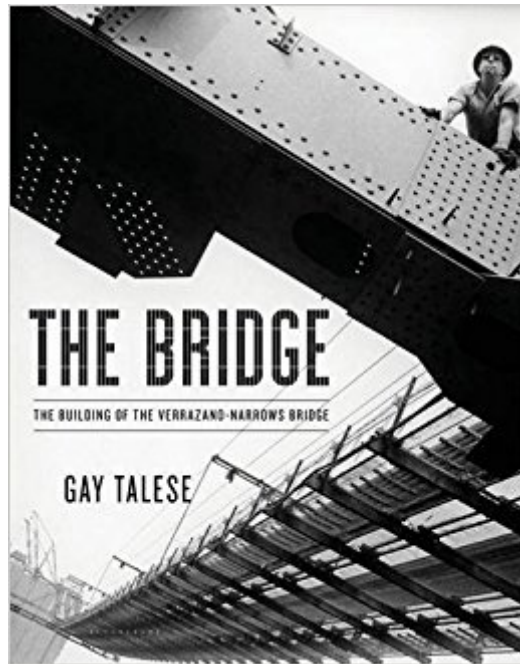




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# The Bridge: The Building Of The Verrazano-Narrows Bridge



## Synopsis

Toward the end of 1964, the Verrazano Narrows Bridge-linking the New York City boroughs of Brooklyn and Staten Island-was completed. Fifty years later, it remains an engineering marvel. At 13,700 feet (more than two and a half miles), it is still the longest suspension bridge in the United States and the sixth longest in the world. Gay Talese, then early in his career at the New York Times, closely followed the construction, and soon after the opening of this marvel of human ingenuity and engineering, he chronicled the human drama of its completion-from the construction workers high on the beams to the backroom dealing that displaced whole neighborhoods to make way for the bridge. Now in a new, beautifully packaged edition featuring dozens of breathtaking photos and architectural drawings, *The Bridge* remains both a riveting narrative of politics and courage and a demonstration of Talese's consummate skills as a reporter and storyteller. His memorable narrative will help celebrate the bridge's fiftieth anniversary and captivate a new generation of readers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Mr. Talese has written a vivid, highly readable story of the building of the bridge. He has described movingly the people caught up in the project--the engineers, the workers, the displaced, and he sees the bridge as a human rather than a mechanical achievement . . . imparting drama and romance to this bridge-building story.”  
—*The New York Times Book Review*  
“This book has the charm of Max Miller's *I Cover the Waterfront* and the precision of

Hemingway's Death in the Afternoon. [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) "Only a writer in love with his subject could have produced so charming a narrative about a bridge. There are many stories within the story of The Bridge. All are worth reading." [Houston Post](#) "Talese tells warm, funny, and tragic stories of men, women, steel, and concrete. This book is fine reading." [Denver Post](#)

Gay Talese is the bestselling author of eleven books including *The Kingdom and the Power: The, Thy Neighbor's Wife, Honor Thy Father, and A Writer's Life*. Bloomsbury has published two collections of his writing, *The Gay Talese Reader* and *The Silent Season of a Hero*. Talese lives in New York City.

This is a great title to read if you are interested in Gay Talese. However, be wary of the kindle edition that is selling here. It is so loaded with typos that the end of chapter 7 can be unreadable. I found myself having to infer the words the author had originally written. The fact that is charging \$10 for this quality is a total rip off. Do yourself a favor and buy a used paper copy of the book for far cheaper so you can read it as the author intended. Support any used/local book seller over .

Talese delivers an exciting and fascinating look at the building of the Verrazano Narrows Bridge. The bridge linked the New York City boroughs of Brooklyn and Staten Island with New Jersey. The bridge was completed in 1964 and its engineering marvel -- the people who built it -- is expertly conveyed in this book.

This 2003 book tells the story of the building of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge which was completed in 1964, linking the New York boroughs of Staten Island and Brooklyn with New Jersey. It was a huge undertaking, displacing hundreds of residents from their homes, changing the demographics surrounding it, and giving jobs to a huge number of highly paid blue collar men from all over America, but especially from Brooklyn and the Mohawk Indian reservation in Canada. The work is hard and dangerous and is also highly paid. It attracts men who call themselves "boomers" and who live and work in this specialized world. Injuries are commonplace and there are always a few men who die, but the men who do the work do so with a sense of pride and accomplishment and bond together in camaraderie. The author is a skilled literary journalist and brings this book to life with descriptions of real-life incidences and in-depth characterizations of some of the actual workers. I was left with a feeling of admiration for the courage and fortitude of the men who work at

death-defying heights, using heavy equipment and having to dangle precariously while doing this in all kinds of weather. I learned a lot from this book. I learned about the actual jobs. I learned something about New York politics at the time. I learned about some of the individual men who did their jobs and lived to tell about it. Frankly, I came away with a sense of awe. The author really did nail the reality of it all. I read it on Kindle but the printed book is only about 208 long. It sure does pack a tremendous wallop and is a unique reading experience.

This is a great revised 50th anniversary edition with wonderful updates. Mr. Talese brings you up close with the real movers and shakers - the men who actually built the bridge. Fascinating stuff!

I bought this book for my husband for Christmas, he finished it in 2 days. He said it was very interesting and an easy read.

Step back in history; become a part of the team that built this incredible monument to technology. Learn about the lives of all involved be a part of that moment in history. It's a beautifully written book.

An excellently written narrative of what it took to build the Verrazano Narrows bridge. Talese focused on the people who made it happen- from the head engineers to the steel workers. Captivating enough that I read it in three sittings.

Great historical read..I would have liked more of the politics of Robert Moses , how he was able to push this through..but that's another book

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