

destined for war

destined for war is a phrase that evokes powerful images of history, conflict, and the forces that drive nations into confrontation. In this comprehensive article, we explore the intricate dynamics behind why certain societies, governments, and leaders may seem inevitably drawn toward war. We analyze historical precedents, strategic theories, and geopolitical realities, while examining whether conflict is inevitable or avoidable. Key topics include the concept of Thucydides' Trap, the role of power transitions, economic and political drivers, and the lessons modern nations can learn to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past. This article provides a thorough and engaging study on the topic, offering insights for students, historians, policymakers, and anyone interested in understanding why some conflicts appear destined for war.

- Understanding "Destined for War": Origins and Meaning
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- Thucydides' Trap: Theory and Modern Relevance
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Understanding "Destined for War": Origins and Meaning

The phrase "destined for war" has deep historical and philosophical roots. It suggests the idea that certain clashes between states, societies, or leaders are not merely accidental but are bound to happen due to underlying forces. Throughout history, observers and scholars have debated whether wars are the result of deliberate choices, miscalculations, or inevitable outcomes of competition and rivalry. The concept resonates in international relations, where cycles of power struggles, ideological differences, and resource competition often set the stage for conflict. Understanding what it means to be "destined for war" requires exploring the motivations, fears, and ambitions that drive decision-makers, as well as the structural conditions that make war seem unavoidable.

The Historical Roots of Inevitable Conflict

Ancient Civilizations and the Nature of War

Many ancient civilizations believed conflict was a natural part of human existence. Empires such as Rome, Greece, and Persia saw war as a means to expand territory, secure resources, and assert dominance. Historical records reveal that periods of peace were often short-lived, overshadowed by recurring hostilities driven by competition for land, wealth, and power. The cyclical nature of war in antiquity set a precedent for later societies, reinforcing the notion that some conflicts are "destined" to happen.

Philosophical Perspectives on War's Inevitability

Philosophers like Thucydides, Machiavelli, and Hobbes explored the inevitability of war in their writings. Thucydides, chronicling the Peloponnesian War, argued that the rise of Athens and the fear it instilled in Sparta made war unavoidable. Machiavelli saw conflict as an inherent part of political life, while Hobbes believed the natural state of humanity was one of perpetual conflict, only temporarily restrained by social contracts. These perspectives have shaped how scholars and policymakers interpret the causes of war across centuries.

Thucydides' Trap: Theory and Modern Relevance

Understanding Thucydides' Trap

Thucydides' Trap refers to the dangerous dynamic that occurs when a rising power threatens to displace an established one, often leading to war. This theory, named after the ancient Greek historian, posits that structural stress between a dominant and an ascendant power can make conflict almost inevitable. Historical examples include the rivalry between Britain and Germany before World War I and the tensions between the United States and China in the twenty-first century.

Modern Examples of Power Transition Conflicts

- The United States and China's growing rivalry in trade, technology, and military strength
- Russia's resurgence and its challenge to Western influence in Eastern Europe
- India and China's border disputes and regional competition

- Historical precedent: Britain and Germany in the early 1900s

These examples illustrate how shifts in power can create anxiety, suspicion, and arms races, often pushing nations toward confrontation despite diplomatic efforts.

Geopolitical Dynamics That Lead to War

Security Dilemmas and Arms Races

Security dilemmas arise when one nation's efforts to enhance its security cause neighboring countries to feel threatened, prompting them to increase their own military capabilities. This cycle can escalate tensions and lead to arms races, making war more likely. The Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union exemplified this dynamic, with both sides locked in a relentless competition for military supremacy.

Alliance Formation and Entanglement

Alliances can provide protection but also create obligations that may force members into conflicts they otherwise might avoid. The complex web of alliances before World War I contributed to the rapid escalation of a regional dispute into a global conflict. Today, organizations like NATO and regional security pacts continue to influence the likelihood and scope of wars.

Economic and Political Drivers of Conflict

Resource Competition and Economic Rivalry

Competition for resources—such as oil, water, and strategic minerals—remains a primary driver of conflict. Economic rivalry can exacerbate tensions, especially when nations perceive vital interests as threatened. Trade wars, sanctions, and protectionist policies may escalate into military confrontations if diplomatic solutions fail.

Nationalism, Ideology, and Governance

Nationalism and ideological differences can create divisions that make war seem inevitable. Governments may use nationalist rhetoric to unite populations or justify aggressive policies. Authoritarian regimes, in particular, may resort to conflict to distract

from internal issues or consolidate power. These political factors often intertwine with economic interests, amplifying the risk of war.

Case Studies: Nations Destined for War

World War I: The European Powers

The outbreak of World War I is a classic example of nations appearing "destined for war." Long-standing rivalries, military build-ups, and alliance commitments created a volatile environment. The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand acted as a trigger, but the deeper causes lay in the structural tensions among the major powers.

The United States and China in the 21st Century

Contemporary analysts often debate whether the United States and China are destined for war. Economic competition, technological rivalry, and territorial disputes in the South China Sea have heightened tensions. While both nations express a desire to avoid conflict, underlying strategic interests and mutual suspicion continue to fuel concerns.

Can War Be Avoided? Strategies and Solutions

Diplomacy and Conflict Prevention

Diplomacy remains the most effective tool for preventing war. Regular dialogue, confidence-building measures, and crisis management mechanisms can reduce misunderstandings and foster cooperation. International organizations and treaties play critical roles in mediating disputes and promoting peaceful resolutions.

Economic Interdependence and Shared Interests

Economic interdependence can act as a deterrent to war by making conflict costly for all parties involved. The growth of global trade networks and multinational partnerships incentivizes peaceful coexistence. When nations share economic interests, they are more likely to resolve differences through negotiation rather than confrontation.

Military Transparency and Arms Control

Transparency in military capabilities and intentions can alleviate security dilemmas. Arms control agreements, such as nuclear non-proliferation treaties, help reduce the risk of accidental or deliberate escalation. These measures require trust and verification but have proven effective in curbing the most destructive forms of warfare.

Lessons for the Future

Recognizing Warning Signs

History offers valuable lessons on the warning signs that precede war: rising nationalism, arms races, and alliance entanglements. Policymakers, scholars, and citizens can help avert conflict by remaining vigilant and advocating for peaceful solutions.

Investing in Peacebuilding

Long-term peace requires investment in education, economic development, and robust institutions. International cooperation and support for conflict resolution initiatives can address the root causes of war and create pathways for lasting stability.

Adapting to a Changing World

As technology, climate change, and shifting geopolitical landscapes redefine global relations, it is essential to adapt conflict prevention strategies. Emphasizing dialogue, innovation, and shared prosperity can help nations avoid falling "destined for war" in the future.

Q: What does "destined for war" mean in international relations?

A: "Destined for war" refers to the idea that certain conflicts between nations or groups are inevitable due to underlying structural, economic, or political forces. It suggests that despite efforts to avoid confrontation, war may result from power transitions, rivalries, or historical patterns.

Q: What is Thucydides' Trap and how does it relate to being destined for war?

A: Thucydides' Trap is a theory that explains how rising powers and established powers often end up in conflict when the balance of power shifts. It is used to illustrate why some situations seem destined for war, as structural tensions make confrontation likely.

