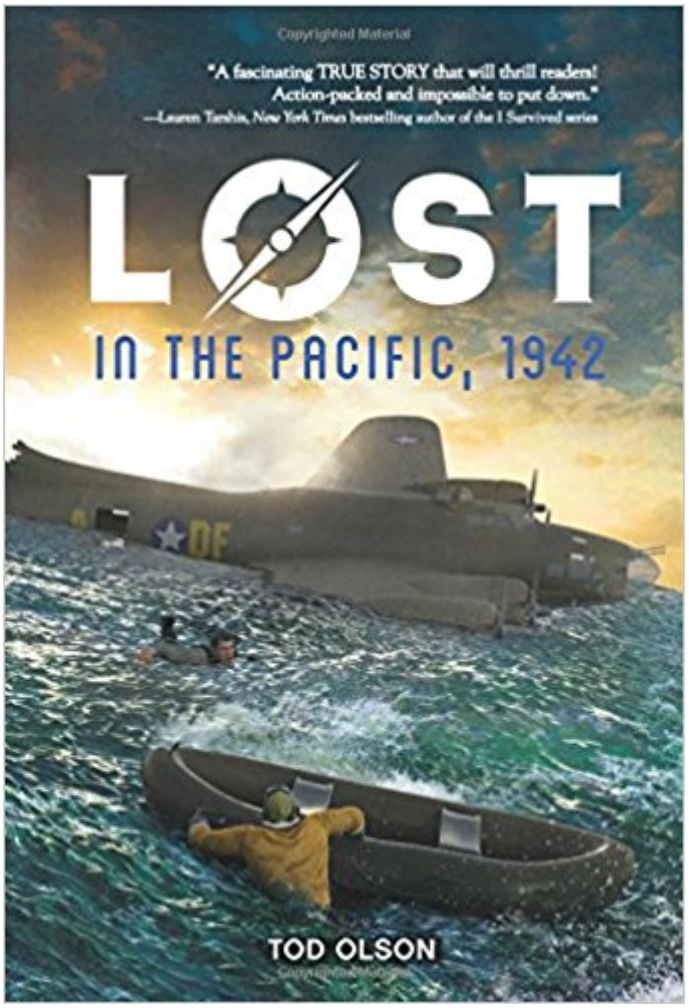
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Lost In The Pacific, 1942: Not A Drop To Drink (Lost #1)



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Synopsis

World War II, October 21, 1942. A B-17 bomber drones high over the Pacific Ocean, sending a desperate SOS into the air. The crew is carrying America’s greatest living war hero on a secret mission deep into the battle zone. But the plane is lost, burning through its final gallons of fuel.At 1:30 p.m., there is only one choice left: an emergency landing at sea. If the crew survives the impact, they will be left stranded without food or water hundreds of miles from civilization.Eight men. Three inflatable rafts. Sixty-eight million square miles of ocean. What will it take to make it back alive?

Book Information

Series: Lost (Book 1)

Hardcover: 176 pages

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Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #72,530 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > History > Modern #37 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars #2727 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

Gr 6Ã¢â ¬â œ9Ã¢â ¬â •The date is October 21, 1942, and somewhere over the Pacific Ocean a lone B-17 runs low on fuel. In order to avert a crash, the pilot and copilot choose to attempt to land the plane on the surface of the ocean amid 20-foot swells. They are successful, and thus begins the survival struggle of eight men in three tiny life rafts. Olson skillfully tells of the physical and mental torture the men endured, floating for 22 days with no protection from the elements and with limited amounts of food and water (two oranges, a small bird, a few fish, and a little bit of rainwater). Much of the narration focuses on Col. Eddie Rickenbacker’s role in the men’s survival. Some of the crew

were eventually spotted and rescued by a search plane, while others were saved by people from the island of Funafuti. Only one did not survive the ordeal. The clearly written text is engaging and accompanied by numerous black-and-white photos. However, one sentence erroneously states that the president, not Congress, declared war. Clippings from newspapers and magazines are included in the back matter. VERDICT A great choice for collections in need of World War II survival stories for middle schoolers.Ã¢â ¬â •Eldon Younce, Anthony Public Library, KS

Praise for Lost in the Pacific, 1942: Not a Drop to Drink * "A riveting, completely engrossing true survival story. " -- Kirkus Reviews, starred review

World War II is a topic of perennial interest to me as are survival stories. This book happens to be both. This is the story of a group of U.S. soldiers on assignment to deliver a special passenger to the Pacific theater. While everything started normally, several things happened that lead to the crew and plane getting lost over the Pacific. They did everything in their power to find the island they were supposed to land on, but despite contact with the island and numerous efforts to discover their location, the plane eventually ran out of fuel and had to be set down on the ocean. Preparations for ditching the plane had been made, but in the rush to get out of the plane, most supplies, including all available drinking water and extra food were left behind on the plane. Using photographs, quotes, and first hand accounts, the author takes the reader on a remarkable journey with the eight individuals who suffered on the ocean on tiny rafts for three weeks. I appreciated the compelling story, but also the author’s honesty. As the circumstances worsened, the eight men did not get along which is not surprising considering the stress of the situation. And even when they (all but one) survived they didn’t all of a sudden have a close bond with each other. Unfortunately, the special passenger was famous, but not known for his tact or kindness. Eddie Rickenbacker rather bullied the others into surviving. Was that the best method? I can’t say, I wasn’t there, but it’s something to think about and it’s something that the author brings up in his author’s note at the end of the book.. I really appreciated the author’s note because Olson explains the problems with writing accounts of historical events based on the flawed memories of participants. This would be a great thing to share with students when discussing writing nonfiction. Overall,, Olson has created a very readable, compelling account of a little known event. He also does a nice job of placing the event in context of the numbers of men dying in the war at the time.

It’s the kind of story you don’t want to put down. It makes you feel like you are on the raft with them.

We recommend it for anyone who likes a good action packed book. We learned more about the war and could imagine what it was like.

This was summer required reading for my rising middle schooler so I purchased the ebook for my kindle. Having lived in Columbus Ohio for several years I had heard of Rickenbacker, but never his full story. This book filled in some blanks, and introduced me to his fellow castaways. I've never been enamored with war, but now will read more. I guess I also benefited from the required summer reading list

Sturdy book, great story!

I bought a set for my 6th grade class and they loved it!

My 12 year old daughter really enjoyed this book.

Excellent story so well written...it is a,story for both young and older adults!

Great book! My 8 year old son and husband thought it was great!

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