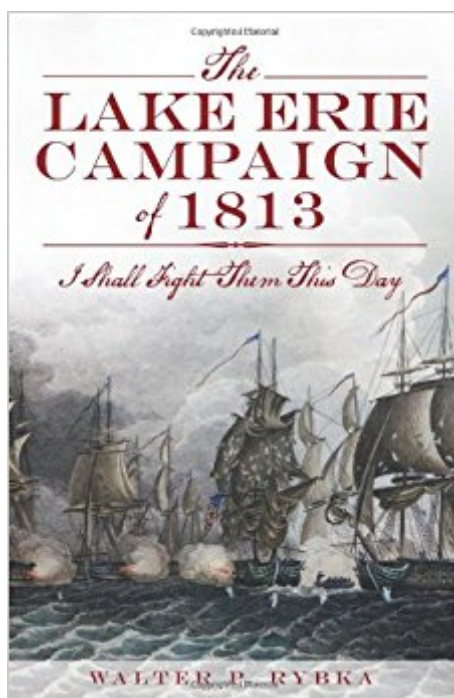


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# The Lake Erie Campaign Of 1813: I Shall Fight Them This Day



## Synopsis

On September 10, 1813, the hot, still air that hung over Lake Erie was broken by the sounds of sharp conflict. Led by Oliver Hazard Perry, the American fleet met the British, and though they sustained heavy losses, Perry and his men achieved one of the most stunning victories in the War of 1812. Author Walter Rybka traces the Lake Erie Campaign from the struggle to build the fleet in Erie, Pennsylvania, during the dead of winter and the conflict between rival egos of Perry and his second in command, Jesse Duncan Elliott, through the exceptionally bloody battle that was the first U.S. victory in a fleet action. With the singular perspective of having sailed the reconstructed U.S. brig Niagara for over twenty years, Rybka brings the knowledge of a shipmaster to the story of the Lake Erie Campaign and the culminating Battle of Lake Erie.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Rybka, the longtime captain of today's Niagara, also does an excellent job in writing "The Lake Erie Campaign of 1813: I shall fight them this day." Rybka knows this ship better than Perry ever did.

--Erie Times-News

Born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1950, frequent visits to the harbor seeded Walter Rybka's maritime interest. His parents took their four children to museums of all kinds, as well as to many national parks and historic sites, which encouraged an interest in history. His career has been divided between preservation of historic ships for museums and experiential education programs sailing historic vessel types. In command of the reconstructed U.S. brig Niagara since 1991, he

resides in Erie, Pennsylvania. He is married and has one daughter, who is now ten. He has a USCG license as master, auxiliary sail, 1,600 tons, oceans.

This book is amazing. The details and the superb writing makes this the best single book I found on the topic. It's concise, complete, and truly a classic. You will not find a better book on this topic of a long forgotten episode in American naval history. This is a true gem, and it's a book well worth your time.

Very interesting book about a little known war, talks about the politics of the time and other background information that really brings it alive. Short read but well worth it.

enjoyed what I thought was going to be a technical naval book but turned out to be an interesting book on the characters and events that occurred in 1813.

Good review of local history.

Very detailed but also very readable

While I admit I am somewhat prejudiced because I have sailed under Captain Rybka as a volunteer on the reconstructed Niagara, I found the book to be well written and full of little known facts about O.H. Perry and his conflicts with his superiors and those under his command prior to the actual Naval battle with the British. It gave me a somewhat different picture of Perry and the events leading up to the battle. The book gives a good overview of the War of 1812, causes, results etc. so it is not limited to Perry's campaign on Lake Erie. I've enjoyed hearing Captain Rybka's take on Perry and the battle and was able to gain even more knowledge about it by reading this book. Very well written and worth the price.

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