

**Alistar Maclean**

# **Navarone Omnibus**

## **The Guns of Navarone**

“This novel is one of the best adventure stories ever written.” This is an inscription on the first page of the book and I almost totally agree with it. I generally prefer adventure books, but this book is really something special.

The story happens on a small island in Mediterranean during the second world war. It speaks about a secret mission, how to blow up the unbeatable guns hidden in an underground cave. But this is only a frame for a dozen of other personal stories, adventures.

Every character in the book has his own personality, his own feelings, his own response to different events. This creates a lot of interesting situations, in which the author investigates the reactions of his characters.

However, this is not the main thing I admire this book. “How to survive in impossible life circumstances and with no hope for better tomorrow?” This question makes the book good. These men are not “Supermen” but just ordinary mortals. They act and react spontaneously, I could almost say like animals that are fighting for their survival. In this situation all social norms disappear and a person becomes only a mammal on two legs.

The writer is on one hand realistic and emotional. He “opens” the character’s soul, character’s inner world, but on the other hand he answers many questions related to spiritual life.

We think that we know a lot about our soul. But when I read this book, I realize that we will never become complete masters of our inner world, as our nature often prevails our ambitions.