Q: Can modern nations avoid being destined for war?

A: Modern nations can avoid war by investing in diplomacy, conflict prevention, economic interdependence, and transparency. While some tensions may seem inevitable, proactive strategies and international cooperation can reduce the risk of conflict.

Q: Are economic factors significant in making nations destined for war?

A: Economic factors such as resource competition, trade disputes, and economic inequality can contribute to tensions that make war seem inevitable. However, economic interdependence can also act as a deterrent to conflict.

Q: How did alliances contribute to nations being destined for war in World War I?

A: Alliances before World War I created obligations that drew multiple countries into the conflict. The interconnected treaties and commitments meant that a regional dispute quickly escalated into a global war, demonstrating how alliances can make war seem unavoidable.

Q: What role does nationalism play in being destined for war?

A: Nationalism can intensify rivalries and justify aggressive policies, making war more likely. Governments may use nationalist sentiment to unite populations or distract from internal problems, increasing the risk of conflict.

Q: Is technological advancement a driver in nations being destined for war?

A: Technological advancement can contribute to arms races and shifts in military power, which may increase tensions between nations. However, technology can also enable better communication and conflict prevention strategies.

Q: What are some historical examples of nations destined for war?

A: Examples include the rivalry between Athens and Sparta, Britain and Germany before World War I, and contemporary tensions between the United States and China.

Q: How can individuals and policymakers help prevent nations from becoming destined for war?

A: By recognizing warning signs, advocating for diplomacy, supporting conflict resolution initiatives, and promoting economic cooperation, individuals and policymakers can help reduce the likelihood of war.

Q: Why is understanding the concept of "destined for war" important today?

A: Understanding this concept helps policymakers, scholars, and citizens recognize the underlying causes of conflict, enabling them to formulate better strategies for peace and avoid repeating historical mistakes.

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Destined for War: Unpacking the Concept and its Manifestations

Introduction:

The phrase "destined for war" conjures potent images: clashing armies, fiery destruction, and the inexorable march towards conflict. But what does it truly mean to be "destined for war"? Is it an immutable fate, a preordained path etched into the fabric of history, or a complex interplay of political, social, and economic factors that can—perhaps—be altered? This in-depth exploration delves into the historical, psychological, and philosophical aspects of this powerful concept, examining instances where societies seemed inexorably drawn towards war and exploring the possibility of breaking free from such seemingly predetermined paths. We'll explore the role of ideology, geopolitical tensions, and individual choices in shaping the trajectory towards conflict.

H2: Historical Examples of Societies "Destined for War"

Throughout history, numerous societies have seemed trapped in a cycle of conflict, seemingly destined for war. The Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta, for instance, stemmed from a complex web of power struggles, economic competition, and ideological differences. The rivalry was deeply ingrained in the culture and political systems of both city-states, making a peaceful resolution incredibly difficult. Similarly, the centuries-long conflict between England and France, punctuated by devastating wars like the Hundred Years' War, reveals a long-standing rivalry fueled by territorial disputes, dynastic ambitions, and nationalistic fervor. These examples highlight how ingrained historical patterns and deep-seated animosity can create a sense of inevitability regarding future conflicts.

H3: The Role of Ideology in Shaping Destinies of War

Ideology plays a crucial role in shaping societies' perceived destinies. Totalitarian regimes, for example, often cultivate a sense of nationalistic fervor and a belief in their own inherent superiority, readily justifying aggressive expansionist policies. Nazi Germany's belief in racial supremacy and its pursuit of Lebensraum (living space) fueled its aggressive war-making throughout World War II. Similarly, the Cold War saw the clash of two diametrically opposed ideologies – communism and capitalism – leading to a global arms race and proxy wars that pushed the world to the brink of nuclear annihilation. These examples demonstrate how powerful belief systems can create a self-fulfilling prophecy of conflict.

H4: Geopolitical Factors and the Inevitability of War

Geopolitical factors, including resource scarcity, territorial disputes, and strategic positioning, frequently contribute to the perception of a "destined for war" scenario. The competition for control of vital resources like oil or water can escalate tensions between nations, leading to armed conflict. Similarly, disputes over contested territories, particularly those with strategic or symbolic importance, can ignite long-lasting wars. The ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, rooted in competing claims to the same land, serves as a poignant example of how geopolitical factors can create a seemingly intractable conflict.

H2: Breaking Free From the "Destined for War" Narrative: Is Peace Possible?

While historical patterns and geopolitical realities can create a sense of inevitability, it's crucial to acknowledge that destiny is not sealed. War is not an inevitable outcome; it is a choice, albeit often a complex and multifaceted one. Diplomacy, international cooperation, and conflict resolution mechanisms can significantly mitigate the risk of war. The creation of international organizations like the United Nations, designed to facilitate peaceful conflict resolution, demonstrates a concerted effort to move beyond the notion of predetermined conflict. Investing in education, promoting understanding between different cultures, and fostering economic interdependence can also contribute to a more peaceful world.

H3: The Power of Individual Choices in Preventing War

Ultimately, the decision to go to war or pursue peace resides with individuals—leaders, policymakers, and citizens alike. Individual choices, both large and small, can shape the trajectory towards or away from conflict. Leaders who prioritize diplomacy and cooperation over aggression play a pivotal role in preventing war. Citizen activism and peaceful protests can also exert significant influence on government policy, pushing for peaceful solutions instead of military action.

Conclusion:

The concept of being "destined for war" is a complex one, reflecting the intricate interplay of historical patterns, ideological beliefs, geopolitical factors, and individual choices. While history is replete with examples of societies seemingly trapped in cycles of conflict, it's crucial to remember that war is not an immutable fate. Through conscious effort, diplomacy, and a commitment to peacebuilding, societies can actively work to break free from the perception of a predetermined destiny and create a more peaceful future. The pursuit of peace is not merely an idealistic aspiration; it is a continuous and ongoing struggle that requires constant vigilance and commitment.

FAQs:

1. Can we ever truly escape the possibility of war? While complete eradication of war might be an unrealistic goal, significantly reducing its frequency and intensity is achievable through proactive peacebuilding efforts and international cooperation.
2. What is the role of economics in "destined for war" scenarios? Economic disparities and competition for resources often fuel conflict, making economic cooperation and equitable distribution of wealth crucial for preventing war.
3. How can individuals contribute to preventing war? Individuals can actively participate in peace movements, advocate for diplomatic solutions, and support organizations dedicated to conflict resolution.
4. What role does misinformation play in creating a "destined for war" narrative? The spread of false or misleading information can exacerbate tensions and contribute to a sense of inevitability, making media literacy and critical thinking essential.
5. Is the concept of "destined for war" deterministic or probabilistic? While historical patterns suggest probabilities, it's not deterministic. Human agency and conscious decision-making can significantly alter the trajectory toward conflict.

