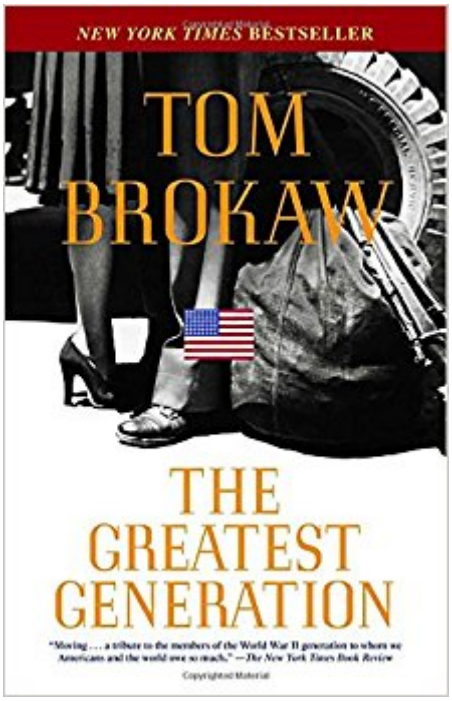
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The Greatest Generation



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Synopsis

The instant classic and runaway bestseller that changed the way we saw World War II and an entire generation of Americans, from the beloved journalist whose own iconic career has lasted more than fifty years. In this magnificent testament to a nation and her people, Tom Brokaw brings to life the extraordinary stories of a generation that gave new meaning to courage, sacrifice, and honor. From military heroes to community leaders to ordinary citizens, he profiles men and women who served their country with valor, then came home and transformed it: Senator Daniel Inouye, decorated at the front, fighting prejudice at home; Martha Settle Putney, one of the first black women to serve in the newly formed WACs; Charles Van Gorder, a doctor who set up a MASH-like medical facility in the middle of battle, then opened a small clinic in his hometown; Navy pilot and future president George H. W. Bush, assigned to read the mail of the enlisted men under him, who says that in doing so he Ã¢â ¬Å“learned about lifeÃ¢â ¬Â•; and many other laudable Americans. To this generation that gave so much and asked so little, Brokaw offers eloquent tribute in true stories of everyday heroes in extraordinary times. Praise for The Greatest Generation Ã¢â ¬Å“Moving . . . a tribute to the members of the World War II generation to whom we Americans and the world owe so much.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times Book Review Ã¢â ¬Å“Full of wonderful, wrenching tales of a generation of heroes. Tom Brokaw reminds us what we are capable of as a people. An inspiring read for those who wish their spirits lifted.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Colin L. Powell Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Offers welcome inspiration . . . It is impossible to read even a few of these accounts and not be touched by the bookÃ¢â ¬â„¢s overarching message: We who followed this generation have lived in the midst of greatness.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Washington Times Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Entirely compelling.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Wall Street Journal

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Customer Reviews

Tom Brokaw was born in 1940, but it wasn't until he was a famous newscaster that he began to contemplate what his parents' generation--those born between 1910 and the mid-1920s--had accomplished. Narrating his own book, he discusses the sacrifices those men and women made: the bodily harm they suffered in war, the diligence with which they built families and businesses, the courage they displayed in rehabilitating their war wounds, the integrity and values that infused their lives. "They never whined or whimpered," Brokaw notes. The stories these men and women tell Brokaw are consistently startling--triumphant, tragic, courageous, sad, miraculous. Although Brokaw never gets maudlin or sappy, most people will find it impossible to listen to this audiobook with dry eyes. (Running time: 4 hours, 3 cassettes) --Lou Schuler

YA-Brokaw defines "the greatest generation" as American citizens who came of age during the Great Depression and the Second World War and went on to build modern America. The vehicle used to define the generation further is the stories told by a cross section of men and women throughout the country. The approximately 50 stories are listed in the table of contents under eight topics: Ordinary People; Homefront; Heroes; Women in Uniform and Out; Shame; Love, Marriage and Commitment; Famous People; and the Arena. The individuals are brought to life by photographs within each chapter. YAs will find this book to be a good resource for decade and World War II research. Unlike any era YAs have known, the 1940s are characterized by a people united by a common cause and values.Carol Clark, formerly at Fairfax County Public Schools, VACopyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The stories and personal characteristics of the men and women of that generation are inspirational. Every "millennial" age person should read this book, to get an understanding of what they have been given.

A very humbling experience to read the exploits of several WW2 generation people and all of their accomplishments.Mr. Brokaw's summarizations of why he calls this the greatest generation is right on. Good read, well written

Mr. Brokaw's news connections not withstanding, he compiles a terrific group of stories. The style of the prose is clear cut and straight ahead. I am grateful to learn about the excellent people who are profiled. Well done.

The author chose people that you might not recognize and were not aware of what they accomplished because of the WWII. Some people were so poor that because of the War they were able to make a good life for themselves after the War.

I cannot truly imagine the hardships and sacrifice of my parent's generation, so this window into what they lived through and what they accomplished, told through personal stories, is much appreciated.

This book is a series of real life stories about many men and women who either served in the U.S. Military during World War II or helped the war effort from home. While the author makes his point about the dedication, patriotism, bravery, and love of country that motivated all of these people to succeed during the war and in life afterward, I found the book to be somewhat repetitive when I was about half way through. It seemed many of the stories were quite similar as were the admirable character qualities of the subjects.This book is definitely not a waste of time and does reveal a good deal of history about the prejudice that existed toward African Americans, Japanese Americans, and American Indians even when they were serving their country on the battlefields. It's a reminder of a dark period in American History even though the outcome of the war was victorious for our country and was followed by a tremendous economic boom.People who have not read a great deal about World War II would probably be the most interested readers.

This is Brokaw's account of the lives of those he has met who lived during the Depression and WW2. It is a compilation of stories to remind us what our grandparent's generation endured and overcame. Many survived, built families and businesses, and became successful despite, or perhaps due to their difficult experiences. These are the people who fought for god and country without giving it a second thought; the last generation that contributed to making our country the greatest ever, before its decline to what it is today. This should be required reading for for baby boomers through millennials; as there is a lesson to be had for today's generation who doesn't know or care about the sacrifices that have been made for their freedom.

An amazing journal and history of the time period and people of the WWII. This reminds us of the individual sacrifices of the people during that time that provide us the individual freedoms we sometimes take for granted. Highly recommend-I couldn't put it down.

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