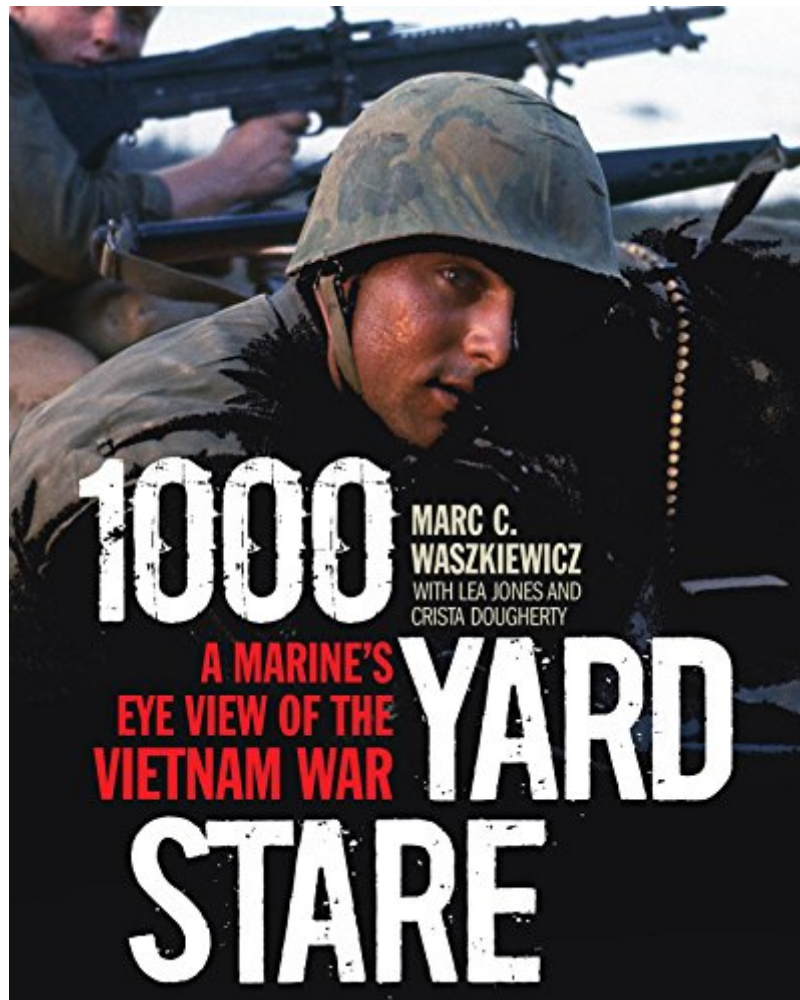




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1000 Yard Stare: A Marine's Eye View Of The Vietnam War



Synopsis

A grunt's-eye view of the Vietnam War through hundreds of personal photos Marc Waszkiewicz served three tours (1967, 1968, 1969) as an artillery forward observer with the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam, where he took thousands of photos capturing the beauty, drudgery, hilarity, and horror of the war. 1,000-Yard Stare collects the best of these in a book that presents an unvarnished grunt's-eye view of the Vietnam War. These are amazing, well-shot photos--most of them color, many of them truly arresting--of Marines in the field, in camp, on base, fighting, patrolling, writing, drinking, carrying on. Some have the feeling of candid snapshots while others are more composed (Waszkiewicz was, and is, an amateur photographer), with subjects ranging from a gunner calculating ranges with pencil and protractor and a chaplain conducting a battlefield mass to grunts smoking illicit substances while pretending to fish and images of barbed wire twisting in the jungle and watchtowers at twilight. Also included are photographs from Waszkiewicz's postwar decades of coming to terms with his experiences, such as a sequence of poignant photos from The Wall in Washington and his trip back to Vietnam. This is a visual memoir of the war.

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Customer Reviews

I got this for my dad's birthday and he was in the Army and a Vietnam vet. I was concerned since this is a Marine's perspective but my dad told me that this is one of the best gifts he has ever received from me since it brought back so many memories of his time over there.

Sure I'm the author/uphotographer. Sure I give it five stars. BUT not for the reasons you think, I bet. I initially intended this book to be a tool to encourage vets to open up and share with family and friends; and for friends and family to entice reticent vets to talk about their experiences. You see, I have a feeling that all too many of us vets "keep it all inside." How many times have I heard,.. "but my dad won't talk about it." Too many times. I see brother vets remain aloof, become recluse, withdraw more and more, begin to self medicate in a geomatric progression, to finally fall apart and either become homeless or committ suicide. 22 to 24 veteran suicides A DAY in this country... and how to we count the homeless vets found (or never found) dead and buried as "John Doe's?" I have witnessed with amazing consistency and heartwarming results as a vet begins to look through the pages of my book, and his mouth automatically begins working... he forgets he's "not supposed to talk about it" and the result is tears, "thank yous", and hugs from more than grateful wives and sons and daughters... and vets themselves, once they realize how much better they feel. This book has "healing" all over it. I and my team poured our very hearts into this work. The result makes it all worthwhile. May it have the same effect for a veteran loved one with whom you are acquainted, and yourself. I lost my best friend, Donny Serowik, (he's all over this book, in many places) a few years back. He did just what I said, he isolated, self medicated, and then hung himself. This book's for you, Donny. May your sacrifice be a wake up call that prevents one more veteran suicide. HE SHOULD BE HERE TODAY, to see this book, and watch my feature length documentary film "TRIPWIRE !" I know he would be healed and I know I would be grateful to see him one more time....Sgt. Marc C. Waszkiewicz USMC (Ret.)

1,000-Yard Stare is a must-have for any serious student of the Vietnam War or military history, in general. Waszkiewicz does for the photographic record of the war what Karl Marlantes (Matterhorn), LTG Harold Moore (We Were Soldiers Once, And Young), Philip Caputo (A Rumor of War), and James Webb (Fields of Fire) did for the written one. Mastery. Brutal honesty. Profound substance. Personal access for those of us fortunate enough not to have been there. It's one of the most visually striking books I've ever encountered. The photographer's journey through time and space in Vietnam is captured in rich depth, in a deeply personal--and often tragic--unfolding. He holds

nothing back. Not the good. Not the bad. Not the horrific. The photos are so profound you find yourself standing in his shoes--and asking why?... and at what cost?

I read a pre-publication print of this book and found it engrossing. The photographs and accompanying narrative are masterful. The other reviews describe it well, far better than I can, but it definitely deserves five stars. I just ordered a copy of this final edition, and I know it will be even better.

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