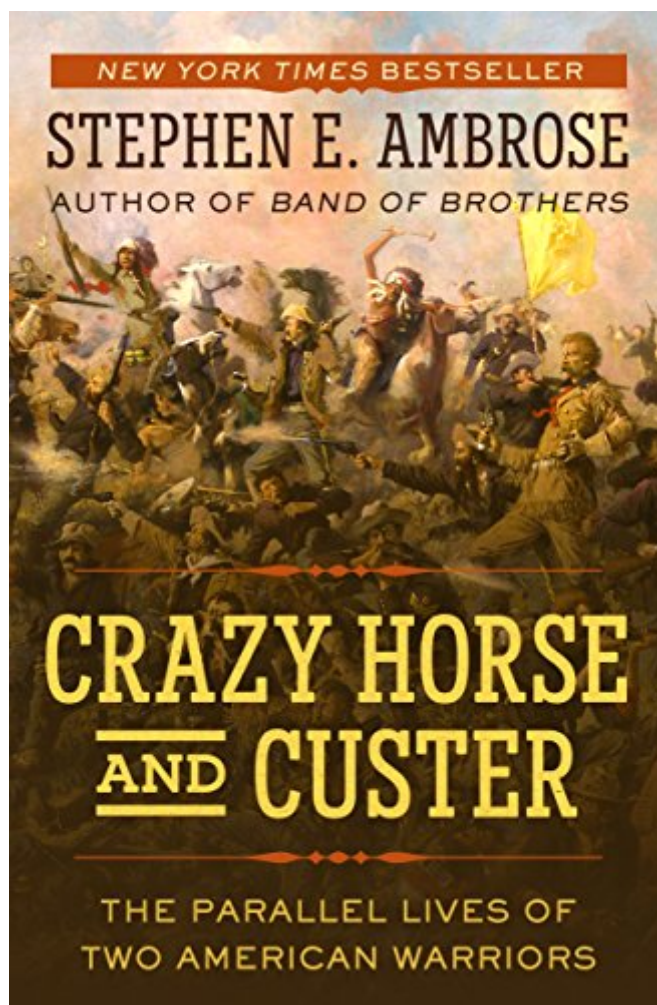


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Crazy Horse And Custer: The Parallel Lives Of Two American Warriors



Synopsis

A New York Times bestseller from the author of *Band of Brothers*: The biography of two fighters forever linked by history and the battle at Little Bighorn. On the sparkling morning of June 25, 1876, 611 men of the United States 7th Cavalry rode toward the banks of Little Bighorn in the Montana Territory, where three thousand Indians stood waiting for battle. The lives of two great warriors would soon be forever linked throughout history: Crazy Horse, leader of the Oglala Sioux, and General George Armstrong Custer. Both were men of aggression and supreme courage. Both became leaders in their societies at very early ages. Both were stripped of power, in disgrace, and worked to earn back the respect of their people. And to both of them, the unspoiled grandeur of the Great Plains of North America was an irresistible challenge. Their parallel lives would pave the way, in a manner unknown to either, for an inevitable clash between two nations fighting for possession of the open prairie.

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Customer Reviews

This should have 10 stars. I am 83 yr. old that has read over a thousand books since I got an adult library card at age 6. I have had to slow down my reading because of eye trouble, but the ability of the paperback to increase font size had helped me keep my speed up. But this book is the best thing I come across in years. I was born in upper Minnesota and spent time on the Sioux reservation. I've also read some things about Custer and The Little Big Horn. All were weak in early detail and the culture. This book delves deeply into BOTH the lives of Custer and Crazy Horse and their opposite cultures. For anyone interested in the early West and the lives of the Indian tribes as opposed to the upbringing of Custer will find it all here.

Ambrose is a very good writer and this book is a joy to read. He helps us understand the culture of both Crazy Horse and Custer. Both are much more interesting than would be expected. I especially enjoyed reading about the early life and development of Crazy Horse. And Custer is such a flamboyant over-the-top extrovert that we quickly understand how he could come to the end we all know. Custer's wife is an especially interesting person, follows him around with a loving devotion, and does all she can to promote his career. And we learn about the relationships between men and women in the Indian culture which keeps Crazy Horse single for most of his early life. Both were exceptional and Ambrose draws a comparison rich in detail and remarkable to read. Loved it.

An exceptional book that details the lives of two great leaders during the Indian Wars of the mid 19th century. Ambrose provides perspective on the thinking and experience of both "generals" that lead to the battle of the Little Big Horn and subsequent murder of Crazy Horse. For readers who are familiar with Custer and Crazy Horse this book adds detailed background in today's battle terms as well as the development of the thought process of both individuals that ultimately lead to their demise. An outstanding book that is a must read for students of the history of the settling of the Great Plains.

If you've lived in a cave and knew nothing about Custer and/or Crazy Horse, this book would have received 5 from me. It was well written and bounced back and forth between the two warriors. However, both are so well known, there were patches of the story that were well-known and I glanced through them. The book moved well and for anyone interested in these characters, I would recommend it.

This writing is one of many writings of history by Stephen Ambrose. I picked up this book while

preparing for a trip to the Black Hills of South Dakota and thought I would read up on the history of the struggle of the Sioux. I found this book to be well researched, well written and very informative. As someone who enjoys reading history this book was very eye opening and provided great insight. Ambrose does a masterful job of relating the details and facts while attempting to view the situations from all angles. Of course, the reader may find themselves a little bogged down in the facts if you don't desire that much detail. However you will not be without enough information to understand what is taking place. I very much enjoyed this book and would recommend it to anyone looking to learn more of the history of the American expansion west, especially in regards to the figures of Crazy Horse and Custer, definitely two very different, yet eerily similar figures who are forged in American consciousness.

This book was very interesting and well researched. The author's approach of devoting attention to Crazy Horse in a chapter or two and then devoting similar space and attention to Custer is very effective. Ambrose did not create a dry history. The book, though researched, read like a novel. The author sets forth the two men's lives and experiences throughout their lives leading up to the clash at the Little Bighorn. I found the information about Crazy Horse and his culture of particular interest. Others may find the information on Custer more interesting. The book is informative, well structured and written, and very engaging.

I read this book many years ago when I was a young Sergeant in the Army. However my father is an avid reader as well a history buff and I thought perhaps he would find this book a great read as I had. Mind you the first chapter or two can be a bit dry and difficult to make your way through but after that it opens up and moves along. I am sure I would be able to go on and on about oversights and what should have been added/left out but those would be my opinions only. I believe one should read and judge for themselves rather than be biased by what another person feels/believes. If you have a longing to understand either of these two men or what happened in their lives that influenced that fateful day then this is the book you need to read. If you are just interested in understanding more about our country's days when Manifest Destiny was shaping our lands, then again check this one out.

I like Ambrose's work generally. This book is a good treatment of, as he says, "two American warriors". I think it gives a fair picture of the men, who could not have been more different, both in their internal value systems, and in the way that they fought and commanded. Recommended.

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