destined for war: Destined For War Graham Allison, 2017-05-30 NATIONAL BESTSELLER | NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR. From an eminent international security scholar, an urgent examination of the conditions that could produce a catastrophic conflict between the United States and China—and how it might be prevented. China and the United States are heading toward a war neither wants. The reason is Thucydides's Trap: when a rising power threatens to displace a ruling one, violence is the likeliest result. Over the past five hundred years, these conditions have occurred sixteen times; war broke out in twelve. At the time of publication, an unstoppable China approached an immovable America, and both Xi Jinping and Donald Trump promised to make their countries "great again," the seventeenth case was looking grim—it still is. A trade conflict, cyberattack, Korean crisis, or accident at sea could easily spark a major war. In *Destined for War*, eminent Harvard scholar Graham Allison masterfully blends history and current events to explain the timeless machinery of Thucydides's Trap—and to explore the painful steps that might prevent disaster today. SHORT-LISTED FOR THE 2018 LIONEL GELBER PRIZE NAMED A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY: FINANCIAL TIMES * THE TIMES (LONDON)* AMAZON "Allison is one of the keenest observers of international affairs around." — President Joe Biden "[A] must-read book in both Washington and Beijing." — Boston Globe "[Full of] wide-ranging, erudite case studies that span human history . . . [A] fine book." — New York Times Book Review

destined for war: *Everything Under the Heavens* Howard W. French, 2017 From the former New York Times Asia correspondent and author of *China's Second Continent*, an incisive investigation of China's ideological development as it becomes an ever more aggressive player in regional and global diplomacy. / Verlagsinformation

destined for war: Unrestricted Warfare Liang Qiao, Xiangsui Wang, 2002 Three years before the September 11 bombing of the World Trade Center-a Chinese military manual called *Unrestricted Warfare* touted such an attack-suggesting it would be difficult for the U.S. military to cope with. The events of September 11 were not a random act perpetrated by independent agents. The doctrine of total war outlined in *Unrestricted Warfare* clearly demonstrates that the People's Republic of China is preparing to confront the United States and our allies by conducting asymmetrical or multidimensional attack on almost every aspect of our social, economic and political life.

destined for war: *Lee Kuan Yew* Graham Allison, Robert D. Blackwill, Ali Wyne, 2020-09-22 CNN "Book of the Week" Featuring a foreword by Henry Kissinger The grand strategist and founder of modern Singapore offers key insights and opinions on globalization, geopolitics, economic growth, and democracy in a series of interviews with the author of *Destined for War*, and others "If you are interested in the future of Asia, which means the future of the world, you've got to read this book." —Fareed Zakaria, CNN When Lee Kuan Yew speaks, presidents, prime ministers, diplomats, and CEOs listen. Lee, the founding father of modern Singapore and its prime minister from 1959 to 1990, has honed his wisdom during more than fifty years on the world stage. Almost single-handedly responsible for transforming Singapore into a Western-style economic success, he offers a unique perspective on the geopolitics of East and West. American presidents from Richard Nixon to Barack Obama have welcomed him to the White House; British prime ministers from Margaret Thatcher to Tony Blair have recognized his wisdom; and business leaders from Rupert Murdoch to Rex Tillerson, CEO of Exxon Mobil, have praised his accomplishments. This book gathers key insights from interviews, speeches, and Lee's voluminous published writings and presents them in an engaging question and answer format. Lee offers his assessment of China's future, asserting, among other things, that "China will want to share this century as co-equals with the U.S." He affirms the United States' position as the world's sole superpower but expresses dismay at the vagaries of its political system. He offers strategic advice for dealing with China and goes on to discuss India's future, Islamic terrorism, economic growth, geopolitics and globalization, and democracy. Lee does not pull his punches, offering his unvarnished opinions on multiculturalism, the welfare state, education, and the free market. This little book belongs on the reading list of every world leader.

destined for war: The Great American Delusion Patrick Davies, 2020-10-27 Something has been going badly wrong in America. But what is really happening, why, and what does it mean? Could the US itself now be the greatest threat to the future of the West? What does Joe Biden need to do to get America back on track? In this fascinating account of America today, Patrick Davies, former British Deputy Ambassador to the US, sets out to understand how America, blinded by myths of its own exceptionalism, has failed to tackle serious political, social and economic problems which are exacerbating divisions in its society, poisoning its politics and ultimately fuelling America's decline. The Great American Delusion asks whether, with global power shifting eastwards, the US can save itself and, with it, the Western world before it's too late. Patrick Davies worked alongside the Obama and Trump White Houses for five years. He has more than 30 years' experience of America, its people and its politics.

destined for war: Thucydides' Other "Traps" Alan Greeley Misenheimer, 2019-06-06 The notion of a Thucydides Trap that will ensnare China and the United States in a 21st century conflict-much as the rising power of Athens alarmed Sparta and made war inevitable between the Aegean superpowers of the 5th century BCE-has received global attention since entering the international relations lexicon 6 years ago. Scholars, journalists, bloggers, and politicians in many countries, notably China, have embraced this beguiling metaphor, coined by Harvard political science professor Graham Allison, as a framework for examining the likelihood of a Sino-American war. This case study examines the Thucydides Trap metaphor and the response it has elicited. Hewing closely

to what the historian of the Peloponnesian War actually says about the causes and inevitability of war, it argues that, while Thucydides' text does not support Allison's normative assertion about the inevitable result of an encounter between rising and ruling powers, the History of the Peloponnesian War (hereafter, History) does identify elements of leadership and political dynamic that bear directly on whether a clash of interests between two states is resolved through peaceful means or escalates to war. It is precisely because war typically begins with a considered decision by a national command authority to reject other options and mobilize for conflict (and thus always entails an element of choice) that insight from Thucydides' History remains relevant and beneficial for the contemporary strategist, or citizen, concerned in such decisions. Accordingly, this case study concludes that the Thucydides Trap, as conceived and presented by Graham Allison, draws welcome attention both to Thucydides and to the pitfalls of great power competition, but fails as a heuristic device or predictive tool in the analysis of contemporary events. Allison's metaphor offers, at best, a potentially misleading over-simplification of Thucydides' nuanced and problematic account of the origins of the epochal conflict that defined his age. Moreover, it overlooks actual insights from the History that can help political decisionmakers-including, but not limited to, those of the United States and China-either avoid war or, if ignored, pose genuine policy traps that can make an avoidable war more likely, and a necessary war more costly.

destined for war: The Patriots Club Christopher Reich, 2006-07-25 Thomas Bolden grew up on the streets, his childhood a blur of fragmented memories. But now he's managed to put his past behind him, find the woman he wants to share his life with, and carve out a successful career on Wall Street. Until, in the blink of an eye, his world is turned upside down. A bizarre kidnapping sends him fleeing for his life, his face everywhere on the TV news, and a violent, shadowy organization is framing him for crimes he did not commit. Desperately trying to get back to where he was just a day before, Bolden must re-learn the survival skills of his hardscrabble boyhood. But as Bolden-with just eleven dollars in his pocket and hunters all around him-survives one violent, harrowing hour after another, he makes a series of startling discoveries: about a mysterious woman wanted for murder...about an astounding secret rooted in history, among the country's Founding Fathers and families...about a conspiracy lurking in the darkest corners of corporate America-and a deadly plan that only he can stop. And in the process, maybe Bolden will also find out who he really is.... Furiously paced, filled with brilliantly drawn characters from politicians to patriots, from Wall Street players to battle-hardened cops, The Patriots Club is vintage Reich: brilliant, breathtaking, and impossible to put down until the final unforgettable page is turned.

