

American Sniper The Autobiography Of The Most Lethal Sniper In U S Military History

Sometimes life leads us through painful and lonely territory. But what happens when you see challenge as an opportunity to discover your purpose—and change the world? Join Taya Kyle and thirty-five remarkable Americans on their extraordinary journeys from despair to lives of passion and service. After losing her husband, "American Sniper" Chris Kyle, bestselling author Taya Kyle entered a period of inconsolable grief. And yet this darkness has served as a catalyst for profound growth. Taya found her own reserve of strength with the help of the generous love and support of family and friends—and also many strangers across America, who selflessly shared their own stories of suffering, survival, and triumph. Inspired by her experience, Taya found her calling: spreading a message of how love, passion, and service can combine to help us persevere over personal pain and heal our communities. Working with trusted collaborator Jim DeFelice (coauthor of *American Sniper* and *American Wife*), Taya tells her own story, as well as those of other Americans who have built extraordinary lives after traveling down life's most difficult roads—through loss, illness, all manner of setback. They embody the "American spirit" of resilience, faith, togetherness that has built the nation. *American Spirit* profiles more than 30 individuals, young and old, rich and not-so-rich, famous and unknown, who have overcome hardship and done extraordinary things for their communities and for the nation at large. The 9/11 survivor, badly burned over 60% of his body, who asked himself What debt do I owe to God? And to my fellow human beings? What am I supposed to do with this miracle of survival? The man with the hole in his heart who runs ultramarathons. The young cancer victim whose lemonade stand inspired a revolutionary new model for fighting cancer. The blind cyclist; the pastor who became an undercover investigator, and more. In the end, these stories teach us how to find purpose and heal the world, no matter the difficulty. "Every action, big or small," Taya writes, "has the potential to spark someone else's movement."

The #1 New York Times bestselling coauthor of *American Sniper* brings the Pony Express to life in this rich and rollicking new history "One can hear horse hooves pounding across the prairie and sense the fear and courage and excitement." —Tom Clavin, author of *Dodge City* On the eve of the Civil War, three American businessmen launched an audacious plan to create a financial empire by transforming communications across the hostile territory between the nation's two coasts. In the process, they created one of the most enduring icons of the American West: the Pony Express. Daring young men with colorful names like "Bronco Charlie" and "Sawed-Off Jim" galloped at speed over a vast and unforgiving landscape, etching an irresistible tale that passed into myth almost instantly. Equally an improbable success and a business disaster, the Pony Express came and went in just eighteen months, but not before uniting and captivating a nation on the brink of being torn apart. Jim DeFelice's brilliantly entertaining *West Like Lightning* is the first major history of the Pony Express to put its birth, life, and legacy into the full context of the American story. The Central Overland California and Pikes Peak Express Company—or "Pony Express," as it came to be known—was part of a plan by William Russell, Alexander Majors, and William Waddell to create the next American Express, a transportation and financial juggernaut that already dominated commerce back east. All that stood in their way were almost two thousand miles of uninhabited desert, ice-capped mountains, oceanic plains roamed by Indian tribes, whitewater-choked rivers, and harsh, unsettled wilderness. The Pony used a relay system of courageous horseback riders to ferry mail halfway across a continent in just ten days. The challenges the riders faced were enormous, yet the Pony Express succeeded, delivering thousands of letters at record speed. The

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service instantly became the most direct means of communication between the eastern United States and its far western territories, helping to firmly connect them to the Union. Populated with cast of characters including Abraham Lincoln (news of whose electoral victory the Express delivered to California), Wild Bill Hickock, Buffalo Bill Cody (who fed the legend of the Express in his Wild West Show), and Mark Twain (who celebrated the riders in *Roughing It*), *West Like Lightning* masterfully traces the development of the Pony Express and follows it from its start in St. Joseph, Missouri—the edge of the civilized world—west to Sacramento, the capital of California, then booming from the gold rush. Jim DeFelice, who traveled the Pony's route in his research, plumbs the legends, myths, and surprising truth of the service, exploring its lasting relevance today as a symbol of American enterprise, audacity, and daring.

In June 2005 four US Navy SEALs left their base in Afghanistan for the Pakistani border. Their mission was to capture or kill a notorious al-Qaeda leader known to be ensconced in a Taliban stronghold surrounded by a small but heavily armed force. Less than twenty-four hours later, only one of those Navy SEALs was alive. This is the story of team leader Marcus Luttrell, the sole survivor of Operation Redwing. Blasted unconscious by a rocket grenade, blown over a cliff, but still armed and still breathing, Luttrell endured four desperate days fighting the al-Qaeda assassins sent to kill him, before finding unlikely sanctuary with a Pashtun tribe who risked everything to protect him from the circling Taliban killers.

