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The Long Road Home: A Story Of War And Family



Synopsis

SOON TO BE A NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MINISERIES EVENT ABC News
Chief & Global Affairs Correspondent Martha Raddatz shares remarkable tales of heroism, hope, and heartbreak in her account of “Black Sunday” a battle during one of the deadliest periods of the Iraq War. The First Cavalry Division came under surprise attack in Sadr City on Sunday April 4, 2004. Over 7,000 miles away, their families awaited the news for forty-eight hellish hours expecting the worst. In this powerful, unflinching account, Martha Raddatz takes readers from the streets of Baghdad to the home front and tells the story of that horrific day through the eyes of the courageous American men and women who lived it. “A masterpiece of literary nonfiction that rivals any war-related classic that has preceded it.” The Washington Post

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A very moving story about 2nd CAV from FT Hood TX. My son was there in 2005 deployment, Kuwait in 2012. He will be deployed again next year.

I read this book a few years ago. I started it around 9 in the evening and looked at the clock again at 3 am, disappointed that there was only one chapter left in the book. I have recommended this book to many people and have loaned out my copy many times, to not get it returned. Consequently, I've purchased this book four times. When trying to describe the emotions that this story evokes, I have simply not been able to come up with the words strong enough...it is gripping, heart-wrenching, horrifying, devastating, compelling and at times paralyzing. I not only cried, I sobbed through this book.

Have not yet read more than the introduction and a bit of the first chapter - the writing gives this old writer chills of envy as I wish I strung words together as well as she - and I've been at it longer than she has! For those who _enjoy_ reading about war - don't miss this book.

I bought this after seeing the author interviewed on The Jim Lehrer News Hour. I bought it because I was looking for another perspective to the war in Iraq. I was not disappointed. A tough read in terms of the stories told but an important one - perhaps more important than all the news grabs we get on the larger political crises and issues of the day. We sent these brave people over there to fight - this is one of the consequences, and this book is an opportunity for the rest of us as sometime members of the Coalition of the Willing to confront the results of those decisions taken apparently relatively easily by those who know they will not have to fight or sacrifice their loved ones to combat (that is my own personal view - not the author's). Oh, for the days where leaders of nations literally led their own troops into battle - they were just a little more picky about how often they went to war. I recommend reading this book as an important addition to the record.

Got it.

This takes the 30 second news clips we get and puts it into a different perspective. The people that fight for our country sacrifice a lot and deal with unreal circumstances and just keep on doing their job. I went to high school with Captain Troy Denomy and he was a great leader back then and reading the story of his leadership in a war time situation is inspiring. Thanks Troy and the others who serve our country.

I just finished this book and must say that it's as accurate a book can be on the subject without actually being in it for real. Some of the reviews have already complained that it's basically a re-write of "Black Hawk Down", I would very much have to disagree with these complaints. Coming from a soldier that was there, (with 2/5 Cav in Sadr City), this was no "Black Hawk Down". My one complaint would be that it only covers the first 24 hours of our conflict, not the 79 days that followed, or the other 60+ days after our short lived cease fire. Not to mention also the constant threat from incoming mortar fire which, by the time we had left in '05, left Camp War Eagle, according to the Pentagon, the 2nd most shelled camp in US military history. Other areas in Iraq received a great deal more coverage from the press than we did in Sadr City, but we weren't looking for any special recognition, we just wanted to do our jobs and return home to our families. It's nice that this book has come along as a validation of our year and done in such a way that will maybe help our families and friends understand just a part of what we went through and the memories that we will all have the rest of our lives. Martha Raddatz has done a very good job in capturing the personalities of the soldiers involved and I can only hope that this book becomes as big as "Black Hawk Down". Thank you Martha, the Black Knights of 2/5 Cav are grateful...

I was there, very good account. Sgt. Apple

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