Signed on June 28, 1919, between Germany and the principal Allied powers, the Treaty of Versailles formally ended World War I. Problematic from the very beginning, the treaty was seen even by its contemporaries as a mediocre compromise, creating a precarious order in Europe and abroad and destined to fall short of ensuring lasting peace. The Treaty of Versailles: A Very Short Introduction explains the enormous challenges facing those who tried to put the world back together after the global destruction of World War I amid competing national interests. It analyzes the many subtle factors that influenced the treaty and shows how the treaty affected not only Europe, but also the rest of the world.