Told through the eyes of current and former Navy SEALs, *EYES ON TARGET* is an inside account of some of the most harrowing missions in American history—including the mission to kill Osama bin Laden and the mission that wasn't, the deadly attack on the US diplomatic outpost in Benghazi where a retired SEAL sniper with a small team held off one hundred terrorists while his repeated radio calls for help went unheeded. The book contains incredible accounts of major SEAL operations—from the violent birth of SEAL Team Six and the aborted Operation Eagle Claw meant to save the hostages in Iran, to key missions in Iraq and Afghanistan where the SEALs suffered their worst losses in their fifty year history—and every chapter illustrates why this elite military special operations unit remains the most feared anti-terrorist force in the world. We hear reports on the record from retired SEAL officers including Lt. Cmdr. Richard Marcinko, the founder of SEAL Team Six, and a former Commander at SEAL team Six, Ryan Zinke, and we come away understanding the deep commitment of these military men who put themselves in danger to protect our country and save American lives. In the face of insurmountable odds and the imminent threat of death, they give all to protect those who cannot protect themselves. No matter the situation, on duty or at ease, SEALs never, ever give up. One powerful chapter in the book tells the story of how one Medal of Honor winner saved another, the only time this has been done in US military history. *EYES ON TARGET* includes these special features: A detailed timeline of events during the Benghazi attack Sample rescue scenarios from a military expert who believes that help could have reached the Benghazi compound in time The US House Republican Conference Interim Progress Report on the events surrounding the September 11, 2012 Terrorist Attacks in Benghazi Through their many interviews and unique access, Scott McEwen and Richard Miniter pull back the veil that has so often concealed the heroism of these patriots. They live by a stringent and demanding code of their own creation, keeping them ready to ignore politics, bureaucracy and—if necessary—direct orders. They share a unique combination of character, intelligence, courage, love of country and what can only be called true grit. They are the Navy SEALs, and they keep their Eyes on Target.

In recent years, the world has learned just what is required to bravely serve America through the navy's most elite SEAL Team. Now, for the first time, we hear from their commander. For more than half a decade, Ryan Zinke was a commander at the most elite SEAL unit. A 23-year veteran of the US Navy SEALs, Zinke is a decorated officer and earned two Bronze Stars as the acting commander of Joint Special Forces in

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Iraq. Zinke trained and commanded many of the men who would one day run the covert operations to hunt down Osama bin Laden and save Captain Phillips (Maersk Alabama). He also served as mentor to now famous SEALs Marcus Luttrell (Lone Survivor) and Chris Kyle (American Sniper). Written with #1 New York Times bestselling co-author of American Sniper, Scott McEwen, American Commander will offer readers the hard-hitting, no-nonsense style the SEALs are known for. When Zinke signs with the US Navy he turns his sights on joining the ranks of the most elite fighting force, the SEALs. He eventually reaches the top of the SEAL Teams as an assault team commander. Zinke shares what it takes to train and motivate the most celebrated group of warriors on earth and then send them into harm's way. Through it, he shares his proven problem-solving approach: Situation, Mission, Execution, Command and Control, and Logistics. American Commander also covers Zinke's experience in running for Montana's sole seat in the United States Congress. Zinke's passion for his country shines as he conveys his vision to revitalize American exceptionalism. Scott McEwen and Ryan Zinke take readers behind the scenes and into the heart of America's most-feared fighting force. American Commander will inspire a new generation of leaders charged with restoring a bright future for our children's children.

The #1 New York Times bestselling memoir of U.S. Navy Seal Chris Kyle, and the source for Clint Eastwood's blockbuster movie which was nominated for six academy awards, including best picture. From 1999 to 2009, U.S. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle recorded the most career sniper kills in United States military history. His fellow American warriors, whom he protected with deadly precision from rooftops and stealth positions during the Iraq War, called him "The Legend"; meanwhile, the enemy feared him so much they named him al-Shaitan ("the devil") and placed a bounty on his head. Kyle, who was tragically killed in 2013, writes honestly about the pain of war—including the deaths of two close SEAL teammates—and in moving first-person passages throughout, his wife, Taya, speaks openly about the strains of war on their family, as well as on Chris. Gripping and unforgettable, Kyle's masterful account of his extraordinary battlefield experiences ranks as one of the great war memoirs of all time.

Preorder REAPER: GHOST TARGET now, Nick Irving's debut thriller that Brad Thor calls "one hell of a read"! The Instant New York Times Bestseller by Co-Star of Fox's American Grit and Legendary Ranger Nick Irving Groundbreaking, thrilling and revealing, The Reaper is the astonishing memoir of Special Operations Direct Action Sniper Nicholas Irving, the 3rd Ranger Battalion's deadliest sniper with 33 confirmed kills, though his remarkable career total, including probables, is unknown. Irving shares the true story of his extraordinary military career, including his deployment to Afghanistan in the summer of 2009, when he set another record, this time for enemy kills on a single deployment. His teammates and chain of command labeled him "The Reaper," and his actions on the battlefield became the stuff of legend, culminating in an extraordinary face-off against an enemy sniper known simply as The Chechnian. Irving's astonishing first-person account of his development into an expert assassin offers a fascinating and extremely rare view of special operations combat missions through the eyes of a Ranger sniper during the Global War on Terrorism. From the brotherhood and sacrifice of teammates in battle to the cold reality of taking a life to protect another, no other book dives so deep inside the life of an Army sniper on point.

