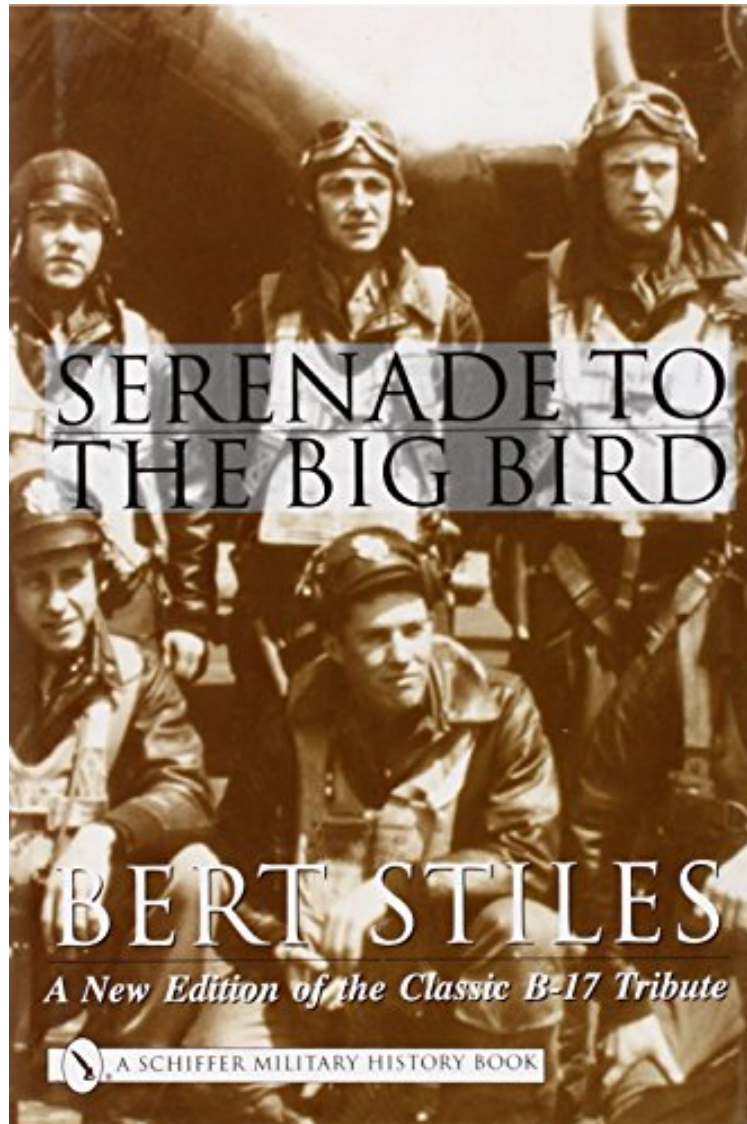


[Mobile pdf] Serenade to the Big Bird (Schiffer Military History)

Serenade to the Big Bird (Schiffer Military History)

Bert Stiles

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#544542 in Books Bert Stiles 2001-07Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.10 x .80 x 6.30l, 1.30 #File Name: 0764313967153 pagesSerenade to the Big Bird A New Edition of the Classic B 17 Tribute | File size: 73.Mb

Bert Stiles : Serenade to the Big Bird (Schiffer Military History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Serenade to the Big Bird (Schiffer Military History):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Harmonious SongBy Jeannie Walker (Award-Winning Author)My husband and I are history buffs-that being said- We have seen and heard the name Stiles on many documentaries about WWII and the young men who flew the skies in Bombers and other aircraft. Bert Stiles was just a

youngster when he began his tour on B17 bombers- ironically he wasn't killed aboard a bomber- but he was killed in combat in World War Two- after finishing his tour with the B17's- he became a fighter pilot and that cost him his life. God rest his soul and God bless his family and friends. This book is definitely a serenade to a marvelous big bird and the courageous men who fought for freedom. So what if there are a few errors-here and there- it is a true story that needed to be told and I hope will be read by many. May God bless America and all who fight to keep us free from tyranny. Jeannie Walker (Award-Winning Author) "I Saw the Light" - A True Story of a Near-Death Experience 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Gonzo Journalism Meets World War II By Mike Sorohan Had Bert Stiles survived the war, I believe his legacy would have been as one of the great writers of his generation, on a par with Mailer, only more cynical. This is not a rah-rah Greatest Generation account; it reads more like if Jack Kerouac had covered the war. His accounts of battle are descriptive and vivid; his cynicism about war is refreshingly frank; and his running commentary about his would-be girlfriend, "August," reads like a Mickey Spillane novel. One could argue--okay, I could argue--that this book is an early form of Gonzo journalism. A terrific read, leaving me wanting more. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Goes Hot and Cold By Common Sense The book goes hot and cold. I ordered it because I had some friends whose fathers flew bombers in WWII. When the narrator (a co-pilot) is not rhapsodizing about how similar the fields, towns and people of France, England Germany are, the book really drags. But once the pilot tells him to stop day dreaming the descriptions of the challenges of actually flying such a big plane in formation and avoiding enemy fighters is very good. There were a couple of scenarios where I found myself holding my breath without thinking about it. I flew light attack aircraft in the Navy for 9 years so I am familiar with formation flying but after reading this I am still trying to figure out how they flew formation with the pilot on the yolk and the co-pilot managing the power.

After completing a tour of duty (thirty-five missions) in B-17s, Bert Stiles transferred to a fighter squadron. Just four months later he was killed in action on an escort mission to Hanover, Germany, on November 26, 1944. Stiles' book was written in the period between his two tours. *Serenade to the Big Bird* portrays the tragedy of war, and specifically the loss to the world of a fine, sensitive, talented writer who had only a short time to prove his merit. He died at twenty-three.

From the Publisher Bert Stiles was a prolific and highly talented writer. While still in college he had several stories published in the *Saturday Evening Post*, *Colliers* and other magazines. He was way ahead of his time. He wrote about The United Nations while it was still in the planning stage. He wrote about racial inequities and the environment long before such topics were popular. His college classmate Roland Dickson and Robert Cooper have collected many of his manuscripts and published them in separate publications. When we consider that Bert Stiles died at the young age of twenty three, the magnitude and scope of his writing is truly outstanding. About the Author Bert Stiles was a highly talented writer who flew as a pilot with the United States Army Air Corps. He first flew a tour of duty as a co-pilot in heavy bombers with the 91st Bomb Group. After completing his tour of duty he volunteered for another tour of duty in fighter aircraft. He was assigned to a P-51 Squadron. However, he took one month off during the late summer of 1944 and wrote *Serenade to the Big Bird*. Tragically, three months later he was killed in action on an escort raid to Hanover. His mother recovered the manuscript from his personal effects and acquired a publisher. *Serenade to the Big Bird* was first published in 1947. Now in its fifth printing, it has become a classic tale of the air war in Europe. Bert Stiles tells the story as it was, while it was happening. The author is buried in the Ardennes Cemetery near Liege Belgium. One hundred four fallen airmen from the 91st Bomb Group are buried beside Bert Stiles in this military cemetery. Though their lips are stilled, Bert's words live on, and he has become the unofficial spokesman for every one of his fallen comrades.