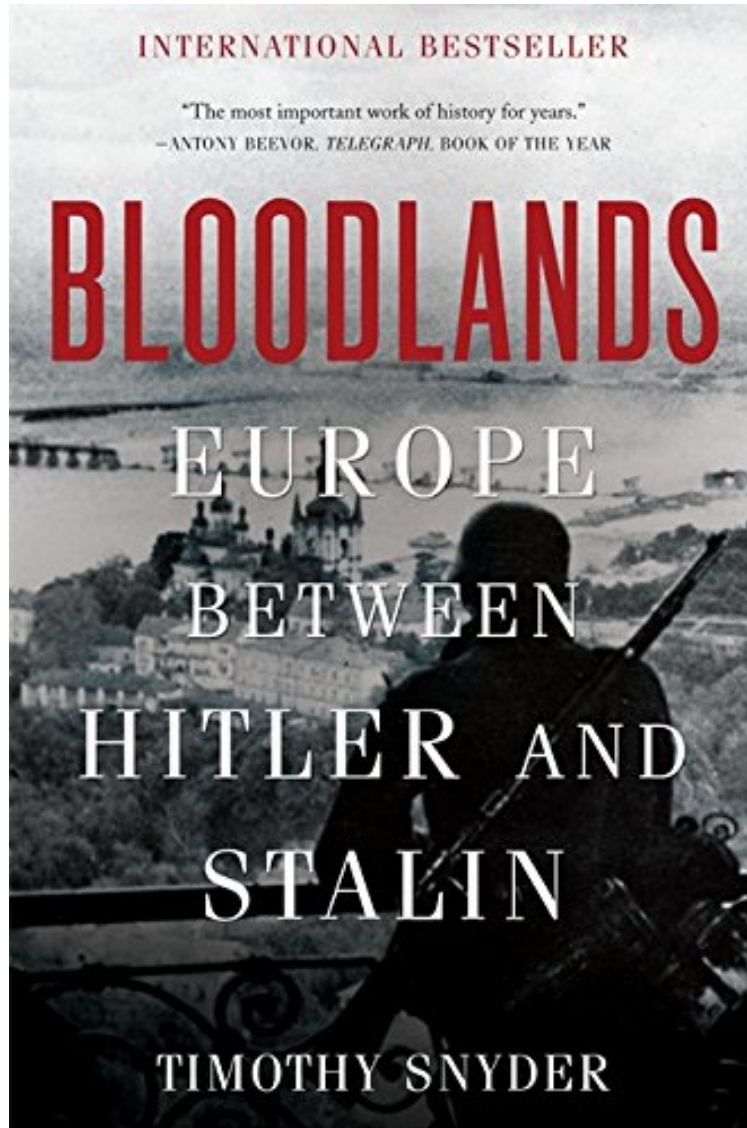


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## Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin

*Timothy Snyder*

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**Timothy Snyder : Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Important substance, could have used some editing but worth the time By Dutiful son-in-law This is an important book. It is a good study. It should be read by those interested in WWII history or Russia, and eastern Europe in that period, and how that period led to some of the issues of today. That said, it is not an easy read, not only because some of it is painful but because the author, probably very good in his field, could

have used an editor. Parts of it drag on or are repetitious, and yet sometimes it is not clear what certain conclusions are because different concepts or different time periods get mixed up. So yes, read it - the review in the Economist that led me to it was right. But don't assume an easy read, and be prepared for mental moments of frustration (aside from being frustrated at human folly - on substance the book is very good if painful). This book would be tough for students who read only for class requirements, not interest. A good history professor would pull out sections and make those assigned reading. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Killing Patton is another excellent resource. By ConcernedThis should be on the reading list for every history teacher, for HS students taking AP Global, for college students covering Europe-WWI, anyone interested in history, and anyone interested in understanding the far-reaching effects that WWII had. Why? Because history repeats itself. Because it is important to understand what happened. WHY? to make informed decisions and act on them. If we don't learn the history in the first place, how can we learn from it to avert the same mistakes. The material in this book is not taught at the high school level. The concepts are barely touched in today's HS Global textbooks. It's a challenging read -- jam packed with facts that were not available and/or made known before. Even those who thought they knew all about this era will find the stories unbearable and numbing. Killing Patton is another excellent resource. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Read It and WeepBy RoadhouseIt seems odd to assign "stars" to the review of this book. The grim facts of mass murder ordered by Stalin and Hitler are presented in uncompromising detail. The race-hate murder of the Jews is placed in the context of Hitler's failed deportation schemes. It was also astounding to read the mechanics by which Stalin killed millions by starvation and by which Hitler planned to do the same. These and other nuanced discussions require, as Snyder persuasively shows, that important elements of formerly accepted scholarship be reconsidered. This is the book's principal contribution: it is a fact-based challenge to significant components of the conventional historical wisdom. It is the reason to read it.

"The most important work of history for years." --Antony Beevor, Telegraph, Book of the Year

From BooklistIf there is an explanation for the political killing perpetrated in eastern Europe in the 1930s and 1940s, historian Snyder roots it in agriculture. Stalin wanted to collectivize farmers; Hitler wanted to eliminate them so Germans could colonize the land. The dictators wielded frightening power to advance such fantasies toward reality, and the despots toted up about 14 million corpses between them, so stupefying a figure that Snyder sets himself three goals here: to break down the number into the various actions of murder that comprise it, from liquidation of the kulaks to the final solution; to restore humanity to the victims via surviving testimony to their fates; and to deny Hitler and Stalin any historical justification for their policies, which at the time had legions of supporters and have some even today. Such scope may render Snyders project too imposing to casual readers, but it would engage those exposed to the periods chronology and major interpretive issues, such as the extent to which the Nazi and Soviet systems may be compared. Solid and judicious scholarship for large WWII collections. --Gilbert Taylor "A startling new interpretation of the period ... a stunning book."David Denby, New Yorker"A superb and harrowing history."Financial Times"Genuinely shattering.... I have never seen a book like it."Istvan Deak, The New Republic"A brave and original history of mass killing in the twentieth century."Anne Applebaum, New York of Books"A magisterial work.... Snyder's account is engaging, encyclopedic."Foreign Affairs"Gripping and comprehensive.... Mr. Snyder's book is revisionist history of the best kind: in spare, closely argued prose, with meticulous use of statistics, he makes the reader rethink some of the best-known episodes in Europe's modern history."The Economist"Snyder...compels us to look squarely at the full range of destruction committed first by Stalin's regime and then by Hitler's Reich.... A comprehensive and eloquent account."New York Times Book Review"A superb work of scholarship, full of revealing detail, cleverly compiled...and in places beautifully written.... Snyder does justice to the horror of his subject through the power of storytelling."The Sunday Times (London)About the AuthorTimothy Snyder is Professor of History at Yale University. He is the author of The Reconstruction of Nations, Sketches from a Secret War, and The Red Prince. He lives in New Haven, Connecticut.