The First In-Depth Biography of America's Last Five-Star General He was known as "the G.I. General"—humble, self-effacing, hard-working, reflecting the small-town virtues of the America whose uniform he wore. But those very virtues have led historians to neglect General Omar Bradley—until now. Bestselling author Jim DeFelice, in this, the first-ever in-depth biography of America's last five-star general, tells Bradley's full story, and argues that the neglected G.I. General did more than any other to defeat Hitler in World War II. While General George S. Patton has garnered much of the glory, General Dwight David Eisenhower has claimed much of the world's respect, and British

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General Bernard Montgomery has kept the Union Jack flying, as DeFelice proves, it was the unassuming Bradley who actually developed the strategy and the tactics that won the war in Europe. Meticulously researched, using previously untapped documents and unpublished diaries and notes, Omar Bradley: General at War reveals: Why Bradley, not Patton, deserves most of the credit for America's victories in North Africa How Bradley—first Patton's subordinate, then his superior—was one of Patton's great defenders, while also recognizing his weaknesses, and tried to cover up the infamous slapping incident How Eisenhower panicked—when Bradley didn't—during the early stages of the Battle of the Bulge, delaying an American counterattack that could have saved thousands of lives Why Bradley was a radical innovator in the use of combined air, armor, and infantry power How Bradley, contrary to those who like to portray him as a staid counterpart to Patton, was one of the most ardent practitioners of fast-moving offensives Why Bradley expected the Germans might use radiological weapons at Normandy Provocative, thorough, original, Jim DeFelice's Omar Bradley: General at War deserves a place on the shelf of every reader of World War II history.

Nancy Wake, nicknamed 'the white mouse' for her ability to evade capture, tells her own story. As the Gestapo's most wanted person, and one of the most highly decorated servicewomen of the war, it's a story worth telling. After living and working in Paris in the 1930's, Nancy married a wealthy Frenchman and settled in Marseilles. Her idyllic new life was ended by World War II and the invasion of France. Her life shattered, Nancy joined the French resistance and, later, began work with an escape-route network for allied soldiers. Eventually Nancy had to escape from France herself to avoid capture by the Gestapo. In London she trained with the Special Operations Executive as a secret agent and saboteur before parachuting back into France. Nancy became a leading figure in the Maquis of the Auvergne district, in charge of finance and obtaining arms, and helped to forge the Maquis into a superb fighting force. During her lifetime, Nancy Wake was hailed as a legend. Her autobiography recounts her extraordinary wartime experiences in her own words.

What does it take to be a good father at home and a good sniper killer abroad? Was Chris Kyle an American hero or a stone cold killer? He was known as the most lethal American Sniper in the US Military History, because he have killed more than 150 people caused threat to the US soldiers in the Iraq war. There was a bounty reward from \$20,000 to \$80,000 for his head in Iraq, as every sniper kill was associated with him, whether that was true or not. Many Iraq mercenaries wanted his head. Many speculate that Chris Kyle was a cold killer, because he was very good at it, from killing women with toddlers to military aged men. It was documented that all the Kyle's kills were terrorists or people who posed a threat to the US marines in Iraq. Otherwise he would have been prosecuted and in jail. For others, Chris Kyle was a true American hero, protecting the American values and way of life, inspiring many of the US soldiers in service for years to come. Most of the people in the United States are very soft and live in a dream world. They have no idea of what's going on at the other side of the world, the harsh environment Iraqis have been doing to themselves. Chris Kyle

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knew that distinction very well as he was serving in Iraq for four deployments. When you read this book, you'll know exactly who Chris Kyle was, what he believed in, what he stood for. You'll also learn Chris Kyle's relationship with his wife Taya Kyle as she struggled while he was serving his country in Iraq. All the drama, conflicts and family issues will be revealed. This book is about Chris Kyle's legacy! Grab your copy now!

The sniper is a battlefield threat second to none. Mastering the art of marksmanship is critical but is only part of what makes a Navy SEAL sniper. Snipers must be able to apply the craft in an urban environment or alone on a hostile mountain top with equal effectiveness. Today's sniper must not just leverage technological advances but also have the foreknowledge to select the best rifle and gear for the mission. Increasingly, he must have the mental toughness to adapt to a constantly changing environment, gather intelligence, and truly act as a force multiplier. In this comprehensive look through the eyes of former Navy SEAL sniper instructor Brandon Webb and fellow Navy SEAL snipers Chris Kyle and Glen Doherty, the authors reveal not just the fundamentals of marksmanship but also the science of shooting, stalking, and camouflage and how technological advances have changed the training and increased the effectiveness of the modern sniper. Including maritime, helicopter, and urban sniper operations, this updated edition also goes into detail on the latest research, development, testing, and evaluation of weapons and optics. From the basics like compensating for wind and bullet drop, to camouflage and placing yourself or your team in the best position to take a photo or pull a trigger, Webb and Doherty cover the critical elements that comprise the twenty-first century sniper.

