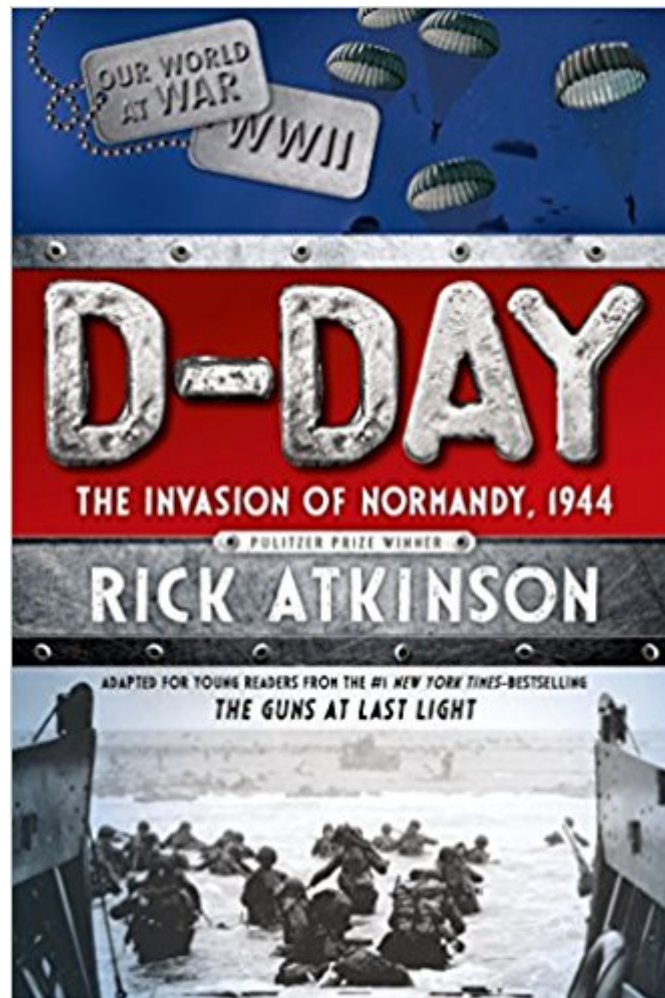




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# D-Day: The Invasion Of Normandy, 1944 [The Young Readers Adaptation]



## Synopsis

Adapted for young readers from the #1 New York Times best-selling *The Guns at Last Light*, D-Day captures the events and the spirit of that day—June 6, 1944—the day that led to the liberation of western Europe from Nazi Germany's control. They came by sea and by sky to reclaim freedom from the occupying Germans, turning the tide of World War II. Atkinson skillfully guides his younger audience through the events leading up to, and of, the momentous day in this photo-illustrated adaptation. Perfect for history buffs and newcomers to the topic alike! This thoroughly-researched and documented book can be worked into multiple aspects of the common core curriculum.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #142,540 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in *Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Europe* #93 in *Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars* #129 in *Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1900s*

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up • This fine adaptation of Atkinson's adult *The Guns at Last Light* is a readable, and even suspenseful, account of the final preparations for and successful execution of the D-Day invasion. The author gives readers a comprehensive overview of the operation, using primary-source excerpts to personalize the action, from the planning of the highest commanders, to the bravery shown by individual men who went ashore on June 6, 1944. He describes the stages of the invasion, including the transport of troops, air support and airborne operations, and ground operations conducted under withering German resistance. The author separates the five Allied

landing forces into individual chapters, which allows for plenty of detail and continuity of narrative about their missions, and the varying amounts of German defenses and resistance they encountered. Although a brief epilogue summarizes the remainder of the war in Western Europe and Germany's defeat, the book focuses on the invasion and the bravery and sacrifices of the men who fought. The text is supplemented by solid area and battle maps, captioned period photos, and an informative appendix with accessible data about equipment and weapons, medical care, troops and their battle gear, and general statistics about the war. This book matches the quality of Earle Rice Jr.'s *Normandy* (Chelsea House, 2002) but is intended for a slightly older readership, making it an excellent choice for high school World War II buffs and report writers. — Mary Mueller, Rolla Public Schools, MO --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

Adapted from Atkinson's adult history of the latter part of WWII, *The Guns at Last Light* (2013), this is a brisk, busy, gutsy look at modern warfare's most famous offensive. It begins, rather cunningly, with orientational front matter: country-by-country chains of command, a time line, and quick bios of key players. Then the authors dive into the planning behind Operation Overlord, so extensive that it began to feel like "an overrehearsed play." Readers will feel the tension as world leaders fret about weather conditions and speculate upon casualties. The June 6 invasion plays out in short chapters crammed with detail and festooned with helmet icons offering important definitions. There are no main characters per se; rather, we are given short introductions to everyone from commanders to frontline grunts—for example, Edward "Cannonball" Krause, who liberated the first French town. The layout is nothing splashy, but the ample, sobering photographs are well chosen and extensive, and unusual back matter (clothing issued to new GIs, pay rates, etc.) rounds off this substantial and readable package. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Atkinson's three-volume adult history of America's involvement in WWII Europe was a massive and popular undertaking, lending this adaptation an attention-grabbing gravitas. Grades 6-9. --Daniel Kraus --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

I have read numerous D Day books and have visited the Beaches twice. I have also read several of Atkinson's other works, so I bought this one as the 70 th anniversary approaches. The book is well written, concise, and interesting. It would be a great introduction to the topic or a nice review. The text moves fast, but captures the important elements of the day and aftermath.

There is a lot about how to plan an invasion. I would have liked a few more personal stories to make it more relatable. The author definitely did his research!

I had originally bought this book because I've read several by the author not knowing that this book was tailored towards younger readers. What I did find surprised me because of the wealth of information and photographs (some of which I've never seen before) which made this book good for older readers as well. I think that this book would make an excellent quick reference guide to a very pivotal moment in the history of WWII.

My 12 year old grandson loved this book. It was very well written and appropriate for young readers. The photos and details were very helpful in giving hi the full picture of what transpired. He can't wait to read more from this author.

I have read his WW2 series, they were well researched as this one is. One interesting thing is how important turning the Germany spies was. Hitler kept expecting Patton to cross further north, the deception kept many alive.

An extremely educational book for those who want to understand the complexity of the Normandy invasion, from planning to execution, and the pure hell that the troops went through to make it a success.

Rick Atkinson writes so vividly that I feel like I am right there in the middle of battle. The best historical author I've read!

I have read many books on the D-Day invasion but still learned many new fascinating facts from this account specifically written for younger readers. The charts and the maps were helpful in gaining an appreciation of the circumstances of the day.

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