destined for war: Nuclear Terrorism Graham Allison, 2004-08-09 A leading strategist opens our eyes to the greatest terrorist threat of all-and how to prevent it before it's too late Americans in the twenty-first century are keenly aware of the many forms of terrorism: hijackings, biological attacks, chemical weapons. But rarely do we allow ourselves to face squarely the deadliest form of terrorism, because it is almost too scary to think about-a terrorist group exploding a nuclear device in an American city. In this urgent call to action, Graham Allison, one of America's leading experts on nuclear weapons and national security, presents the evidence for two provocative, compelling conclusions. First, if policy makers in Washington keep doing what they are currently doing about the threat, a nuclear terrorist attack on America is likely to occur in the next decade. And if one lengthens the time frame, a nuclear strike is inevitable. Second, the surprising and largely unrecognized good news is that nuclear terrorism is, in fact, preventable. In these pages, Allison offers an ambitious but feasible blueprint for eliminating the possibility of nuclear terrorist attacks. The United States once relied on the threat of mutually assured destruction to deter the Soviet Union from launching a nuclear strike. But in today's fragmented world, a new strategy is needed, especially with nuclear material vulnerable to theft or sale through black-market channels. The choice is ours: to grab this beast by the horns or to be impaled on those horns. We do not have the luxury of hoping the problem will go away, and Allison shows why.

destined for war: *The Beautiful Country and the Middle Kingdom* John Pomfret, 2016-11-29 A remarkable history of the two-centuries-old relationship between the United States and China, from

the Revolutionary War to the present day From the clipper ships that ventured to Canton hauling cargos of American ginseng to swap Chinese tea, to the US warships facing off against China's growing navy in the South China Sea, from the Yankee missionaries who brought Christianity and education to China, to the Chinese who built the American West, the United States and China have always been dramatically intertwined. For more than two centuries, American and Chinese statesmen, merchants, missionaries, and adventurers, men and women, have profoundly influenced the fate of these nations. While we tend to think of America's ties with China as starting in 1972 with the visit of President Richard Nixon to China, the patterns—rapturous enchantment followed by angry disillusionment—were set in motion hundreds of years earlier. Drawing on personal letters, diaries, memoirs, government documents, and contemporary news reports, John Pomfret reconstructs the surprising, tragic, and marvelous ways Americans and Chinese have engaged with one another through the centuries. A fascinating and thrilling account, *The Beautiful Country and the Middle Kingdom* is also an indispensable book for understanding the most important—and often the most perplexing—relationship between any two countries in the world.

destined for war: Destined to Live Diana Bagnall, Sabina Wolanski, 2010-01-31 An extraordinary story of courage, forgiveness and reconciliation. Sabina Wolanski was just 12 years old when her home town in Poland was invaded by Nazis. In her diary, along with innocent adolescent longings, she recorded what happened next: the humiliations and terrors, the murder of her beloved family and the startling story of her own survival. Leaving Europe after the war, Sabina forged a new life in Australia, juggling a thriving design business, her family, and an unorthodox love life. But as time wore on, she began asking herself why had she survived when so many died? And what kind of justice fitted such crimes? In May 2005, when Germany opened its controversial Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, in Berlin, Sabina was chosen to speak as the voice of the six million dead. In her speech she noted that although the Holocaust had taken everything she valued, it had also taught her that hatred and discrimination are doomed to fail. Her ability to survive, to love, and to live well, has been her greatest triumph. 'I couldn't put down this engaging, honest story of love, loss and survival.' Diane Armstrong, bestselling author of *THE VOYAGER OF THEIR LIFE* 'important and wonderfully written' Australian Literary Review

destined for war: The Avoidable War Kevin Rudd, 2022-03-30 A war between China and the US would be catastrophic, deadly, and destructive. Unfortunately, it is no longer unthinkable. The relationship between the US and China, the world's two superpowers, is peculiarly volatile. It rests on a seismic fault of cultural misunderstanding, historical grievance, and ideological incompatibility. No other nations are so quick to offend and be offended. Their militaries play a dangerous game of chicken, corporations steal intellectual property, intelligence satellites peer and AI technicians plot. The capacity for either country to cross a fatal line grows daily. Former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, who has studied, lived in, and worked with China for more than forty years, is one of the very few people who can offer real insight into the mindsets of the leadership whose judgement will determine if a war will be fought. *The Avoidable War* demystifies the actions of both sides, explaining and translating them for the benefit of the other. Geopolitical disaster is still avoidable, but only if these two giants can find a way to coexist without betraying their core interests through what Rudd calls managed strategic competition. Should they fail, down that path lies the possibility of a war that could rewrite the future of both countries, and the world. A lifelong student of China, Kevin Rudd has become one of today's most thoughtful analysts of China's development. *The Avoidable War* focuses on the signal challenge posed by China's evolution to America and to world order. Can the US and China avoid sleepwalking into a conflict? Rudd offers constructive steps for the two powers to stabilize their relations. HENRY A. KISSINGER

destined for war: How to Think about War Thucydides, 2019-02-05 An accessible modern translation of essential speeches from Thucydides's *History* that takes readers to the heart of his profound insights on diplomacy, foreign policy, and war Why do nations go to war? What are citizens willing to die for? What justifies foreign invasion? And does might always make right? For nearly 2,500 years, students, politicians, political thinkers, and military leaders have read the eloquent and

shrewd speeches in Thucydides's History of the Peloponnesian War for profound insights into military conflict, diplomacy, and the behavior of people and countries in times of crisis. How to Think about War presents the most influential and compelling of these speeches in an elegant new translation by classicist Johanna Hanink, accompanied by an enlightening introduction, informative headnotes, and the original Greek on facing pages. The result is an ideally accessible introduction to Thucydides's long and challenging History. Thucydides intended his account of the clash between classical Greece's mightiest powers—Athens and Sparta—to be a “possession for all time.” Today, it remains a foundational work for the study not only of ancient history but also contemporary politics and international relations. How to Think about War features speeches that have earned the History its celebrated status—all of those delivered before the Athenian Assembly, as well as Pericles's funeral oration and the notoriously ruthless “Melian Dialogue.” Organized by key debates, these complex speeches reveal the recklessness, cruelty, and realpolitik of Athenian warfighting and imperialism. The first English-language collection of speeches from Thucydides in nearly half a century, How to Think about War takes readers straight to the heart of this timeless thinker.