NOW A BLOCKBUSTER MOTION PICTURE DIRECTED BY CLINT EASTWOOD—NOMINATED FOR SIX ACADEMY AWARDS, INCLUDING BEST PICTURE This special enhanced edition features more than 10 exclusive videos with Chris Kyle and an additional 15 images and descriptions of the weapons used by the armed forces in their fight against terrorism overseas. From 1999 to 2009, U.S. Navy Seal Chris Kyle recorded the most career sniper kills in United States military history. His fellow American warriors, whom he protected with deadly precision from rooftops and stealth positions during the Iraq War, called him "The Legend"; meanwhile, the enemy feared him so much they named him al-Shaitan ("the devil") and placed a bounty on his head. Kyle, who was tragically killed in 2013, writes honestly about the pain of war—including the deaths of two close SEAL teammates—and in moving first-person passages throughout, his wife, Taya, speaks openly about the strains of war on their family, as well as on Chris. Gripping and unforgettable, Kyle's masterful account of his extraordinary battlefield experiences ranks as one of the great war memoirs of all time. Please note that due to the large file size of these special features this enhanced e-book may take longer to download than a standard e-book.

When Chechen terrorists smuggle a Cold War-era bomb across the Mexican-American border, the Special Ops Black

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unit under Gil Shannon is reactivated in a race against time to prevent a nuclear disaster. By the best-selling co-author of American Sniper.

Trivia-on-Book: American Sniper: An Autobiography by Chris Kyle Take the challenge yourself and share it with friends and family for a time of fun! Kyle's longest successful recorded shot was made from two thousand, one hundred yards (or one thousand, nine hundred and twenty meters) away outside of Sadr City. He had spotted an insurgent who was about to throw a grenade at a U.S. convoy. Kyle fired a single shot using a sniper rifle and successfully hit the man, killing him before he could cause any harm. Sadr City was the last place Kyle was deployed, and this was where he saw the worst fighting. You may have read the book, but not have liked it. You may have liked the book, but not be a fan. You may call yourself a fan, but few truly are. Are you a fan? Trivia-on-Books is an independently curated trivia quiz on the book for readers, students, and fans alike. Whether you're looking for new materials to the book or would like to take the challenge yourself and share it with your friends and family for a time of fun, Trivia-on-Books provides a unique approach to American Sniper by Chris Kyle that is both insightful and educational! Features You'll Find Inside: • 30 Multiple choice questions on the book, plots, characters and author • Insightful commentary to answer every question • Complementary quiz material for yourself or your reading group • Results provided with scores to determine "status" Promising quality and value, come play your trivia of a favorite book!

This riveting, never-before-told story of the rise and fall of Blackwater, the world's most controversial military contractor, debunks myths that have been spread by TV shows and movies and honors our armed forces while challenging the Pentagon's top leadership.

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Explains how the U.S. Navy SEALs tracked down and defeated the terrorist, Osama bin Laden.

Decorated Navy SEAL, successful businessman and world-renowned speaker Brent Gleeson shares his revolutionary approach to navigating and leading change in the workplace—with a foreword by #1 New York Times bestselling author Mark Owen. Inspired by his time as a Navy SEAL and building award-winning organizations in the business world, Brent Gleeson has created a powerful roadmap for today's existing and emerging business leaders and managers to improve their ability to successfully navigate organizational change. Over the past ten years since leaving the SEAL Teams, Gleeson has become a well-respected thought leader and expert in business transformation. He has spoken to and consulted with hundreds of organizations across the globe and inspired thousands of business leaders through his highly insightful philosophies on leadership, culture and building high-performance teams that achieve winning results. In TakingPoint, Gleeson shares his ten-step program that he has implemented in his own companies and for his high-profile clients—giving leaders and managers actionable insights and a framework for successful execution. TakingPoint brilliantly captures the structures, behaviors and mindsets required to build successful twenty-first century organizations. With a strong emphasis on communication, culture, engagement, accountability, trust, and resiliency,

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Gleeson's methods have helped hundreds of companies around the world transform the way they think about change, and can help yours do the same. For the last five years, Gleeson has shared his philosophies through his weekly columns on Forbes and Inc. And now, for the first time ever, they are captured in this entertaining and highly prescriptive book. Steps include: -Culture: The Single Most Important Enabler -Trust: Fueling the Change Engine -Accountability: Ownership at All Levels -Mindset: Belief in the Mission -Preparation: Gathering Intelligence and Planning the Mission -Transmission: Communicating the Vision -Inclusion: The Power of Participation and Acceptance -Fatigue: Managing Fear and Staying Energized -Discipline: Focus and Follow-Through -Resiliency: The Path of Lasting Change Never has change been more consistent and disruptive as it is now. Business leaders and managers at all levels can't just react to change. They have to lead change. They have to take point.

