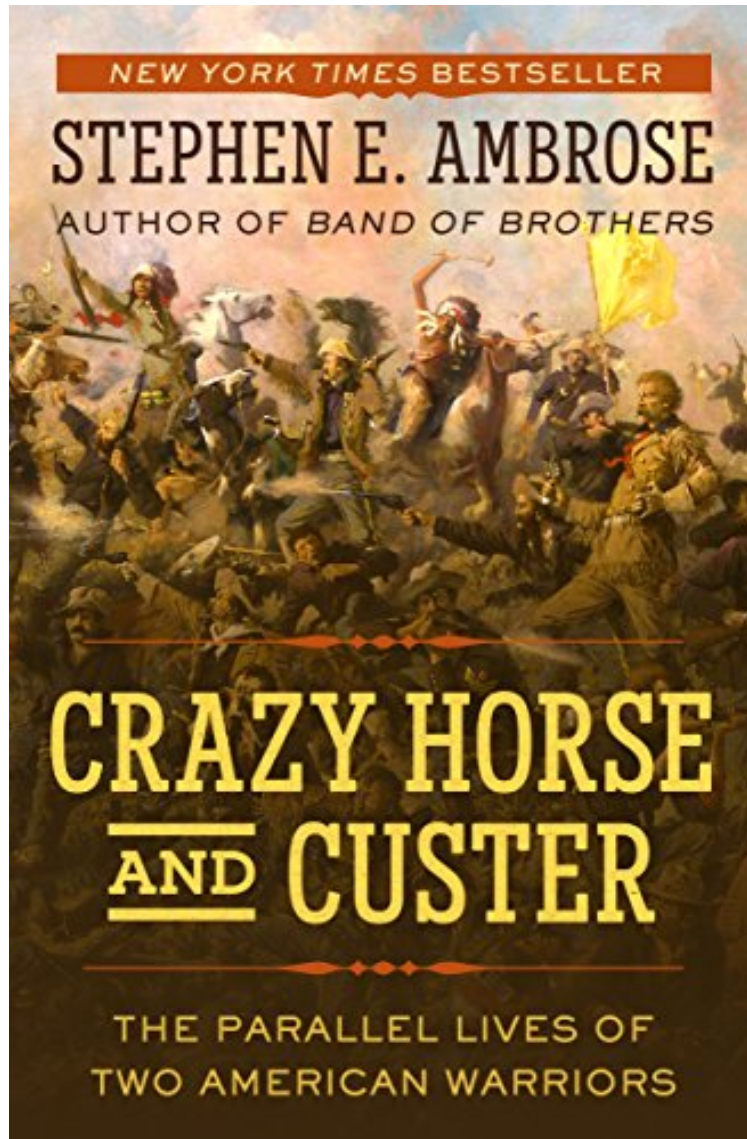


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Crazy Horse and Custer: The Parallel Lives of Two American Warriors (English Edition)

Von Stephen Ambrose
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Von Stephen Ambrose : Crazy Horse and Custer: The Parallel Lives of Two American Warriors (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crazy Horse and Custer: The Parallel Lives of Two American Warriors (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An

unexpected gem
Von Ein Kunde
A friend thought I should join a military history book club and bought this for me because it was their next selection. In a million years I would never have picked it up on my own. My sum total of knowledge about Custer has been derived from contemporary Hollywood, especially Dustin Hoffman's "Little Big Man." Since then, I believe, Custer has uniformly been portrayed as a blustering buffoon at best, and a homicidal fruitcake at worst, while Indians have uniformly been portrayed as noble and tragic, i.e., "Dances With Wolves." I found this book to be very illuminating to me, as a neophyte, in explaining the inexorable march of progress across this country and the unfortunate fact that Indians were simply caught living "in the way" of white migration and were rendered anachronistic in the space of a generation. The author could easily have repeated the oversimplistic popularly accepted view that our (well, my) ancestors were genocidal murderers. (Although that doesn't excuse the non-action of which most of us are guilty in addressing the truly bleak lives of many Indians on reservations today.) This book piqued my interest in an area I'd never thought of before, and that's the highest praise I can give any book.
0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Both protagonists were fleshed out for me.
Von lemieux@nidlink.com
Even though I have read Connell's "Son of the Morning Star", I felt Ambrose fleshed out both characters for me. I loved "Morning Star". I felt like I was sitting in a great old cowboy bar in Montana talking to a wonderful story teller. Like most great yarn spinners, Connell gets sidetracked easily, but unlike most, he always comes back to where he started. The side trips were always enlightening and stimulating, even if a bit distracting by their constant appearances. Ambrose's book reminded me of the best college classes I have taken—a wonderfully prepared instructor who does a marvelous job of telling his story in a linear and organized way. Having watched numerous interviews of Ambrose on TV, it was easy for me to hear his voice in his writing. I especially gained from his background of both characters. I lived near a Sioux reservation in Montana when growing up and I returned to teach on that reservation when I first left college. I know a fair bit of their history and culture. Ambrose added to my knowledge. Likewise with Custer. His early years and the time at West Point are passed over quickly by most authors, but Ambrose fleshed him out into a 3-D character. To paraphrase a bumpersticker my basketball players gave me "Custer deserved what he got", but I sure understand better how he came to be on the "Greasy Grass" thanks to Ambrose. I do not consider Connell and Ambrose to be competitors, I feel they are both major contributors to a most interesting piece of Western History.
0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Must read, entertaining history!
Von Robert Jarvis (jarvis@uni-desa.com)
I really enjoyed this book! In my opinion, much better than his WW2 book, "Band of Brothers" I am unfamiliar with US western history this account left me wanting to know more. Ambrose deals with both central characters with an admirable objectivity. Rare in this type of "comparative" history. The war battle sequences are described in a clear exciting manner. The heavier political, social, historical developments are presented without detracting from the entertaining fast moving account. Ambrose has a tendency towards a delivery that is occasionally too melodramatic an over useage of colloquial language that seems slightly inappropriate for a serious history. Over all I found the book very well researched, gripping an absolute delight to read. Highly recommended for lovers of military history. Deduct one star rating for the inclusion of the worst, smallest almost uninterpretable maps I have encountered in print. Why did you let this happen Mr. Ambrose?

Kurzbeschreibung
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, 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.