



The Bridge: The Building of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge

Gay Talese

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Toward the end of 1964, the Verrazano Narrows Bridge-linking the New York City boroughs of Brooklyn and Staten Island with New Jersey-was completed. Fifty years later, it remains an engineering marvel. At 13,700 feet (more than two and a half miles), it is still the longest suspension bridge in the United States and the sixth longest in the world.

Gay Talese, then early in his career at the *New York Times*, closely followed the construction, and soon after the opening of this marvel of human ingenuity and engineering, he chronicled the human drama of its completion—from the construction workers high on the beams to the backroom dealing that displaced whole neighborhoods to make way for the bridge. Now in a new, beautifully packaged edition featuring dozens of breathtaking photos and architectural drawings, *The Bridge* remains both a riveting narrative of politics and courage and a demonstration of Talese's consummate skills as a reporter and storyteller. His memorable narrative will help celebrate the bridge's fiftieth anniversary and captivate a new generation of readers.

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