The widow of "American Sniper" Chris Kyle shares their private story: an unforgettable testament to the power of love and faith in the face of war and unimaginable loss--and a moving tribute to a man whose true heroism ran even deeper than the legend In early 2013, Taya Kyle and her husband Chris were the happiest they ever had been. Their decade-long marriage had survived years of war that took Chris, a U.S. Navy SEAL, away from Taya and their two children for agonizingly long stretches while he put his life on the line in many major battles of the Iraq War. After struggling to readjust to life out of the military, Chris had found new purpose in redirecting his lifelong dedication to service to supporting veterans and their families. Their love had deepened, and, most special of all, their family was whole, finally. Then, the unthinkable. On February 2, 2013, Chris and his friend Chad Littlefield were killed while attempting to help a troubled vet. The life Chris and Taya fought so hard to build together was shattered. In an instant, Taya became a single parent of two. A widow. A young woman facing the rest of her life without the man she loved. Chris and Taya's remarkable story has captivated millions through Clint Eastwood's blockbuster, Academy Award-winning film American Sniper, starring Bradley Cooper as Chris and Sienna Miller as Taya, and because of Chris's bestselling memoir, in which Taya contributed passages that formed the book's emotional core. Now, with trusted collaborator Jim DeFelice, Taya writes in never-before-told detail about the hours, days, and months after his shocking death when grief threatened to overwhelm her. Then there were wearying battles to protect her husband's legacy and reputation. And yet throughout, friendship, family, and a deepening faith were lifelines that sustained her and the kids when the sorrow became too much. Two years after her husband's tragic death, Taya has found renewed meaning and connection to Chris by advancing their shared mission of "serving those who serve others," particularly military and first-responder families. She and the children now are embracing a new future, one that honors the past but also looks forward with hope, gratitude, and joy. American Wife is one of the most remarkable memoirs of the year -- a universal chronicle of love and heartbreak, service and sacrifice, faith and purpose that will inspire every reader.

Chronicles the life of Navy SEAL Team Six operator Adam Brown, a man whose heroism and devotion still stand as a beacon to his friends and family, even after his death in the Afghan Hindu Kush mountains in 2010.

From the coauthor of the #1 New York Times bestseller American Sniper—the critically acclaimed memoir of SEAL sniper Chris Kyle—this "inspired by true events" thriller follows one of America's most lethal marksmen as he leads the rescue of a downed female Special Ops pilot. ONE TEAM. ONE SHOT. ONE WAY. In direct defiance of the president's orders, Navy Master Chief Gil Shannon, one of America's most lethal SEAL snipers, launches his own bold mission comprised of SEAL Team Six and Delta Force fighters to free a female helicopter pilot being held and brutally mistreated by Taliban insurgents in Afghanistan. The president fears a botched rescue would be a foreign policy disaster—and the end of his term. But once the special ops community learns that one of their own has been taken hostage, there is no

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executive order strong enough to stop them from going in—whatever the risks.

The New York Times best selling book that takes you inside SEAL Team Six – the covert squad that killed Osama Bin Laden SEAL Team Six is a secret unit tasked with counterterrorism, hostage rescue, and counterinsurgency. In this dramatic, behind-the-scenes chronicle, Howard Wasdin takes readers deep inside the world of Navy SEALs and Special Forces snipers, beginning with the grueling selection process of Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL (BUD/S)—the toughest and longest military training in the world. After graduating, Wasdin faced new challenges. First there was combat in Operation Desert Storm as a member of SEAL Team Two. Then the Green Course: the selection process to join the legendary SEAL Team Six, with a curriculum that included practiced land warfare to unarmed combat. More than learning how to pick a lock, they learned how to blow the door off its hinges. Finally as a member of SEAL Team Six he graduated from the most storied and challenging sniper program in the country: The Marine's Scout Sniper School. Eventually, of the 18 snipers in SEAL Team Six, Wasdin became the best—which meant one of the best snipers on the planet. Less than half a year after sniper school, he was fighting for his life. The mission: capture or kill Somalian warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid. From rooftops, helicopters and alleys, Wasdin hunted Aidid and killed his men whenever possible. But everything went quickly to hell when his small band of soldiers found themselves fighting for their lives, cut off from help, and desperately trying to rescue downed comrades during a routine mission. The Battle of Mogadishu, as it became known, left 18 American soldiers dead and 73 wounded. Howard Wasdin had both of his legs nearly blown off while engaging the enemy. His dramatic combat tales combined with inside details of becoming one of the world's deadliest snipers make this one of the most explosive military memoirs in years.

