

# Riding the Tempest: The After Dunkirk



## Riding the Tempest (The After Dunkirk Series Book 5)

by Lee Jackson

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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In May 1940, the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) was forced to retreat from France after the German invasion. The evacuation from Dunkirk was a tremendous success, with over 338,000 British and Allied soldiers being rescued from the beaches. However, the BEF's ordeal was far from over. Once they had been evacuated to Britain, they faced a number of challenges, including the need to be re-equipped and retrained, and the psychological trauma of having been defeated.

In *Riding the Tempest: The After Dunkirk*, historian Patrick Bishop tells the story of the BEF's journey from Dunkirk to safety in Britain, and the challenges they faced in the aftermath. Drawing on a wealth of firsthand accounts, Bishop provides a gripping and intimate portrait of the men who fought and survived one of the most perilous episodes of World War II.

*Riding the Tempest* is a must-read for anyone interested in World War II history. Bishop's vivid writing and meticulous research bring to life the experiences of the BEF, and offer a fresh perspective on one of the most iconic events of the war.

## **The Evacuation from Dunkirk**

The evacuation from Dunkirk was a remarkable achievement, but it was also a chaotic and dangerous operation. The BEF was stranded on the beaches, with their backs to the sea. The German army was closing in, and the RAF was struggling to provide air cover. Nevertheless, the British and Allied troops managed to evacuate over 338,000 men, thanks to the heroic efforts of the Royal Navy, the Royal Air Force, and the civilian population of Dunkirk.

The evacuation was not without its casualties. Over 100,000 men were killed or wounded during the operation, and many more were captured by the Germans. However, the evacuation was ultimately a success, and it saved the BEF from being annihilated.

### **The Challenges of the Aftermath**

Once the BEF had been evacuated to Britain, they faced a number of challenges. The first challenge was the need to be re-equipped and retrained. The BEF had lost most of its equipment during the retreat from France, and its soldiers were in need of new weapons, uniforms, and training.

The second challenge was the psychological trauma of having been defeated. The BEF had been forced to retreat from France, and many of its soldiers had seen their friends and comrades killed. This trauma had a profound impact on the men of the BEF, and it took time for them to recover.

The third challenge was the need to prepare for the future. The BEF knew that the war was not over, and they needed to be ready to fight again. This meant training for new operations, and developing new strategies and tactics.

### **The Legacy of Dunkirk**

The evacuation from Dunkirk was a turning point in World War II. It showed that the British people could not be defeated, and it gave them the confidence to continue fighting against the Nazis. The BEF's ordeal also had a profound impact on the men who fought and survived it. They learned the importance of courage, resilience, and teamwork. These

lessons would serve them well in the years to come, as they fought their way to victory in World War II.

*Riding the Tempest: The After Dunkirk* is a gripping account of the perilous journey of the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkirk to safety in Britain, and the challenges they faced in the aftermath. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in World War II history.



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