destined for war: Tides of War Steven Pressfield, 2007-01-30 Narrated from death row by Alcibiades' bodyguard and assassin, a man whose own love and loathing for his former commander mirrors the mixed emotions felt by all Athens, Tides of War tells an epic saga of an extraordinary century, a war that changed history, and a complex leader who seduced a nation. Brilliant at war, a master of politics, and a charismatic lover, Alcibiades was Athens' favorite son and the city's greatest general. A prodigal follower of Socrates, he embodied both the best and the worst of the Golden Age of Greece. A commander on both land and sea, he led his armies to victory after victory. But like the heroes in a great Greek tragedy, he was a victim of his own pride, arrogance, excess, and ambition. Accused of crimes against the state, he was banished from his beloved Athens, only to take up arms in the service of his former enemies. For nearly three decades, Greece burned with war and Alcibiades helped bring victories to both sides — and ended up trusted by neither. BONUS: This edition contains an excerpt from Steven Pressfield's The Profession. Praise for Tides of War “Pressfield's battlefield scenes rank with the most convincing ever written.”—USA Today “Pressfield serves up not just hair-raising battle scenes . . . but many moments of valor and cowardice, lust and bawdy humor. . . . Even more impressively, he delivers a nuanced portrait of ancient athens.”—Esquire “Unabashedly brilliant, epic, intelligent, and moving.”—Kirkus Reviews “Pressfield's attention to historic detail is exquisite. . . . This novel will remain with the reader long after the final chapter is finished.”—Library Journal “Astounding, historically accurate tale . . . Pressfield is a master storyteller, especially adept in his graphic and embracing descriptions of the land and naval battles, political intrigues and colorful personalities, which come together in an intense and credible portrait of war-torn Greece.”—Publishers Weekly

destined for war: A World in Disarray Richard Haass, 2017-01-10 “A valuable primer on foreign policy: a primer that concerned citizens of all political persuasions—not to mention the president and his advisers—could benefit from reading.” —Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times An examination of a world increasingly defined by disorder and a United States unable to shape the world in its image, from the president of the Council on Foreign Relations Things fall apart; the center cannot hold. The rules, policies, and institutions that have guided the world since World War II have largely run their course. Respect for sovereignty alone cannot uphold order in an age defined by global challenges from terrorism and the spread of nuclear weapons to climate change and cyberspace. Meanwhile, great power rivalry is returning. Weak states pose problems just as confounding as strong ones. The United States remains the world's strongest country, but American foreign policy has at times made matters worse, both by what the U.S. has done and by what it has failed to do. The Middle East is in chaos, Asia is threatened by China's rise and a reckless North Korea, and Europe, for decades the world's most stable region, is now anything but. As Richard Haass explains, the election of Donald Trump and the unexpected vote for “Brexit” signals that many in modern democracies reject important aspects of globalization, including borders open to trade and immigrants. In A World in Disarray, Haass argues for an updated global operating system—call

it world order 2.0—that reflects the reality that power is widely distributed and that borders count for less. One critical element of this adjustment will be adopting a new approach to sovereignty, one that embraces its obligations and responsibilities as well as its rights and protections. Haass also details how the U.S. should act towards China and Russia, as well as in Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. He suggests, too, what the country should do to address its dysfunctional politics, mounting debt, and the lack of agreement on the nature of its relationship with the world. *A World in Disarray* is a wise examination, one rich in history, of the current world, along with how we got here and what needs doing. Haass shows that the world cannot have stability or prosperity without the United States, but that the United States cannot be a force for global stability and prosperity without its politicians and citizens reaching a new understanding.

destined for war: On War Carl von Clausewitz, 2023-08-22 *On War* by Carl von Clausewitz (translated by J. J. Graham). Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten—or yet undiscovered gems—of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

destined for war: *Future War* Christopher Coker, 2015-11-12 Will tomorrow's wars be dominated by autonomous drones, land robots and warriors wired into a cybernetic network which can read their thoughts? Will war be fought with greater or lesser humanity? Will it be played out in cyberspace and further afield in Low Earth Orbit? Or will it be fought more intensely still in the sprawling cities of the developing world, the grim black holes of social exclusion on our increasingly unequal planet? Will the Great Powers reinvent conflict between themselves or is war destined to become much 'smaller' both in terms of its actors and the beliefs for which they will be willing to kill? In this illuminating new book Christopher Coker takes us on an incredible journey into the future of warfare. Focusing on contemporary trends that are changing the nature and dynamics of armed conflict, he shows how conflict will continue to evolve in ways that are unlikely to render our century any less bloody than the last. With insights from philosophy, cutting-edge scientific research and popular culture, *Future War* is a compelling and thought-provoking meditation on the shape of war to come.

destined for war: *Claws of the Panda* Jonathan Manthorpe, 2024-05-04 *Claws of the Panda* tells the story of Canada's failure to construct a workable policy towards the People's Republic of China. In particular, the book tells of Ottawa's failure to recognize and confront the efforts by the Chinese Communist Party to infiltrate and influence Canadian institutions and to exert control over Canadians of Chinese heritage. It shows how Canadian leaders have constantly misjudged the reality of the relationship while the CCP and its agents have benefited from Canadian naivete. The Expanded and Updated edition of *Claws of the Panda* arrives at a crucial point as Canada's delusions about its friendly relations with the CCP have fallen apart since the book's initial publication. This edition sets out to uncover Ottawa's relationship with Beijing in light of the CCP regime's increasingly suspicious and belligerent relations with the US and Europe. The age of a distinctly Canadian bilateral relationship with Beijing is over.

destined for war: *Grenade* Alan Gratz, 2019-01-03 It's 1945, and the world is in the grip of war. Hideki lives with his family on the island of Okinawa, near Japan. When the Second World War crashes onto his shores, Hideki is drafted to fight for the Japanese army. He is handed a grenade and a set of instructions: Don't come back until you've killed an American soldier. Ray, a young American Marine, has just landed on Okinawa. This is Ray's first-ever battle, and he doesn't know what to expect -- or if he'll make it out alive. All he knows that the enemy is everywhere. Hideki and Ray each fight their way across the island, surviving heart-pounding ambushes and dangerous traps. But then the two of them collide in the middle of the battle... And choices they make in that single instant will change everything. Alan Gratz, New York Times bestselling author of *Refugee*, returns with this high-octane story of how fear and war tear us apart, but how hope and redemption tie us

together. Reviews for Refugee: An absolute must read for people of all ages - Hannah Greendale, Goodreads Like RJ Palacio's Wonder, this book should be mandatory reading... - Skip, Goodreads I liked how the book linked history with adventure, and combined to make a realistic storyline for all three characters - AJH, aged 11, Toppsta

destined for war: Lawfare Orde F. Kittrie, 2016 In Lawfare, author Orde Kittrie's draws on his experiences as a lawfare practitioner, US State Department attorney, and international law scholar in analyzing the theory and practice of the strategic leveraging of law as an increasingly powerful and effective weapon in the current global security landscape. Lawfare incorporates case studies of recent offensive and defensive lawfare by the United States, Iran, China, and by both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and includes dozens of examples of how lawfare has thus been waged and defended against. Kittrie notes that since private attorneys can play important and decisive roles in their nations' national security plans through their expertise in areas like financial law, maritime insurance law, cyber law, and telecommunications law, the full scope of lawfare's impact and possibilities are just starting to be understood.

destined for war: Warlight Michael Ondaatje, 2018-05-08 From the internationally acclaimed, bestselling author of The English Patient: a mesmerizing new novel that tells a dramatic story set in the decade after World War II through the lives of a small group of unexpected characters and two teenagers whose lives are indelibly shaped by their unwitting involvement. In a narrative as beguiling and mysterious as memory itself—shadowed and luminous at once—we read the story of fourteen-year-old Nathaniel, and his older sister, Rachel. In 1945, just after World War II, they stay behind in London when their parents move to Singapore, leaving them in the care of a mysterious figure named The Moth. They suspect he might be a criminal, and they grow both more convinced and less concerned as they come to know his eccentric crew of friends: men and women joined by a shared history of unspecified service during the war, all of whom seem, in some way, determined now to protect, and educate (in rather unusual ways) Rachel and Nathaniel. But are they really what and who they claim to be? And what does it mean when the siblings' mother returns after months of silence without their father, explaining nothing, excusing nothing? A dozen years later, Nathaniel begins to uncover all that he didn't know and understand in that time, and it is this journey—through facts, recollection, and imagination—that he narrates in this masterwork from one of the great writers of our time.

