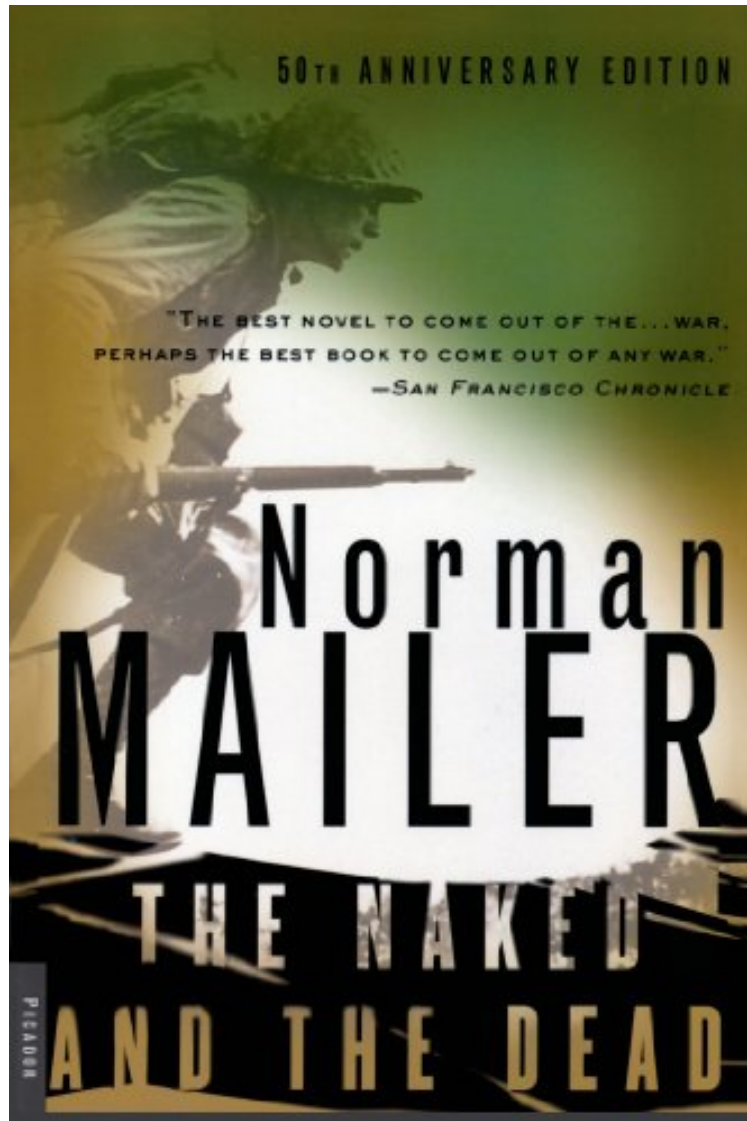


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## The Naked and the Dead: 50th Anniversary Edition, With a New Introduction by the Author

*Von Norman Mailer*

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**Von Norman Mailer : The Naked and the Dead: 50th Anniversary Edition, With a New Introduction by the Author** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Naked and the Dead: 50th Anniversary Edition, With a New Introduction by the Author:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Norman

Mailer's greatest work!  
Von Jesse S. Walker  
This book is mostly about the interior thoughts resulting from exterior forces (the war, relatives back home, other soldiers). It is a wonderfully in depth study of character. In the end the characters show us that each of us is in some way naked and vulnerable to the world. Those that don't believe it are dead. This is a prime example of a book that should never be made into a movie because there is no way to portray such complex mental processes on film.  
1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Mailer is a natural  
Von Jason Baer  
Writing must come naturally to Norman Mailer. While this is his very first book, it suffers from none of the usual rookie mistakes and stands up to the very best works in Mailer's oeuvre. I dare say that very few 20th century novelists would not trade in the sum total of their work to have written this one masterpiece. "The Naked and the Dead" delves deep into the heart of war as it exists in modern times, sparing us the sentimentalism and glorification that plagues most books of the war genre. I would be belittling this book's significance by even assigning it to a specific genre. True, this is a story of war, of the implications of war, the causes of war, and the impact that war has on various types of individuals, from the generals down to a platoon of privates. But first and foremost this is a story about human nature, and how human beings react when pushed to the very edge of their physical and emotional endurance. While I could go on indefinitely listing this book's many favorable attributes, I will spare you my opinions and let you decide for yourself. But do read this book. Do not be put-off by its length, for anything shorter would have done a great injustice to the subject matter.  
Norman Mailer, may you live to be 1,000 years old.  
0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Great book, goes far beyond a war novel in its scope  
Von Ein Kunde  
It's one of those books that won't let you get distracted with anything else until you've finished reading it. However, there's much more to this novel than the captivating story line, describing the drudgingly slow campaign by American troops against Japanese forces entrenched on a Pacific (fictional) island of Anopopei, as seen through the eyes of soldiers of an American recon platoon. It also goes beyond a realistic deglamorizing portrayal of war. The novel contains a simple in its form, yet deep and brutally honest psychological analysis of human (or, more accurately, male) society, revealed in seemingly casual interactions between the soldiers of the platoon. At times it almost seems as if the war setting is simply a ploy that the author uses to bring a variety of male characters together and put them in a harsh situation, so they can't escape interacting with one another. These interactions reveal the hierarchical, remarkably animal-like nature of relationships between men, of which they themselves don't seem to be consciously aware of. It's a depressing exploration of the pettiness of human nature. I think the book also does an excellent job in exploring the roots of fascism. One of them is the animal craving for power, exhibited to the fullest by the characters of the campaign commander General Cummings and the platoon leader Sergeant Croft. It's ironic that the character of Cummings, an allied forces general, practically comes out as a symbol of fascism in this book; it's a reminder that the tragedy of fascism has deeper roots than sadistic imagination of a single group of people in a single nation. The novel shows that historic events are often guided by primitive human urges, and not the ethical motives that are printed in the history textbooks.

Kurzbeschreibung  
Hailed as one of the finest novels to come out of the Second World War, *The Naked and the Dead* received unprecedented critical acclaim upon its publication and has since enjoyed a long and well-deserved tenure in the American canon. This fiftieth anniversary edition features a new introduction created especially for the occasion by Norman Mailer. Written in gritty, journalistic detail, the story follows a platoon of Marines who are stationed on the Japanese-held island of Anopopei. Composed in 1948 with the wisdom of a man twice Mailer's age and the raw courage of the young man he was, *The Naked and the Dead* is representative of the best in twentieth-century American writing.  
From *Library Journal*  
This 50th-anniversary edition of Mailer's World War II epic contains a new introduction by the author. If your current copy is falling apart, now is the time to replace it.  
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Pressestimmen  
"Nightmarish masterpiece of realism."  
--*Cleveland News*  
"The most important American novel since *Moby Dick*."  
--*Providence Journal*  
"The best novel to come out of the . . . war, perhaps the best book to come out of any war."  
--*San Francisco Chronicle*  
"Brutal, agonizing, astonishingly thoughtful."  
--*Newsweek*  
"Vibrant with life, abundant with real people, full of memorable scenes. To call it merely a great book about the war would be to minimize its total achievement."  
--*The Philadelphia Inquirer*  
"Best novel yet about World War II."  
--*Time*