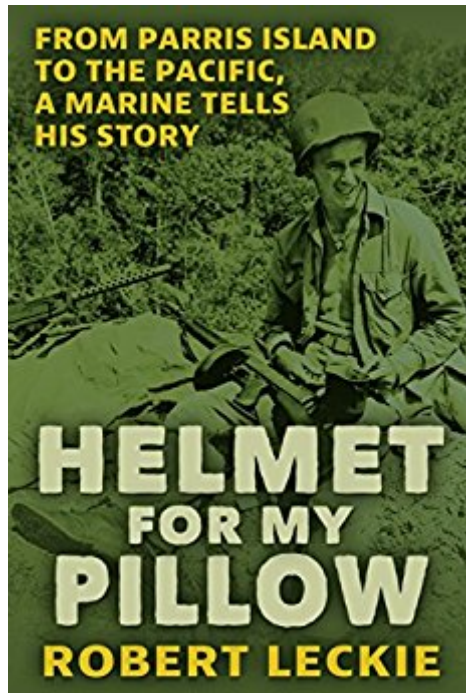


The book was found

Helmet For My Pillow: From Parris Island To The Pacific, A Marine Tells His Story



Synopsis

Helmet for My Pillow, first published in 1957, is Robert Leckie's masterful account of his service in the First Marine Division from basic training on Parris Island, South Carolina, to the hard-fought battles on Guadalcanal, New Britain, and Peleliu, with a brief respite in Australia. Leckie describes the fighting from a first-hand perspective, and interlaces his story with his thoughts about war and fighting. Helmet for My Pillow remains one of the classic accounts of the war in the Pacific and was the basis for the HBO mini-series The Pacific.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bob Leckie is a great storyteller. If you found this because of The Pacific, be sure to read E.B. Sledge's "With the Old Breed" as well. Both are great memoirs, but the styles are very different. You'll appreciate Sledge's economy of language, and Leckie's descriptive context. The book reads like a great magazine article, hard to put down. You'll be through it in a couple of days, and probably want to start his other work.

I just like reading bits of history from someone's perspective that actually lived it. I thoroughly enjoyed this book because there were details about the actual fighting and boot camp and training but there was also "side stories", for lack of a better term, to help remember that these were real people. They weren't just some made up characters. These were incredible men that made this country great! I thought this book did a great job of portraying just that. And it didn't have all the profanity that some do. All that's not necessary to me. I know how vulgar Marines can be. I don't have to actually read it. I definitely recommend this book.

Very good description of the horrors of combat and living in the jungle environment. Also states accurately the challenges of official and unofficial military justices. The author tends to lapse into extended intellectual discussions trying to grasp the futile horrors of close combat and terrible cost that accompanies it.

Read this book after watching The Pacific on Netflix. It was just as moving and captivating as the miniseries. As an aficionado of WWII novels and memoirs, this one really established the reputation of the Marines and delineated the difference between the Atlantic and Pacific Theatres of War. Now on to read Eugene Sledge's memoir!

Interesting perspective on the training and combat experiences of a WW2 infantryman. Training can never simulate the reality of the deprivation in life support systems and how that experience changes your thoughts and footings ...

I first became aware of this book while watching the HBO miniseries entitled "Pacific." At the end of the final episode it provided a bit of information about the characters and that was when I learned that Robert Leckie had written the book. The book made for interesting reading because some of the content of the book was included in the miniseries. I am a "boots on the ground" Vietnam Vet and I really enjoyed the book.

I've read this book numerous times starting in high school and from being around Marines it is an authentic side of what they went thru at the beginning of WWII. Having been in the military I can understand what they went thru and the hardships that were imposed due to lack of support.

There wasn't an episode of the HBO series that didn't leave me teary eyed. Leckie was my favorite character and I'm so glad I read his book. Makes for additional fond memories of my father who was on Guadalcanal US Army Corps of Engineers. God bless.

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