



# FALLOUT

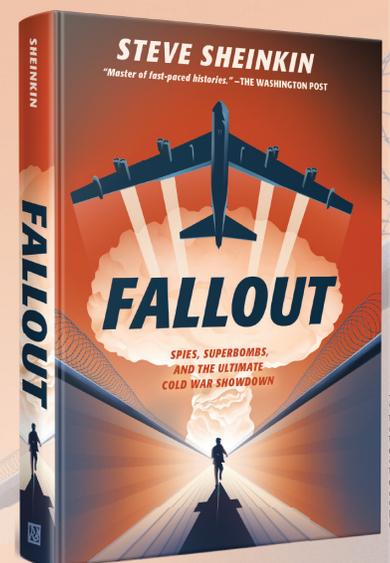
## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why was the period of time after World War II called the Cold War?
2. Despite being allies in World War II, the Soviet Union and the United States became embroiled in conflict after the war because of differences in political ideology. What is communism and why did the United States want to prevent its spread? What was the Iron Curtain and the Truman Doctrine?
3. Robert Oppenheimer, a physicist who led the team that successfully tested the world's first atomic bomb in 1945, argued against the creation of hydrogen bombs, saying that they are too destructive and too much of a threat to humanity. Edward Teller, a Jewish scientist who fled Germany during Hitler's reign, disagreed, insisting that evil like Hitler and Stalin must be confronted with strong firepower. Who do you think is correct and why? How have you seen the invention of nuclear weapons shape the world today?
4. What are radioactive atoms? Why are they so dangerous?
5. What was *Godzilla* a metaphor for? How did the movie capture the sentiments of Japanese people during this time and their perspective on nuclear weapons, and why do you think they felt this way?
6. What is prebreathing, and why do pilots have to do it before takeoff?
7. What was the Red Scare? What does the Russian proverb "fear has big eyes" mean?
8. What did Nikita Khrushchev mean when he said "America sleeps under a Soviet moon"? Why did he say this, and what is the significance of this statement? What role did the Space Race play in the Cold War?
9. When addressing the nation after the failed Paris summit on May 16, 1960, President Eisenhower warned that "in a nuclear war, there can be no victors—only losers." What did he mean by this?
10. Describe the Cuban missile crisis and its significance in the Cold War. How did it begin and how did it end?

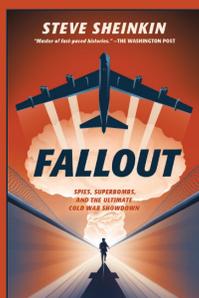
**About the Book:** *The New York Times* bestselling author Steve Sheinkin presents a follow-up to his award-winning book *Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*, taking readers on a terrifying journey into the Cold War and our mutually assured destruction.

As World War II comes to a close, the United States and the Soviet Union emerge as the two greatest world powers on extreme opposites of the political spectrum. After the United States showed its hand with the atomic bomb in Hiroshima, the Soviets refused to be left behind. With communism sweeping the globe, the two nations begin a neck-and-neck competition to build even more destructive bombs and conquer the Space Race. In their battle for dominance, spy planes fly above, armed submarines swim deep below, and undercover agents meet in the dead of night.

The Cold War game grows more precarious as the two nations have weapons pointed toward each other, fingers literally on the trigger. The decades-long showdown culminates in the Cuban missile crisis, the world's closest call with the third—and final—world war.



# PRAISE FOR STEVE SHEINKIN

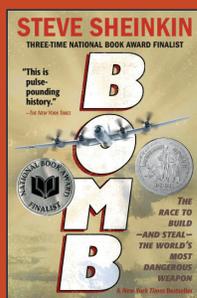


## FALLOUT:

★ “In this gripping account, Newbery Honor Book author and Sibert medalist Sheinkin offers an intense narrative that captures the terrifying tensions of the Cold War.” —*BOOKLIST*, STARRED REVIEW

★ “Sheinkin reprises his role as masterful, ever-so-wry storyteller, winking his audience into complicity in his critique of boneheaded brinksmanship.” —*THE BULLETIN OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN’S BOOKS*, STARRED REVIEW

★ “In tightly organized chapters adorned with historical photos, Sheinkin seamlessly weaves the stories of different players and includes meticulously well-researched details to personalize and humanize his subjects . . . A first purchase for all teen collections.” —*SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL*, STARRED REVIEW



## BOMB:

A NEWBERY HONOR BOOK

A NATIONAL BOOK AWARDS FINALIST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE’S LITERATURE

A WASHINGTON POST BEST KIDS BOOKS OF THE YEAR

★ “Reads like an international spy thriller, and that’s the beauty of it.” —*SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL*, STARRED REVIEW

★ “A must-read . . .” —*PUBLISHERS WEEKLY*, STARRED REVIEW

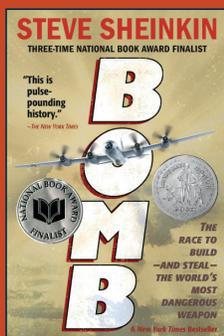
★ “A superb tale of an era and an effort that forever changed our world.” —*KIRKUS REVIEWS*, STARRED REVIEW

**STEVE SHEINKIN** is the acclaimed author of fast-paced, cinematic nonfiction histories for young readers, including *Born to Fly*, *Undeclared*, *Most Dangerous*, *The Port Chicago 50*, *Bomb*, and *The Notorious Benedict Arnold*. His accolades include a Newbery Honor, three Boston Globe–Horn Book Awards, a Sibert Medal, and three National Book Award finalist honors. Sheinkin lives in Saratoga Springs, New York, with his wife and two children.

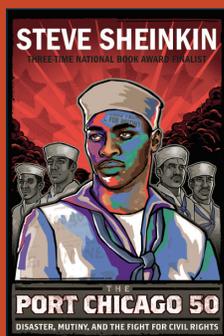


Erica Miller

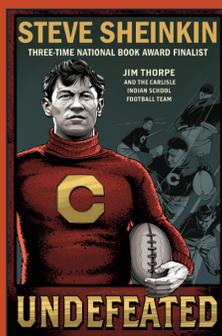
## ALSO BY STEVE SHEINKIN



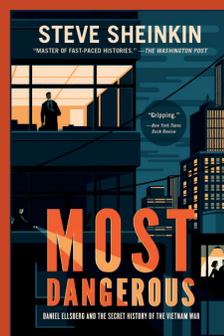
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