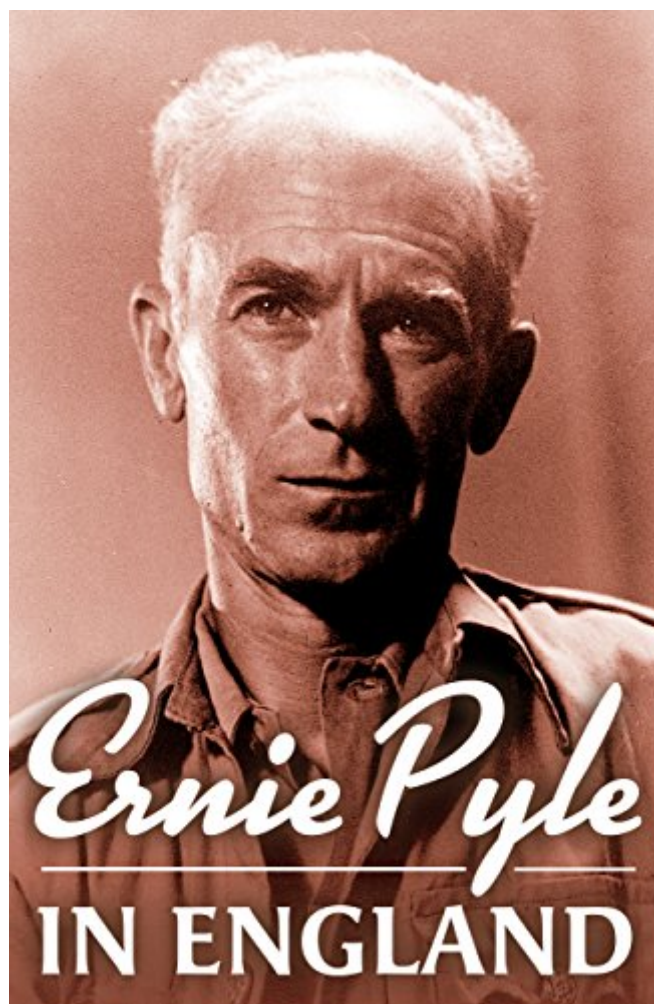


The book was found

Ernie Pyle In England



Synopsis

Ernie Pyle in England, first published in 1941, is the account of the journalist's stay in England, Scotland and Wales during the height of the German bombing blitz on London and other cities of the United Kingdom. Pyle, one of the most famous correspondents of the Second World War, had an easy-going, 'folksy'-style of writing, making the book an enjoyable yet informative read about the conditions he encountered. His descriptions of the effects of the bombing, nights spent in air raid shelters, food- and gas-rationing, and daily life in London remain classic pieces of war-time reporting. Pyle would later report from Europe, Africa, and the Pacific, with his accounts appearing in some 300 American newspapers. Sadly, near the end of the war (on April 18, 1945), Pyle was hit by Japanese machine-gun fire on the island of Ieshima (northwest of Okinawa). He was 44 at the time of his death.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

And here's yet another book ("Ernie Pyle In England") that's long out of print, which should be featured in every bookstore in America. Why is it that we set aside so much of what is great, and hang on to so much of what is trite? But at least, thanks to the Internet, this book is available to

order used, which I did, and for which I am very grateful and glad. Ernie Pyle was a roving newspaper correspondent for a newspaper chain in the 1930's, he wandered America and wrote articles about whatever or whoever interested him. These articles were never collected into book form until after his death in 1945; a selection of them were made into "Home Country" (yet another wonderful out-of-print book), and they present one of the best portraits of pre-war America ever created. Based on the popularity of these articles, Ernie was sent to London in December of 1940 to cover the Blitz---and, one suspects, to write positive articles about the British that would get Americans on their side in the growing European conflict. That he does. As is usual with Ernie Pyle, he writes with a sense of optimism, searching for the "human touch:" the Londoners who shrug at the burning buildings and don't let it get them down, the firefighters who are so used to putting out fires they don't even notice the gathering crowds anymore, the tourists who gawk at the spectacle while the natives just go about their business. It is never Ernie's intention to write about the worst of things, and his writing has been accused of being near-propaganda, but I think that is hardly the case. Writing about the horror of war, he does not pull his punches.

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