Chris Kyle est le sniper le plus redoutable de toute l'histoire militaire américaine. Surnommé « Al-Shaitan » (le Diable) par ceux qu'il traquait et « la Légende » par ses frères d'armes des Navy SEALs, il est crédité de 255 ennemis tués. Déployé à quatre reprises en Irak dans le cadre de l'opération Iraqi Freedom, il a été engagé dans les combats urbains les plus terribles du conflit : Fallouja, Ramadi ou encore Sadr City. Progressant au cœur des fournaises insurgées, investissant les maisons en tête des groupes d'assaut, protégeant ses camarades depuis son poste de tir, pris pour cible par les insurgés qui mirent sa tête à prix, Chris Kyle a été de toutes les batailles. Témoin des atrocités de la guerre et de la malveillance d'un ennemi fanatique, il livre un récit brut et dévoile au grand public son quotidien de SEAL et de sniper, mais aussi les conséquences de celui-ci sur sa vie personnelle.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a summary of the book and NOT the original book. American Sniper by Chris Kyle - A 20-minute Summary Inside this Instaread Summary: • Overview of the entire book • Introduction to the important people in the book • Summary and analysis of all the chapters in the book • Key Takeaways of the book • A Reader's Perspective Preview of this summary: Chapter 1 Kyle grew up in central Texas. He loved to hunt and ride horses and would have been a cowboy if he had not become a member of the Navy Sea, Air, Land Teams (SEAL). He had a lot of fun hunting with his mom, dad, and brother as a child. His dad and brother were his best friends growing up. Kyle learned true patience by learning to break a horse. He got involved in rodeo competitions to quench his thirst for being a cowboy. In 1992, he graduated and went to Tarleton State University with aspirations to join the military afterward. An accident in his freshman year ended his rodeo career when he had to have pins put in his wrist. He became a ranch hand for a man named David Landrum while he was still a student. Landrum's strict expectations made Kyle want to prove himself. Kyle believes this prepared him to become a Navy SEAL. Kyle decided to quit school and join the military. He learned about the SEALs and wanted to become one. He investigated the opportunity further and learned that there was no guarantee he would become a SEAL if he joined the Navy. He would need to earn the privilege. Kyle went

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through the application process, but the Navy disqualified him because of the pins in his wrist. He felt his military career had ended before it began. He went back to work for Landrum and hoped to become a rancher. Shortly afterward, a recruiter called and asked if he was still interested in becoming a SEAL.

Now a major motion picture From 1999 to 2009, U.S. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle recorded the most career sniper kills in United States military history. His fellow American warriors, whom he protected with deadly accuracy from rooftops and stealth positions during the Iraqi War, called him "The Legend"; meanwhile the enemy feared him so much they placed a bounty on his head. Gripping and unforgettable, Kyle's masterful account of his extraordinary battlefield experiences ranks as one of the great war memoirs of all time. Includes new material by Taya Kyle From a universally respected combat journalist, a gripping history based on five years of front-line reporting about how the war was turned around—and the choice now facing America. In the course of 14 extended trips over five years, West embedded with more than 60 front-line units, discussing strategy with generals and tactics with corporals. He provides an expert's account of counterinsurgency, disposing of myths. By describing the characters and combat in city after city, West gives the reader an in-depth understanding that will inform the debate about the war. This is the definitive study of how American soldiers actually fought--a gripping and visceral book that changes the way we think about the war, and essential reading for understanding the next critical steps to be taken.

Chris Kyle—fallen hero and #1 bestselling author of American Sniper—reveals how ten legendary guns forever changed U.S. history. At the time of his tragic death in February 2013, former Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, the top sniper in U.S. military history, was finishing one of the most exciting missions of his life: a remarkable book that retold American history through the lens of a hand-selected list of firearms. Kyle masterfully shows how guns have played a fascinating, indispensable, and often underappreciated role in our national story. "Perhaps more than any other nation in the world," Kyle writes, "the history of the United States has been shaped by the gun. Firearms secured the first Europeans' hold on the continent, opened the frontier, helped win our independence, settled the West, kept law and order, and defeated tyranny across the world." Drawing on his unmatched firearms knowledge and combat experience, Kyle carefully chose ten guns to help tell his story: the American long rifle, Spencer repeater, Colt .45 revolver, Winchester rifle, Springfield 1903 rifle, Thompson sub-machine gun, 1911 pistol, M1 Garand, .38 Special police revolver, and the M-16 rifle platform Kyle himself used as a SEAL. Through them, he revisits thrilling turning points in American history, including the single sniper shot that turned the tide of the Revolutionary War, the firearms designs that proved decisive at Gettysburg, the "gun that won the West," and the weapons that gave U.S. soldiers an edge in the world wars and beyond. This is also the story of how firearms innovation, creativity, and industrial genius has constantly pushed American history—and power—forward. Filled with an unforgettable cast of characters, Chris Kyle's American Gun is a sweeping epic of bravery, adventure, invention, and sacrifice.

A member of Navy SEAL Team 3 describes his life as a father, husband and as the serviceman with the most confirmed sniper kills in the history of the United States military while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

New York Times bestseller The life story of Chris Kyle, the American Sniper Journalist Michael J. Mooney reveals the life story of Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, the American Sniper, from his Texas childhood up through his death in February 2013. A brutal warrior but a gentle father and husband, Kyle led the life of an American hero and legend. His heroism and reputation in the military service earned him the nickname "the devil" among insurgents and the nickname The Legend among his SEAL brethren, but his impact extended beyond that after he came home, through his work with fellow veterans. Mooney also sheds light on the life of the suffering fellow veteran who killed Kyle and interviews those

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closest to the late SEAL. The Life and Legend of Chris Kyle is an honest portrayal of the life of a man whose memorial service brought thousands of people to Cowboys Stadium--the most celebrated war hero of our time. [86 pages]

