

Name: Kyle Clarke

Review User: Anonymous

School: El Dorado High

Grade: Incoming Junior

Book Title: Against All Odds

Book Author: Alex Kershaw

Rate 1-5: 2.5

Against All Odds is a non-fiction book that details the story of several decorated soldiers during WW2, through Italy, to France, and to Germany. It covers multiple people in multiple companies however it focuses mainly on the 3rd Infantry Division. It covers the journeys of these decorated soldiers from Private, all the way to their retirement.

The book is a little slow I will admit, however it does have its moments. I honestly prefer the slower pacing while keeping historical accuracy rather than embellishing things to appeal to more people, however even without embellishment it has quite dramatic moments that are fun to read. I felt that at the beginning of each chapter it started slow with setting up who they were focusing on and what they were going to do, and then towards the end it picked up as more action commenced. I feel like though the slow set up just made reading about the action and the battles more exciting because you get to hear about all this setup and how everyone was feeling and how well they were supplied.

I would recommend this book to you if you have an interest in WW2 or in military history, but also I feel like it could be an impactful read to people who maybe aren't into WW2. In history class you always hear about these battles from almost like an "eagle eye view". You just learn about here's side A and side B, and Side A won. This book however really reminds you that these were people just like you and I, and it just really bridges that gap from your own life to history class when you read about how all these soldiers were barely high school graduates, or grocery store managers, or office workers.