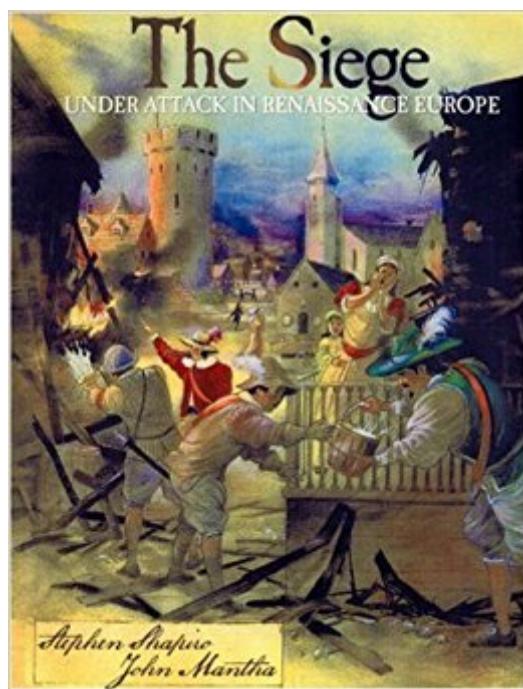


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# The Siege: Under Attack In Renaissance Europe



## **Synopsis**

Experience the dread and the triumph of a 16th-century siege. It's 1585 and the Netherlands is in revolt against the Spanish Empire. One Dutch town is all that stands between the Spanish army and its invasion of Holland. Prepare to experience a city under siege. A composite of several historic battles, *The Siege* takes readers inside the walls of a besieged community and also behind the battle lines with the attackers. Readers will march with the advancing army and learn the staggering logistics of keeping it fed. They'll join the townspeople in preparing the defense, even demolishing some of their own buildings to deter the enemy. And they'll witness the need for patience as much as power, since victory often depended on outlasting the enemy against disease and starvation. Brought to life through dramatic storytelling and vivid illustrations, and factually grounded with detailed diagrams, *The Siege* is a realistic look at Renaissance life during military strife.

## **Book Information**

Library Binding: 56 pages

Publisher: Annick Press; Library ed edition (August 17, 2007)

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #998,937 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Renaissance #526 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars

Age Range: 10 - 13 years

Grade Level: 5 - 12

## **Customer Reviews**

The reader is given a thorough description of the action on both sides as the battle progresses. Weaponry, artillery, battle plans, fortifications, uniforms, and much more are described.... There is not much written on military history of the Renaissance, and [this] depiction of a typical battle is excellent. The illustrations and short chapters will appeal to reluctant readers or to those looking for a manageable resource to add to their bibliographies. (Victoria Vogel VOYA) Experience the assault on a 16th century town from both inside the defenders' walls and behind the attackers' lines through

dramatic storytelling. Maps, diagrams and action-packed illustrations accompany the text. (The Canadian Children's Book Center Best Books for Kids & Teens 2008) Starred Selection (Canadian Children's Book Centre)

Stephen Shapiro is the critically acclaimed author of *Battle Stations! Fortifications Through the Ages*, *Ultra Hush-Hush: Espionage and Special Missions*, and *Hoodwinked: Deception and Resistance*. He is a lifelong aficionado of military history and lives in Columbus, Ohio. John Mantha is the award-winning illustrator of more than a dozen books, including *The Kids Book of Canadian History* and *The Kids Book of World Religions*. He lives in Toronto.

It is 1585 and the Protestant Dutch are in rebellion against their Catholic Spanish rulers. The Spanish King has sent an army north from Italy to crush the rebellion. An unfortunate Dutch town lies along the supply line of the advancing Spanish army and it must be taken before the Spanish can advance further into the Neatherlands. "The Siege" is a fictional account of that battle. Siege warfare in early Modern Europe is an obscure topic for a young adult book. Stepehn Shapiro does an excellent job of explaining the historical background of the Dutch revolt. Shapiro has a clear understanding of the strategy and tactics of siege warfare and does an admirable job of communicating those ideas to a young adult audience. This is a well written book and I recommend it highly. For those interested in the subject, check out Arturo Perez Reverte's "Sun Over Breda" which also covers the rigors of siege warfare during this same period.

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