



Brutality of War, The: A Memoir of Vietnam

By Gene Dark

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In 1968, nineteen-year-old Gene Dark joined the Marine Corps at the height of the Vietnam War. The horrors of combat quickly transformed the young man into a hardened soldier. This memoir provides a gritty and revealing look at the true agonies of war as experienced in the murky jungles of Vietnam.

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Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

A gripping firsthand look at the true agonies of war, this hard-hitting memoir shares the combat experiences of Vietnam veteran Gene Dark, who served with one of the most decorated companies in the United States Marine Corps.

Nineteen-year-old Dark joins the Marine Corps at the height of the Vietnam War and is immediately thrown into the stark reality of the battlefield. Quickly transformed into a hardened soldier and forced to endure the terror of firefight and the rigors of combat, Dark experiences shock and grief as he watches his closest friends fall. However, it is Dark's tremendous guilt after taking another human being's life that leaves an indelible mark upon his soul.

The Brutality of War is not only Dark's recollections of an unpopular, rancorous conflict, but also his own private perspective on the nature of war itself as experienced in the murky jungles of Vietnam.

From the Back Cover

"Dark's story is powerful and relevant in a time when our country is yet again at war."

-Greg Langley, books editor, Baton Rouge Advocate

In 1968, nineteen-year-old Gene R. Dark joined the Marine Corps at the height of the Vietnam War. The horrors of combat forced the young man to grow up quickly as he endured the visceral and painful world of war. A member of the Fox Company, Second Battalion, Fifth Marines—one of the most decorated marine companies to serve in Vietnam—Dark experienced the ineffable shock, grief, and terror of serving his country while fighting for survival in the Quang Nam Province.

An honest and candid memoir, this work captures the emotions of war that arise from losing friends on the battlefield, killing without remorse, and constantly fearing the loss of one's own life. In his poignant prose, Dark relates the horrifying firefights on the Arizona Territory, juxtaposing the nightmares and losses with vignettes demonstrating the true camaraderie shared amongst his fellow marines.

About the Author

Gene R. Dark, son of baseball legend Alvin Dark, owns a construction company and is a graduate of McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana. His service in Vietnam earned him numerous awards, among them the Purple Heart. He lives in Lake Charles with his wife and family.

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