destined for war: 7 Deadly Scenarios Andrew Krepinovich, 2009-01-27 A global pandemic finds millions swarming across the U.S. border. Major American cities are leveled by black-market nukes. China's growing civil unrest ignites a global showdown. Pakistan's collapse leads to a hunt for its nuclear weapons. What if the worst that could happen actually happens? How will we respond? Are we prepared? These are the questions that Andrew F. Krepinovich asks—and answers—in this timely and often chilling book. As a military expert and consultant, Krepinovich must think the unthinkable based on the latest intelligence and geopolitical trends—and devise a response in the event our worst nightmares become reality. As riveting as a thriller, 7 Deadly Scenarios reveals the forces—both overt and covert—that are in play; the real ambitions of world powers, terrorist groups, and rogue states; and the actions and counteractions both our enemies and our allies can be expected to take—and what we must do to prepare before it's too late.

destined for war: The War Trap Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, 1983-07-01 Offers a general theory of war and international conflict, looks at specific modern military confrontations, and dispels some common misconceptions about war

destined for war: The Hundred-Year Marathon Michael Pillsbury, 2015-02-03 One of the U.S. government's leading China experts reveals the hidden strategy fueling that country's rise - and how Americans have been seduced into helping China overtake us as the world's leading superpower. For more than forty years, the United States has played an indispensable role helping the Chinese government build a booming economy, develop its scientific and military capabilities, and take its place on the world stage, in the belief that China's rise will bring us cooperation, diplomacy, and free trade. But what if the China Dream is to replace us, just as America replaced the

British Empire, without firing a shot? Based on interviews with Chinese defectors and newly declassified, previously undisclosed national security documents, *The Hundred-Year Marathon* reveals China's secret strategy to supplant the United States as the world's dominant power, and to do so by 2049, the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic. Michael Pillsbury, a fluent Mandarin speaker who has served in senior national security positions in the U.S. government since the days of Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger, draws on his decades of contact with the hawks in China's military and intelligence agencies and translates their documents, speeches, and books to show how the teachings of traditional Chinese statecraft underpin their actions. He offers an inside look at how the Chinese really view America and its leaders – as barbarians who will be the architects of their own demise. Pillsbury also explains how the U.S. government has helped – sometimes unwittingly and sometimes deliberately – to make this China Dream come true, and he calls for the United States to implement a new, more competitive strategy toward China as it really is, and not as we might wish it to be. *The Hundred-Year Marathon* is a wake-up call as we face the greatest national security challenge of the twenty-first century.

destined for war: *Perilous Medicine* Leonard Rubenstein, 2021-09-21 Pervasive violence against hospitals, patients, doctors, and other health workers has become a horrifically common feature of modern war. These relentless attacks destroy lives and the capacity of health systems to tend to those in need. Inaction to stop this violence undermines long-standing values and laws designed to ensure that sick and wounded people receive care. Leonard Rubenstein—a human rights lawyer who has investigated atrocities against health workers around the world—offers a gripping and powerful account of the dangers health workers face during conflict and the legal, political, and moral struggle to protect them. In a dozen case studies, he shares the stories of people who have been attacked while seeking to serve patients under dire circumstances including health workers hiding from soldiers in the forests of eastern Myanmar as they seek to serve oppressed ethnic communities, surgeons in Syria operating as their hospitals are bombed, and Afghan hospital staff attacked by the Taliban as well as government and foreign forces. Rubenstein reveals how political and military leaders evade their legal obligations to protect health care in war, punish doctors and nurses for adhering to their responsibilities to provide care to all in need, and fail to hold perpetrators to account. Bringing together extensive research, firsthand experience, and compelling personal stories, *Perilous Medicine* also offers a path forward, detailing the lessons the international community needs to learn to protect people already suffering in war and those on the front lines of health care in conflict-ridden places around the world.

destined for war: *Bonds of War* David K. Thomson, 2022-02-16 How does one package and sell confidence in the stability of a nation riven by civil strife? This was the question that loomed before the Philadelphia financial house of Jay Cooke & Company, entrusted by the US government with an unprecedented sale of bonds to finance the Union war effort in the early days of the American Civil War. How the government and its agents marketed these bonds revealed a version of the war the public was willing to buy and buy into, based not just in the full faith and credit of the United States but also in the success of its armies and its long-term vision for open markets. From Maine to California, and in foreign halls of power and economic influence, thousands of agents were deployed to sell a clear message: Union victory was unleashing the American economy itself. This fascinating work of financial and political history during the Civil War era shows how the marketing and sale of bonds crossed the Atlantic to Europe and beyond, helping ensure foreign countries' vested interest in the Union's success. Indeed, David K. Thomson demonstrates how Europe, and ultimately all corners of the globe, grew deeply interdependent on American finance during, and in the immediate aftermath of, the American Civil War.

destined for war: *A Song of War* Kate Quinn, Vicky Alvear, Simon Turney, Russell Whitfield, Stephanie Thornton, Libbie Hawker, David Alexander Blixt, 2023-11-21 A SONG OF WAR Troy: city of gold, gatekeeper of the east, haven of the god-born and the lucky, a city destined to last a thousand years. But the Fates have other plans—the Fates, and a woman named Helen. In the

shadow of Troy's gates, all must be reborn in the greatest war of the ancient world: slaves and queens, heroes and cowards, seers and kings . . . and these are their stories. A young princess and an embittered prince join forces to prevent a fatal elopement. A tormented seeress challenges the gods themselves to save her city from the impending disaster. A tragedy-haunted king battles private demons and envious rivals as the siege grinds on. A doomed hero launches a desperate plan to bring the war to a close. A grizzled archer and a desperate Amazon risk their lives to avenge their dead. A trickster conceives the greatest trick of all. A goddess' son battles to save the spirit of Troy even as the walls are breached in fire and blood. Seven authors bring to life the epic tale of the Trojan War: its heroes, its villains, its survivors, its dead. Who will lie forgotten in the embers, and who will rise to shape the bloody dawn of a new age?

