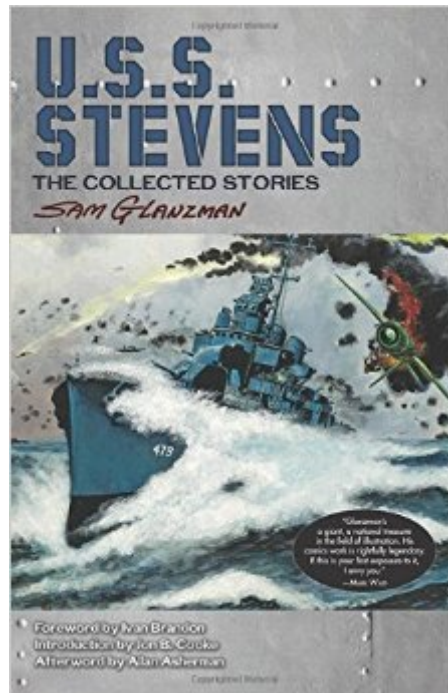


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# U.S.S. Stevens: The Collected Stories (Dover Graphic Novels)



## Synopsis

"USS Stevens is both an excellent graphic narrative and an important record of an American warship's service in the Pacific campaign of World War Two. It also serves as a fine tribute to the young sailors of the US Navy, who faced the forces of Imperial Japan in battle after battle, enduring countless hardships on the long journey to victory. Mr. Glanzman has my admiration, respect and profound gratitude." — Garth Ennis, Eisner Award-winning writer of *Preacher* and *The Punisher*, *Hellblazer*, *Judge Dredd*, and *Hitman*. Legendary Golden Age artist Sam Glanzman set many of his tales aboard the USS Stevens, the actual World War II destroyer on which he served. This full-color, hardcover treasury collects every single Stevens tale he ever published, more than 60 short adventures from *Our Army at War*, *G. I. Combat*, and other 1970s DC war comics as well as longer pieces from Marvel's 1986 revival of *Savage Tales* magazine and the more recent *Joe Kubert Presents*. Plus, this outstanding collection also includes the final, four-page story about the warship, newly written and illustrated by Glanzman himself.

**Exclusive Bonus Material:**

- New four-page U.S.S. Stevens story by Sam Glanzman
- Letters from President Barack Obama and President George H.W. Bush
- Extended footnotes and story annotations by Jon B. Cooke
- Sam Glanzman's *WAR DIARY #1* — "4" — First appearance of the U.S.S. Stevens in a comic book
- New Foreword by Ivan Brandon
- New Introduction by Jon B. Cooke
- New Afterword by Allan Asherman

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a kid growing up in the late '60's and early '70's, I devoured comic books with World War Two themes such as Our Army At War and Big G.I. Combat. Sam Glanzman's stories about his shipboard experiences on the U.S.S. Stevens always caught my eye. Both of my dad's older brothers had served in the U.S. Navy during the war (one aboard CVE-91 Makassar Strait and the other aboard AO-2 Maumee). They were just 17 years old when they enlisted in 1943 and 1944. Both came home alive and well, but their wartime histories weren't really accessible to me. What I couldn't learn from my uncles, I learned from Sam, and those comic books led the way to the public library where I could learn even more. His stories about the Stevens and her crew were the starting point of my fascination with U.S. naval history and paved the way for me to discover a wide range of biographies, accounts, analyses and studies of the greatest conflict our nation has ever endured. Glanzman offered me a life-long hobby and love of reading, for the give-away price of 25 cents per comic book. Glanzman's artistry and storytelling provided my young wondering self with a highly detailed account of a Navy sailor's life during wartime in the Pacific. On one hand, the Stevens stories are brilliantly illustrated with a keen eye to technical detail with lots of charts, maps and diagrams thrown in. It's like a history lesson about Fletcher-class destroyers during the war. On the other hand, Sam's stories are primarily about people. The ship and the war are the backdrop, but the human interest always takes center stage, as it should. There was just one problem with his U.S.S.

It's finally here. Sam Glanzman's U.S.S. Stevens stories were fan favorite backup stories in DC war comics of the 70's. They ran regularly in the titles "Our Army at War", "Our Fighting Forces", and "G.I. Combat" from about 1970 to 1974, then gradually tapered off as backup features. Fans appreciated, according to letters to the editor, Sam's technical drawing of the machines of war and the subject matter he chose to write about. This was during DC's Make War No More period, and Sam's stuff was a good fit for that. Humanistic stories, showing how lonely and torturous it was for these young guys, most away from home for the first time. There was a lot of humor too, showing the pranks they'd pull on each other and so on. And like Enemy Ace, stories often focused on pilots and sailors from Japan, on the futility of their fight late in the war. Sam seemed very interested in the idea of the kamikaze pilot and their struggle with this choice and the horrors it produced. I think I'm like a lot of people out there- I had a few, 10-20, comics from this time with Stevens stories in them, but longed for a definitive set. In the mid 80s we were treated to a few backups in Savage Tales, a magazine format war comic from Marvel. The of course came the groundbreaking work, a two-part graphic novel published by Marvel, not DC, called A Sailor's Life. Here, Sam wasn't tied down to

telling his stories in four page increments. And this story was all true (Stevens stories were occasionally punched up a little, stretching an anecdote into a whole four page piece), an illustrated diary of his life on DD 479. It was critically acclaimed, a huge hit with war comic fans, and gave a lot of superhero fans the first war story they ever wanted to read.

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