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • “This is one of those books that will go down as the seminal work—the determinative work—in this field. . . Terrifying.”—Rachel Maddow The first definitive account of the rise and fall of the Secret Service, from the Kennedy assassination to the alarming mismanagement of the Obama and Trump years, right up to the insurrection at the Capitol on January 6—by the Pulitzer Prize winner and #1 New York Times bestselling co-author of *A Very Stable Genius* and *I Alone Can Fix It* Carol Leonnig has been reporting on the Secret Service for *The Washington Post* for most of the last decade, bringing to light the secrets, scandals, and shortcomings that plague the agency today—from a toxic work culture to dangerously outdated equipment to the deep resentment within the ranks at key agency leaders, who put protecting the agency’s once-hallowed image before fixing its flaws. But the Secret Service wasn’t always so troubled. The Secret Service was born in 1865, in the wake of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, but its story begins in earnest in 1963, with the death of John F. Kennedy. Shocked into reform by its failure to protect the president on that fateful day in Dallas, this once-sleepy agency was radically transformed into an elite, highly trained unit that would redeem itself several times, most famously in 1981 by thwarting an assassination attempt against Ronald Reagan. But this reputation for courage and excellence would not last forever. By Barack Obama’s presidency, the once-proud Secret Service was running on fumes and beset by mistakes and alarming lapses in judgment: break-ins at the White House, an armed gunman firing into the windows of the residence while confused agents stood by, and a massive prostitution scandal among agents in Cartagena, to name just a few. With Donald Trump’s arrival, a series of promised reforms were cast aside, as a president disdainful of public service instead abused the Secret Service to rack up political and personal gains. To explore these problems in the ranks, Leonnig interviewed dozens of current and former agents, government officials, and whistleblowers who put their jobs on the line to speak out about a hobbled agency that’s in desperate need of reform. “I will be forever grateful to them for risking their careers,” she writes, “not because they wanted to share tantalizing gossip about presidents and their families, but because they know that the Service is broken and needs fixing. By telling their story, they hope to revive the Service they love.”

This biography examines the life of Chris Kyle using easy-to-read, compelling text. Through striking historical and contemporary images and photographs and informative sidebars, readers will learn about Kyle's family background, childhood, education, service in the US Navy SEALs, and his time as a sniper. Informative sidebars enhance and support the text. Features include a table of contents, timeline, facts page, glossary, bibliography, and an index. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. Essential Library is an imprint of Abdo Publishing, a division of ABDO.

On a moonless night just weeks after September 11, 2001, a U.S. Special Forces team of Green Berets known as ODA 574 infiltrated the mountains of southern Afghanistan with a seemingly impossible mission: to foment a tribal revolt and force the Taliban to surrender. Armed solely with the equipment they could carry on their backs, shockingly scant intelligence, and their mastery of guerrilla warfare, Captain Jason Amerine and his ten men had no choice but to trust their only ally, a little-known Pashtun statesman named Hamid Karzai. Having returned from exile, Karzai—on the run from the Taliban—was traveling the countryside to raise a militia. *The Only Thing Worth Dying For* chronicles the most important mission in the early days of the Global War on Terror, when the men on the ground knew little about the enemy—and their commanders in Washington knew even less. With unprecedented access to surviving members of ODA 574, key war planners, and Karzai himself, award-winning author Eric Blehm cuts through the noise of politicians and high-level military officials to narrate for the first time a

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story of uncommon bravery and terrible sacrifice, intimately exposing the realities of unconventional warfare and nation-building in Afghanistan that continue to shape the region today.

Organized in question-and-answer format, this book collects hundreds of Vietnam era facts about; the politics; the places; the war on land, sea, and air; the protests; and other details that characterized the Vietnam War years

Navy SEAL sniper Gil Shannon comes face-to-face with his most dangerous adversary yet in the breathtakingly cinematic new Sniper Elite military thriller from the coauthor of the #1 New York Times bestseller American Sniper—the critically acclaimed memoir of Chris Kyle that inspired the Academy Award-winning film. Hot on the trail of a high-profile target, Navy SEAL sniper Gil Shannon turns from hunter to hunted when he finds himself in the crosshairs of Chechen terrorist “The Wolf.” Stranded in Paris, Shannon must team up with an unlikely ally—a deadly Russian special operative—to help even the odds. When they discover that “The Wolf” is just one of many sinister players in a global terrorist plot bent on thrusting the US economy into total chaos and upending the stability of the Western world, Shannon and his team race to track down the terrorists before they can execute their horrific plan. In a white-knuckle adventure across Europe and the Caucasus, Shannon goes head-to-head with legions of enemy fighters, but his ultimate showdown is against the one sniper who may be his equal shot. Who will survive?

