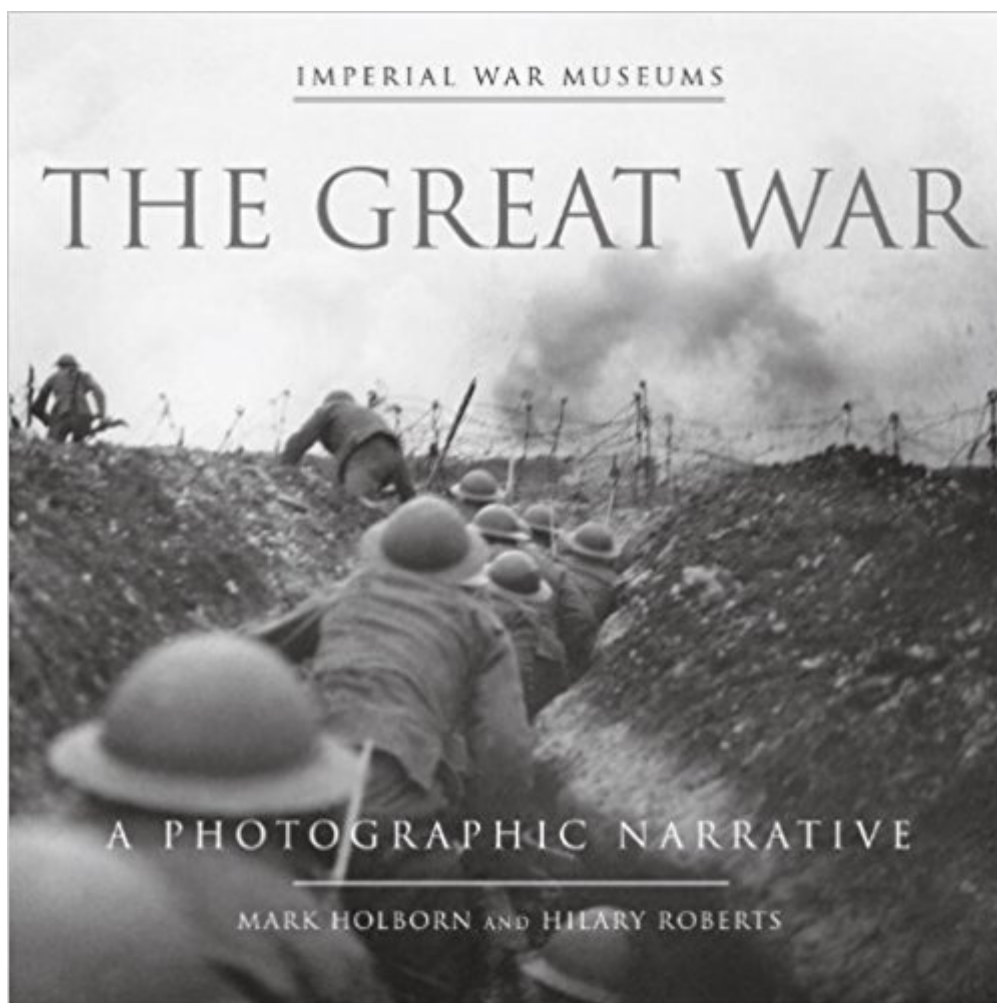


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The Great War: A Photographic Narrative (Imperial War Museums)



Synopsis

On the occasion of the centenary of World War I in August 2014--an unprecedented, spectacular pictorial history of the first global war in 380 black-and-white photographs, many never seen before, from Imperial War Museums in London. This monumental, dramatic photographic narrative captures the war from the early arms race that developed around the massing of prewar battleship fleets to the final moments of the conflict with the sinking of the German fleet in Scapa. The photographs span the many battlefronts throughout the world: from the British Isles to the south Atlantic, across Europe and the Ottoman Empire, Sudan and East Africa, Jerusalem and Damascus. Here are soldiers from across the globe, vast battleships, dirigibles overhead, the streets of London, the first battle of Ypres, German submarines at sea, the beaches of Gallipoli, the battle of Jutland, the battle of the Somme trenches, and much, much more.

