

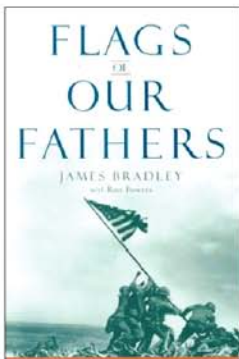
THE READING ZONE

STUDENT BOOK REVIEW

Flags of Our Fathers

By James Bradley with Ron Powers
Published by Bantam Dell, A Division of
Random House, Inc.

James Bradley is new to the scene of literature with his first book, *Flags of Our Fathers*. It is a true story of the famous picture that was taken of six soldiers raising the flag on top of Iwo Jima during World War II. This image became famous because of the significance of the battle of Iwo Jima, which was the first time that an enemy's flag flew over Japanese territory in the past two thousand years.



The book launches the reader into Bradley's childhood. His father was one of the flag-raisers on Iwo Jima. It then describes the childhood of the other five flag-raisers, and how all six of them were drafted into or joined the Marines or Navy. Bradley describes, in detail, the lives of the six flag-raisers in their respective branches of the armed forces and all of the battles that they suffered through. He informs us of the many struggles with memories of the gruesome war that the soldiers had. Finally, Bradley goes on to describe the flag-raising, how three of the six flag-raisers died during the war, the bond tour of the United States, and the post-war lives of the remaining three.

I would recommend *Flags of Our Fathers* to anyone over the age of thirteen that is interested in the war in the Pacific because of the intense action and detailed descriptions of many battles.

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20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

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