



We Die Alone (The Adventure Library)

By David Howarth

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One of the greatest of all stories of courage and survival during World War II. A Norwegian commando is sent to German-occupied Norway, and nearly captured. This is the story of his extraordinary escape to Sweden across the snowy mountains, and of the courageous Norwegians who risked their lives to save him.

First published in 1955

New introduction by Thomas Fleming

New afterword by Stephen Howarth

New maps, photographs

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We Die Alone (The Adventure Library) By David Howarth Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

If this story of espionage and survival were a novel, readers might dismiss the Shackleton-like exploits of its hero as too fantastic to be taken seriously. But respected historian David Howarth confirmed the details of Jan Baalsrud's riveting tale. It begins in the spring of 1943, with Norway occupied by the Nazis and the Allies desperate to open the northern sea lanes to Russia. Baalsrud and three compatriots plan to smuggle themselves into their homeland by boat, spend the summer recruiting and training resistance fighters, and launch a surprise attack on a German air base. But he's betrayed shortly after landfall, and a quick fight leaves Baalsrud alone and trapped on a freezing island above the Arctic Circle. He's poorly clothed (one foot is entirely bare), has a head start of only a few hundred yards on his Nazi pursuers, and leaves a trail of blood as he crosses the snow. How he avoids capture and ultimately escapes--revealing that much spoils nothing in this white-knuckle narrative--is astonishing stuff. Baalsrud's feats make the travails in Jon Krakauer's Mt. Everest classic *Into Thin Air* look like child's play. In an introduction, Stephen Ambrose calls *We Die Alone* a rare reading experience: "a book that I absolutely cannot put down until I've finished it and one that I can never forget." This amazing book will disappoint no one. --*John J. Miller*

From Library Journal

This 1955 volume is one of the most remarkable survival stories ever written. Jan Baalsrud was the only survivor of a Norwegian commando team ambushed by the Nazis during World War II. Wounded and with the Germans in pursuit, Baalsrud escaped and miraculously fought his way through the Norwegian tundra to a distant village, where he was saved by locals who helped spirit him to Sweden. Baalsrud suffered frostbite and snowblindness, came through an avalanche, and lived to tell the tale. This edition has a new introduction by Citizen Soldiers' author Stephen Ambrose.

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Review

"Jan Baalsrud encountered some of the most harrowing adventures yet recorded about the survivors of the Second World War . . . A mere outline of Jan's adventures cannot possibly suggest the emotional impact that Mr. Howarth creates by his sharp selection of revealing details and his terse skill in telling a plain, unvarnished tale. *We Die Alone* fills one with humbler admiration for the stubborn courage of a man who refused to die under circumstances that would have killed ninety-nine men out of a hundred and with almost equal admiration for the many men and women who never hesitated to help him as best they could, knowing full well that death was the mildest punishment they could expect for their heroic 'crime.'" --*The New York Times*

"One of the great escape stories of our time." --*Chicago Sun-Times*

"Almost unbelievable. *We Die Alone* is a spine chiller. It may well become a legend." --*Boston Post*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Shirley Glover:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated the

idea for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a book your ability to survive enhance then having chance to endure than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading the book, we give you this We Die Alone (The Adventure Library) book as beginner and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

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