Book Information

Series: Imperial War Museums

Hardcover: 504 pages

Publisher: Knopf (October 29, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385350708

ISBN-13: 978-0385350709

Product Dimensions: 11.6 x 1.6 x 11.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #669,767 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #447 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Photography & Video > Military History](#) #886 in [Books > Textbooks >](#)

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review WWI was "great" only in the depth of its destruction and the extent of its crippling effect. The early idea that it was the war to end all wars died quickly when it became obvious, as the 1920s turned into the 1930s, that another big blowout was gathering momentum and would, like the previous one, come to involve regions beyond Europe. From the archives of the Imperial War Museums in Britain, illustrator Holborn and museum curator Roberts have culled 380 black-and-white photographs and here present them in a visual chronicle of WWI, to mark the 2014 centenary of the war's outbreak. This large-size volume, as heavy in actual weight as it is

in importance, brings graphic, intimate images of the war, which was indeed worldwide and horrific, face-to-face with viewers for whom WWI is ancient history. The war was fought on land and on the sea, in trenches and in the air, and the art of photography had advanced in sophistication and become universal enough in usage that all aspects of the war were captured for perpetuity, from enthusiastic troop mobilizations in 1914 to equally enthusiastic armistice celebrations in 1918. Chapter arrangement is by year, with introductions to each chapter, though brief, setting the military and political contexts of the photos to come. A major addition to world-history collections. --Brad Hooper

"A book of extraordinary power and clarity... it may well be the greatest anthology (yet) of World War I photographs...The sonata rhythm of the images, with their complementary and recurring themes, endows the ensemble with rare emotional power and reflective depth." --Christopher Clark, The New York Times Book Review
"Intense and affecting...so many of these crisp images are haunting...Rich, riveting and often appalling visual history."
•Dwight Garner, The New York Times

I do freelance photographic and video work. I also have a passion for history. From that perspective, I found this a truly great book which I have few complaints about. There are images here I felt should not have been reproduced simply because they lacked interest or really did nothing to capture the war itself. The text accompanying the photography in the beginning of each chapter, used to catalogue events is unnecessary. However, each of the photographic explanations are highly useful for reference. Another reviewer here complained about blank or half used pages. I did indeed find this puzzling and rather pointless. My only other issue, is the lack of a higher paper quality. It could be argued that using a higher grade would have made the book more expensive. So what? If you are going to produce a book of this scope and importance, why not go the extra mile?

I bought this for my brother-in-law for his birthday. This man knows more about WWI than anyone I know and I was a history teacher, specializing in World Cultures. I remember cruising on the Dardanelles and watching him hold a group of people enthralled with his knowledge of the siege of Gallipoli. I was so interested I missed the site of Schliemann's cities of Troy! Published by the Imperial War Museum, it is an amazing pictorial chronicle of that tragic time. It has been issued as a commemorative study for the 100th anniversary of the Great War. He enjoyed this book and so did I. I hope you will too.

Never before pictures placed in sequence give a vivid portrait of the war, what led to it and the toll it took. It's a must have for anyone interested in WWI or in the ravages of war at any time.

Huge number of high-quality WW1 photographs; the explanatory text leaves a little to be desired. If you buy this book, it's for the photos, not for the superficial "history"

The photos in this book are crisp and exemplify the lives of the military men and women of WW1. Having been to Verdun, as well as Up on the Somme, I can appreciate the nature of the beast. A bit on the expensive side, but well worth the money. One can still see the damage that is depicted in this book, however, the books shows the devastation at the time.

The photos in this book are so big & clear, you're able to see details not normally seen because the pics are too small. Well worth getting if WW1 interests you, I've read it through 3x in a weekend!

This book is filled with pictures we hadn't seen before. Saw the review in the Sunday Times and purchased for Christmas. A great addition to our bookshelves.

Actually, my brother loves it. It was bought as a gift. Jim A.

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