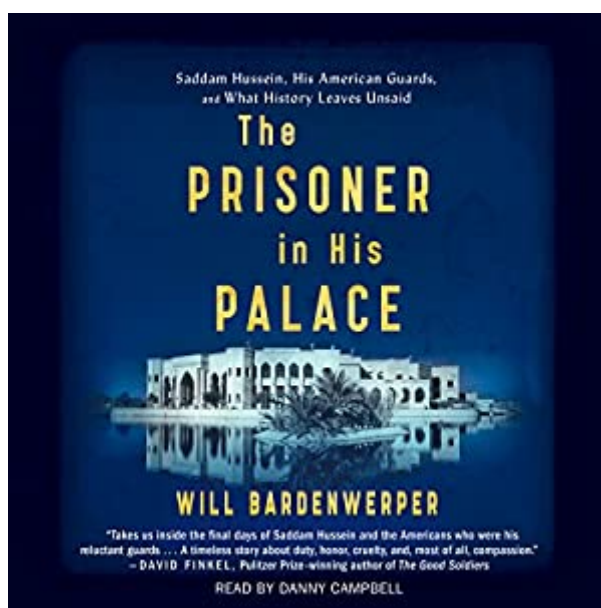


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# The Prisoner In His Palace: Saddam Hussein And The Twelve Americans Who Guarded Him



## Synopsis

A book that, in the haunting tradition of *In Cold Blood* and *The Executioner's Song*, lifts away the top layer of evil and finds complexity beneath, this is the bizarre tale of 12 young American soldiers who are deployed to Iraq in the summer of 2006. Rather than fight the enemy in combat, the men are unexpectedly assigned to guard the country's notorious leader - Saddam Hussein - in the months leading to his execution. Living alongside and caring for their "high-value detainee" in a former palace dubbed The Rock and regularly transporting him to his raucous trial, many of the men begin questioning some of their most basic assumptions. Thoroughly researched and provocative, *The Prisoner in His Palace* contrasts two very different Saddams: the defiant younger man who uses torture and murder as tools and the older man who proves affectionate, charming, and unexpectedly courageous in the face of looming death. In this artfully constructed narrative, Saddam, the "man without a conscience", manages to get everyone around him to examine theirs. Many of those who bid good-bye to Saddam will be forever changed by the experience, and we wonder if we ourselves will.

## Book Information

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Leaders & Notable People > Military > Afghan & Iraq Wars > Iraq War

## Customer Reviews

As an Iraqi American, I must say thank you very much for writing this book. Thank you for writing a historical account for the Iraqi people to know. I lived almost 20 years under his dictatorship. I never believed that one day Saddam would be dead in my lifetime and witness that day. I ate at the same dining facility that Super 12 took food to Saddam. I knew his linguist. I ran outside doing my cardio around the palace where Saddam was held as a prisoner. I use to always think about him inside his

own palace now and I am free American. profound feeling, now body would understand. After seeing what happened to Iraq, I said, I'm Sorry Saddam. I wrote a post on my blog titled, "I Am Sorry Saddam". Google it...and read what I wrote.

12 ordinary American soldiers are assigned to guard Saddam after his capture up until he is found guilty and hung for his crimes against humanity. Not a monster but a lonely old man is surprisingly what they find. This is the story of those soldiers & Saddam's imprisonment.

Great story about the relationship between Saddam and his American soldier guards. Thoughtful discussion of the former dictator and the conflicted emotions of his guards who came to know him more as a human being.

This book was pretty good. I think the characters of the twelve could have been more developed. More history on Sadam's rule would have been appreciated. Overall the book was well put together and it was an insightful read.

Interesting story but not compelling.

there is a hidden human in every monster , dictator and a tyrant

Very interesting book, written by an army ranger. I Would recommend this book to anyone.

Brilliant author who is able to draw you into each character in this humanistic account of history. Mr. Bardenwerper enables you to be directly engaged in the surroundings of this hostile environment that only some experienced through military service. Every aspect of life has many twists and the Prisoner in His Palace lets the reader view the events from the angle not presented through the news media. Even though you know the ending and horror that took place you become so involved in each character's thoughts and experiences. Incredible read.

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