In this unforgettable memoir, the Navy SEALs’ most trusted translator—a man who is credited with saving countless American lives and became a legend in the special-ops community—tells his inspiring story for the first time. As the insurgency in Iraq intensified following the American invasion, U.S. Navy SEALs were called upon to root terrorists from their lairs. Unsure of the local neighborhoods and unable to speak the local languages, they came to rely on one man to guide them and watch their backs. He was a “terp”—an interpreter—with a job so dangerous they couldn’t even use his real name. They named him Johnny Walker. They soon called him brother. Over the course of eight years, the Iraqi native traveled around the country with nearly every SEAL and special operations unit deployed there. He went on thousands of missions, saved dozens of SEAL and other American lives, and risked his own daily. Helped to the U.S. by the SEALs he protected, Johnny Walker’s life is so remarkable that his tale reads like fiction. But every word of it is true. For the first time ever, a “terp” tells what it was like in Iraq during the American invasion and the brutal insurgency that followed. With inside details on SEAL operations and a humane understanding of the tragic price paid by ordinary Iraqis, Code Name: Johnny Walker reveals a side of the war that has never been told before.

Chad Littlefield riding in the passenger seat gets a text from Chris Kyle saying, This dude is straight up nuts Watch my six. A police officer pulled up to the house. The officer told Taya, Chris has been hurt. Have you seen Chris truck? Taya called her mother and told her something was wrong. American soldier and patriot Chris Kyle died unexpectedly on home soil at the top of his game with all the glory and medals one man could ever imagine. Suddenly, a wife was left without a husband and children without a father. The trial of his alleged killer, Eddie Ray Routh, was soon to begin when Robert Blevins felt a need to be present at the legal proceedings. Blevins had followed the tragic case from the beginning, but something in his gut told him he had to attend the trial. He traveled to Stephenville, Texas, and became witness to what would be a judicial process wrought with emotional upheaval and anger. He witnessed families experience the pain of losing a child as well as watching a child go to prison. Not immune to the emotions around him, Blevins, too, descended into despair at the loss of Chris Kyle. To Blevins, there are not enough men like Kyle brave soldiers who fight for our freedom.

They are the lone wolves of the battlefield. Tracking the enemy, lying in wait for the target to appear -- then they shoot to kill. Armed with an

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unerring eye, infinite patience and a mastery of camouflage, combat snipers stalk the enemy with only one goal... In World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Beirut, American snipers honed the art of delivering a single deadly shot from nowhere -- and devastating enemy morale. They met the enemy on his own turf, picking off officers, unwary soldiers, and even other snipers from extraordinary distances of up to 1 ½ miles. Now, these uncommon men tell their stories: of the emotions felt when a man's face came into their crosshairs and they pulled the trigger, of the nerve-wracking hours and days of waiting, motionless, for the enemy, of the primal savagery of a sniper duel. Often trained haphazardly in wartime, and forgotten in times of peace, combat snipers were officially recognized after the Vietnam War, when the Marine Corps became the first military branch to start a full-time sniper school. One Shot-One Kill is their powerful record of desperate trials and proud victories. A MAIN SELECTION OF THE MILITARY BOOK CLUB

“One of the very best books to come out of the war in Iraq,” (Lt. Col. Dave Grossman, bestselling author of *On Killing*), *The Last Punisher* is a gripping and intimate on-the-ground memoir from a Navy SEAL who was part of SEAL Team THREE with American Sniper Chris Kyle. Experience his deployment, from his first mission to his first kill to his eventual successful return to the United States to play himself in the Oscar-nominated film directed by Clint Eastwood and starring Bradley Cooper. *The Last Punisher* is a “thoughtful, funny, and raw...always compelling” (Bing West, New York Times bestselling author of *No True Glory*) first-person account of the Iraq War. With wry humor and moving testimony, Kevin Lacz tells the bold story of his tour in Iraq with SEAL Team THREE, the warrior elite of the Navy. This legendary unit, known as “The Punishers,” included Chris Kyle (American Sniper), Mike Monsoor, Ryan Job, and Marc Lee. These brave men were instrumental in securing the key locations in the pivotal 2006 Battle of Ramadi. Minute by minute, Lacz relays the edge-of-your-seat details of his team’s missions in Ramadi, offering a firsthand glimpse into the heated combat, extreme conditions, and harrowing experiences they faced every day. Through it all, Lacz and his teammates formed unbreakable bonds and never lost sight of the cause: protecting America with their fight. “A rare glimpse into the mind of a Navy SEAL,” (Clint Emerson, New York Times bestselling author of *100 Deadly Skills*) Kevin Lacz brings you onto the battlefield and relays the tough realities of war. At the same time, Lacz shares how these experiences made him a better man and how proud he is of his contributions to one of this country’s most difficult military campaigns. *The Last Punisher* is the story of a SEAL and an “honest-to-God American hero” (Mike Huckabee, #1 bestselling author) who was never afraid to answer the call. A first person account of the Second Battalion, Seventh Cavalry's participation in the Second Battle of Fallujah, the largest single engagement of the Iraq War and the largest urban battle since Hue in 1968. A First Marine Division operation, it was spearheaded by one of the most famous Army units in history. *Ghosts of Fallujah* is a heartfelt and somber recount of the battle, the influence of history, personal leadership, and how that can change lives.

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