destined for war: The Hundred Years' War on Palestine Rashid Khalidi, 2020-01-28 A landmark history of one hundred years of war waged against the Palestinians from the foremost US historian of the Middle East, told through pivotal events and family history In 1899, Yusuf Diya al-Khalidi, mayor of Jerusalem, alarmed by the Zionist call to create a Jewish national home in Palestine, wrote a letter aimed at Theodore Herzl: the country had an indigenous people who would not easily accept their own displacement. He warned of the perils ahead, ending his note, "in the name of God, let Palestine be left alone." Thus Rashid Khalidi, al-Khalidi's great-great-nephew, begins this sweeping history, the first general account of the conflict told from an explicitly Palestinian perspective. Drawing on a wealth of untapped archival materials and the reports of generations of family members—mayors, judges, scholars, diplomats, and journalists—The Hundred Years' War on Palestine upends accepted interpretations of the conflict, which tend, at best, to describe a tragic clash between two peoples with claims to the same territory. Instead, Khalidi traces a hundred years of colonial war on the Palestinians, waged first by the Zionist movement and then Israel, but backed by Britain and the United States, the great powers of the age. He highlights the key episodes in this colonial campaign, from the 1917 Balfour Declaration to the destruction of Palestine in 1948, from Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon to the endless and futile peace process. Original, authoritative, and important, The Hundred Years' War on Palestine is not a chronicle of victimization, nor does it whitewash the mistakes of Palestinian leaders or deny the emergence of national movements on both sides. In reevaluating the forces arrayed against the Palestinians, it offers an illuminating new view of a conflict that continues to this day.

destined for war: Unrivaled Michael C. Beckley, 2018-09-15 No detailed description available for Unrivaled.

destined for war: Taste of War Lizzie Collingham, 2012-03-29 A New York Times Notable Book of 2012 Food, and in particular the lack of it, was central to the experience of World War II. In this richly detailed and engaging history, Lizzie Collingham establishes how control of food and its production is crucial to total war. How were the imperial ambitions of Germany and Japan - ambitions which sowed the seeds of war - informed by a desire for self-sufficiency in food production? How was the outcome of the war affected by the decisions that the Allies and the Axis took over how to feed their troops? And how did the distinctive ideologies of the different combatant countries determine their attitudes towards those they had to feed? Tracing the interaction between food and strategy, on both the military and home fronts, this gripping, original account demonstrates how the issue of access to food was a driving force within Nazi policy and contributed to the decision to murder hundreds of thousands of 'useless eaters' in Europe. Focusing on both the winners and losers in the battle for food, The Taste of War brings to light the striking fact that war-related hunger and famine was not only caused by Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan, but was also the result of Allied mismanagement and neglect, particularly in India, Africa and China. American dominance both during and after the war was not only a result of the United States' immense industrial production but also of its abundance of food. This book traces the establishment of a global pattern of food production and distribution and shows how the war subsequently promoted the pervasive influence of American food habits and tastes in the post-war world. A work of great scope, The Taste of War connects the broad sweep of history to its intimate impact upon the lives of individuals.

destined for war: Command Of The Air General Giulio Douhet, 2014-08-15 In the pantheon of air power spokesmen, Giulio Douhet holds center stage. His writings, more often cited than perhaps actually read, appear as excerpts and aphorisms in the writings of numerous other air power spokesmen, advocates-and critics. Though a highly controversial figure, the very controversy that surrounds him offers to us a testimonial of the value and depth of his work, and the need for airmen today to become familiar with his thought. The progressive development of air power to the point where, today, it is more correct to refer to aerospace power has not outdated the notions of Douhet in the slightest. In fact, in many ways, the kinds of technological capabilities that we enjoy as a global air power provider attest to the breadth of his vision. Douhet, together with Hugh "Boom" Trenchard of Great Britain and William "Billy" Mitchell of the United States, is justly recognized as one of the three great spokesmen of the early air power era. This reprint is offered in the spirit of continuing the dialogue that Douhet himself so perceptively began with the first edition of this book, published in 1921. Readers may well find much that they disagree with in this book, but also much that is of enduring value. The vital necessity of Douhet's central vision-that command of the air is all important in modern warfare-has been proven throughout the history of wars in this century, from the fighting over the Somme to the air war over Kuwait and Iraq.

destined for war: The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line Maj. Gen. Mari K. Eder, 2021-08-03 For fans of *Radium Girls* and history and WWII buffs, *The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line* takes you inside the lives and experiences of 15 unknown women heroes from the Greatest Generation, the women who served, fought, struggled, and made things happen during WWII—in and out of uniform—for theirs is a legacy destined to embolden generations of women to come. From daring spies to audacious pilots, from innovative scientists to indomitable resistance fighters, these extraordinary women stepped out of line and into history, forever altering the world's landscape. This page-turning narrative, crafted with meticulous historical accuracy by retired U.S. Army Major General Mari K. Eder, provides a fresh perspective on the integral roles that women played during WWII. Liane B. Russell fled Austria with nothing and later became a renowned U.S. scientist whose research on the effects of radiation on embryos made a difference to thousands of lives. Gena Turgel was a prisoner who worked in the hospital at Bergen-Belsen and cared for the young Anne Frank, who was dying of typhus. Gena survived and went on to write a memoir and spent her life educating children about the Holocaust. Ida and Louise Cook were British sisters who repeatedly smuggled out jewelry and furs and served as sponsors for refugees, and they also established temporary housing for immigrant families in London. Whether you're a history enthusiast, a lover of powerful women's stories, or an avid reader of WWII nonfiction, *The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line* is a must-read and a poignant testament to the forgotten women who stepped up when the world needed them most.

destined for war: The Operators Michael Hastings, 2012-01-05 The inspiration for the Netflix original movie *War Machine*, starring Brad Pitt, Tilda Swinton, and Ben Kingsley. From the author of *The Last Magazine*, a shocking behind-the-scenes portrait of our military commanders, their high-stake maneuvers, and the political firestorm that shook the United States. In the shadow of the hunt for Bin Laden and the United States' involvement in the Middle East, General Stanley McChrystal, the commanding general of international and U.S. forces in Afghanistan, was living large. His loyal staff liked to call him a "rock star." During a spring 2010 trip, journalist Michael Hastings looked on as McChrystal and his staff let off steam, partying and openly bashing the Obama administration. When Hastings's article appeared in *Rolling Stone*, it set off a political firestorm: McChrystal was unceremoniously fired. In *The Operators*, Hastings picks up where his *Rolling Stone* coup ended. From patrol missions in the Afghan hinterlands to senior military advisors' late-night bull sessions to hotel bars where spies and expensive hookers participate in nation-building, Hastings presents a shocking behind-the-scenes portrait of what he fears is an unwinnable war. Written in prose that is at once eye-opening and other times uncannily conversational, readers of *No Easy Day* will take to Hastings' unyielding first-hand account of the Afghan War and its cast of players.

destined for war: Blood and Debt Miguel Angel Centeno, 2015-08-26 What role does war play

in political development? Our understanding of the rise of the nation-state is based heavily on the Western European experience of war. Challenging the dominance of this model, *Blood and Debt* looks at Latin America's much different experience as more relevant to politics today in regions as varied as the Balkans and sub-Saharan Africa. The book's illuminating review of the relatively peaceful history of Latin America from the late eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries reveals the lack of two critical prerequisites needed for war: a political and military culture oriented toward international violence, and the state institutional capacity to carry it out. Using innovative new data such as tax receipts, naming of streets and public monuments, and conscription records, the author carefully examines how war affected the fiscal development of the state, the creation of national identity, and claims to citizenship. Rather than building nation-states and fostering democratic citizenship, he shows, war in Latin America destroyed institutions, confirmed internal divisions, and killed many without purpose or glory.

