



Guadalcanal Diary

Richard Tregaskis

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#1 *New York Times* Bestseller: The definitive eyewitness account of one of the bloodiest and most pivotal battles of World War II.

On August 7, 1942, eleven thousand US Marines landed on Tulagi and Guadalcanal Islands in the South Pacific. It was the first major Allied offensive against Japanese forces; the first time in history that a combined air, land, and sea assault had ever been attempted; and, after six months of vicious fighting, a crushing defeat for the Empire of Japan and a major turning point in the Pacific War.

Volunteer combat correspondent Richard Tregaskis was one of only two journalists on hand to witness the invasion of Guadalcanal. He risked life and limb to give American readers a soldier's experience of the war in the Pacific, from the suffocating heat and humidity to the unique terror of fighting in tall, razor-sharp grass and in crocodile-infested jungle streams against a concealed enemy. In understated yet graceful prose, Tregaskis details the first two months of the campaign and describes the courage and camaraderie of young marines who prepared for battle knowing that one in four of them wouldn't make it home.

An instant bestseller when it was first published in 1943 and the basis for a popular film of the same name, *Guadalcanal Diary* set the standard for World War II reportage. Hailed by the *New York Times* as "one of the literary events of its time," it is a masterpiece of war journalism whose influence can be found in classic works such as John Hersey's *Hiroshima*, Michael Herr's *Dispatches*, and Dexter Filkins's *The Forever War*.

This ebook features an illustrated biography of Richard Tregaskis including rare images from the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming.

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Sylvia Harrington:

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