



The Lion's Gate: On the Front Lines of the Six Day War

By Steven Pressfield

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“A brilliant look into the psyche of combat. Where he once took us into the Spartan line of battle at Thermopylae, Steven Pressfield now takes us into the sands of the Sinai, the alleys of Old Jerusalem, and into the hearts and souls of soldiers winning a spectacularly improbable victory against daunting odds.”
—General Stanley McChrystal, U.S. Army, ret.; author of *My Share of the Task*

June 5, 1967. The nineteen-year-old state of Israel is surrounded by enemies who want nothing less than her utter extinction. The Soviet-equipped Egyptian Army has massed a thousand tanks on the nation’s southern border. Syrian heavy guns are shelling her from the north. To the east, Jordan and Iraq are moving mechanized brigades and fighter squadrons into position to attack. Egypt’s President Nasser has declared that the Arab force’s objective is “the destruction of Israel.” The rest of the world turns a blind eye to the new nation’s desperate peril.

June 10, 1967. The Arab armies have been routed, ground divisions wiped out, air forces totally destroyed. Israel’s citizen-soldiers have seized the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt, the Golan Heights from Syria, East Jerusalem and the West Bank from Jordan. The land under Israeli control has tripled. Her charismatic defense minister, Moshe Dayan, has entered the Lion’s Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem to stand with the paratroopers who have liberated Judaism’s holiest site—the Western Wall, part of the ruins of Solomon’s temple, which has not been in Jewish hands for nineteen hundred years.

It is one of the most unlikely and astonishing military victories in history.

Drawing on hundreds of hours of interviews with veterans of the war—fighter and helicopter pilots, tank commanders and Recon soldiers, paratroopers, as well as women soldiers, wives, and others—bestselling author Steven Pressfield tells the story of the Six Day War as you’ve never experienced it before: in the voices of the young men and women who battled not only for their lives but for the survival of a Jewish state, and for the dreams of their ancestors.

By turns inspiring, thrilling, and heartbreaking, *The Lion's Gate* is both a true tale of military courage under fire and a journey into the heart of what it means to fight for one's people.

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Editorial Review

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The geopolitical effects of the Six Day War, in 1967, have continued to exert immense power over both the Middle East and the wider world. So it is useful to be reminded that the war was fought over relatively small territories by generally young and inexperienced men on both sides. Pressfield has compiled an impressive collection of firsthand accounts by many men and women who took part in the war on the Israeli side. Some of these recollections are from professional soldiers who were veterans of the Israeli War of Independence or the 1956 Sinai campaign. But most interesting and poignant are the accounts by youthful citizen-soldiers who reveal their fears, hopes, and even their impatience with their political leaders as their nation moves toward war. Of course, this is a highly skewed collection, since we hear nothing from Egyptians, Syrians, or Palestinians. Still, this is an effective recounting of soldiers thrust, in a compressed time span, into life-and-death situations for themselves and their nation. --Jay Freeman

Review

“A brilliant look into the psyche of combat. Where he once took us into the Spartan line of battle at Thermopylae, Steven Pressfield now takes us into the sands of the Sinai, the alleys of Old Jerusalem, and into the hearts and souls of soldiers winning a spectacularly improbable victory against daunting odds.”

—**GENERAL STANLEY McCHRYSTAL**, U.S. Army, ret.; author of *My Share of the Task*

“Pressfield is the king of military narrative, and with *The Lion’s Gate* he does not disappoint. It’s always amazing how hard people can fight when their backs are against the wall.”

—**ERIK PRINCE**, author of *Civilian Warriors*

“Steven Pressfield is one of the most important writers of our day. Few others so adroitly weave together the stories of war in a way that captures the human side of a conflict. *The Lion’s Gate* gives us a rare glimpse into the different perspectives of a single historical event and proves to us there is always more than meets the eye.”

—**SIMON SINEK**, author of *Start with Why* and *Leaders Eat Last*

“A very skillful and novel approach to one of the most significant and important conflicts in the Middle East. For those who like to have their history served with a generous dose of implied personal experience and just a dash of improvisation, I highly recommend *The Lion’s Gate*. Steven Pressfield commands the action effectively and from multiple perspectives. A valuable read.”

—**DICK COUCH**, author of *Always Faithful, Always Forward* and *Act of Revenge*

“A sweeping, thrilling story of bravery, determination, and grit. I couldn’t put it down.”

—**BRIAN KILMEADE**, author of *George Washington’s Secret Six*

“The finest military writer alive, bar none.”

—**STEPHEN COONTS**

“No one writes better historical fiction than Steven Pressfield.”

—**VINCE FLYNN**

“Rarely does an author manage to recreate a moment in history with such mastery, authority, and psychological insight.”

—**NELSON DEMILLE**

“Superbly researched and superbly written ... My tears flowed as the paratroopers made their way to and beyond the Western Wall, bringing that sacred spot back into the possession of the original owners ... ”

—**JOE GALLOWAY**, co-author of *We Were Soldiers Once ... And Young*.

About the Author

STEVEN PRESSFIELD is the author of twelve previous books, including the bestselling novels *Gates of Fire* and *The Legend of Bagger Vance*, as well as the cult classic on creativity *The War of Art*. He lives in Los Angeles.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Pimentel:

This The Lion's Gate: On the Front Lines of the Six Day War book is not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is usually information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This specific The Lion's Gate: On the Front Lines of the Six Day War without we realize teach the one who reading it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't end up being worry The Lion's Gate: On the Front Lines of the Six Day War can bring whenever you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even phone. This The Lion's Gate: On the Front Lines of the Six Day War having very good arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

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