destined for war: The Tragedy of Great Power Politics (Updated Edition) John J. Mearsheimer, 2003-01-17 A superb book....Mearsheimer has made a significant contribution to our understanding of the behavior of great powers.—Barry R. Posen, *The National Interest* The updated edition of this classic treatise on the behavior of great powers takes a penetrating look at the question likely to dominate international relations in the twenty-first century: Can China rise peacefully? In clear, eloquent prose, John Mearsheimer explains why the answer is no: a rising China will seek to dominate Asia, while the United States, determined to remain the world's sole regional hegemon, will go to great lengths to prevent that from happening. The tragedy of great power politics is inescapable.

destined for war: What Every Person Should Know About War Chris Hedges, 2007-11-01 Acclaimed New York Times journalist and author Chris Hedges offers a critical -- and fascinating -- lesson in the dangerous realities of our age: a stark look at the effects of war on combatants. Utterly lacking in rhetoric or dogma, this manual relies instead on bare fact, frank description, and a spare question-and-answer format. Hedges allows U.S. military documentation of the brutalizing physical and psychological consequences of combat to speak for itself. Hedges poses dozens of questions that young soldiers might ask about combat, and then answers them by quoting from medical and psychological studies. • What are my chances of being wounded or killed if we go to war? • What does it feel like to get shot? • What do artillery shells do to you? • What is the most painful way to get wounded? • Will I be afraid? • What could happen to me in a nuclear attack? • What does it feel like to kill someone? • Can I withstand torture? • What are the long-term consequences of combat stress? • What will happen to my body after I die? This profound and devastating portrayal of the horrors to which we subject our armed forces stands as a ringing indictment of the glorification of war and the concealment of its barbarity.

destined for war: The Beautiful Struggle (Adapted for Young Adults) Ta-Nehisi Coates, 2022-01-11 Adapted from the adult memoir by the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Water Dancer* and *Between the World and Me*, this father-son story explores how boys become men, and quite specifically, how Ta-Nehisi Coates became Ta-Nehisi Coates. As a child, Ta-Nehisi Coates was seen by his father, Paul, as too sensitive and lacking focus. Paul Coates was a Vietnam vet who'd been part of the Black Panthers and was dedicated to reading and publishing the history of African civilization. When it came to his sons, he was committed to raising proud Black men equipped to deal with a racist society, during a turbulent period in the collapsing city of Baltimore where they lived. Coates details with candor the challenges of dealing with his tough-love father, the influence of his mother, and the dynamics of his extended family, including his brother Big Bill, who was on a very different path than Ta-Nehisi. Coates also tells of his family struggles at school and with girls, making this a timely story to which many readers will relate.

destined for war: Invasion of Privacy Christopher Reich, 2015-06-16 One woman's quest to discover the truth behind her husband's death will pit her against a new generation of cutting-edge surveillance technology and the most dangerous conspiracy in America—*Invasion of Privacy* is the riveting, new standalone suspense novel from New York Times bestselling author Christopher Reich.

On a remote, dusty road forty miles outside of Austin, Texas, FBI agent Joe Grant and a confidential informant are killed in a deadly shootout. Left to pick up the pieces is Mary Grant, Joe's young wife and mother of their two daughters. The official report places blame for the deaths on Joe's shoulders . . . but the story just doesn't add up and Mary has too many troubling questions that need answers. How did Joe's final voice mail—containing a cryptic warning for Mary, recorded moments before the fatal shooting—disappear without a trace from her phone? Stonewalled by the FBI, Mary will be drawn into a deadly conspiracy that puts her in the crosshairs of the richest and most powerful men in America . . . and the newest and most terrifying surveillance system known to man. New York Times bestselling author Christopher Reich is the master of crafting thrillers of the highest caliber, with nonstop action and nail-biting suspense. *Invasion of Privacy* is his richest, most relevant novel to date and will have readers hooked from the first page to the last. Your privacy is for sale.

destined for war: *Between the World and Me* Ta-Nehisi Coates, 2015-07-14 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NATIONAL BOOK AWARD WINNER • NAMED ONE OF TIME'S TEN BEST NONFICTION BOOKS OF THE DECADE • PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST • NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD FINALIST • ONE OF OPRAH'S "BOOKS THAT HELP ME THROUGH" • NOW AN HBO ORIGINAL SPECIAL EVENT Hailed by Toni Morrison as "required reading," a bold and personal literary exploration of America's racial history by "the most important essayist in a generation and a writer who changed the national political conversation about race" (Rolling Stone) NAMED ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL BOOKS OF THE DECADE BY CNN • NAMED ONE OF PASTE'S BEST MEMOIRS OF THE DECADE • NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The New York Times Book Review • O: The Oprah Magazine • The Washington Post • People • Entertainment Weekly • Vogue • Los Angeles Times • San Francisco Chronicle • Chicago Tribune • New York • Newsday • Library Journal • Publishers Weekly In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation's history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of "race," a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden? *Between the World and Me* is Ta-Nehisi Coates's attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son. Coates shares with his son—and readers—the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world through a series of revelatory experiences, from Howard University to Civil War battlefields, from the South Side of Chicago to Paris, from his childhood home to the living rooms of mothers whose children's lives were taken as American plunder. Beautifully woven from personal narrative, reimagined history, and fresh, emotionally charged reportage, *Between the World and Me* clearly illuminates the past, bravely confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward.

destined for war: *A Game for Swallows* Zeina Abirached, 2012-09-01 When Zeina was born, the civil war in Lebanon had been going on for six years, so it's just a normal part of life for her and her parents and her little brother. The city of Beirut is cut in two, separated by bricks and sandbags and threatened by snipers and shelling. East Beirut is for Christians, and West Beirut is for Muslims. When Zeina's parents don't return one afternoon from a visit to the other half of the city, and the bombing grows ever closer, the neighbors in her apartment house create a world indoors for Zeina and her brother where it's comfy and safe, where they can share cooking lessons and games and gossip. Together they try to make it through a dramatic day in the one place they hoped they would always be safehome. Zeina Abirached, born into a Lebanese Christian family in 1981, has collected her childhood recollections of Beirut in a warm story about the strength of family and community.

destined for war: *Anatomy of Failure* Harlan Ullman, 2017-11-15 Why, since the end of World War II, has the United States either lost every war it started or failed in every military intervention it prosecuted? Harlan Ullman's new book answers this most disturbing question, a question Americans

would never think of even asking because this record of failure has been largely hidden in plain sight or forgotten with the passage of time. The most straightforward answer is that presidents and administrations have consistently failed to use sound strategic thinking and lacked sufficient knowledge or understanding of the circumstances prior to deciding whether or not to employ force. Making this case is an in-depth analysis of the records of presidents from John F. Kennedy to Barack Obama and Donald Trump in using force or starting wars. His recommended solutions begin with a brains-based approach to sound strategic thinking to address one of the major causes of failure ----the inexperience of too many of the nation's commanders-in-chief. Ullman reinforces his argument through the use of autobiographical vignettes that provide a human dimension and insight into the reasons for failure, in some cases making public previously unknown history. The clarion call of Anatomy of Failure is that both a sound strategic framework and sufficient knowledge and understanding of the circumstance that may lead to using force are vital. Without them, failure is virtually guaranteed.

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