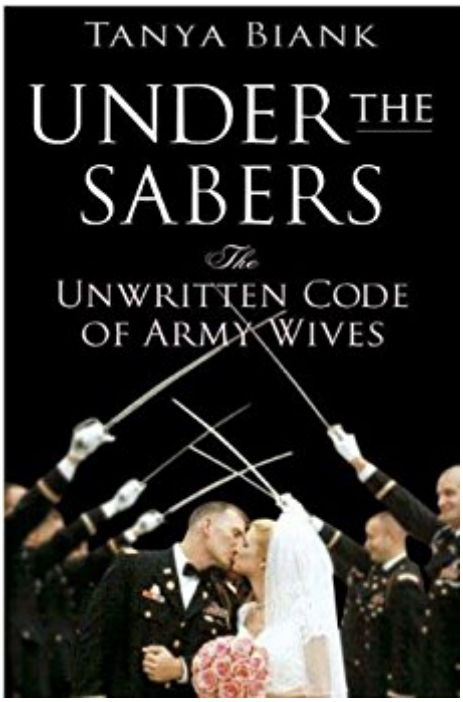
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Under The Sabers: The Unwritten Code Of Army Wives



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Synopsis

Under the Sabers is a groundbreaking narrative detailing the complex personal challenges Army wives face, presenting a provocative new look at Army life. Tanya Biank goes beyond the sound bites and photo ops of military life and shows what it is really like to be an Army wifeÃ¢â ¬â •from hauling furniture off the rental truck by yourself at a new duty station when your husband is in the field, to comforting your son who wants his dad home from Afghanistan for his fifth birthdayÃ¢â ¬â •she takes readers into the hearts and homes of today's military wives.In the summer of 2002, Army wives were in the headlines after Biank, a military reporter for the Fayetteville Observer, made international news when she broke the story about four Army wives who were brutally murdered by their husbands in the span of six weeks at Fort Bragg, an Army post that is home to the Green Berets, Airborne paratroopers, and Delta Force commandos. By that autumn, Biank, an Army brat herself, realized the still untold story of Army wives lay in the ashes of that tragic and sensationalized summer. She knew the truthÃ¢â ¬â •wives were the backbone of the Army. They were strongÃ¢â ¬â •not helplessÃ¢â ¬â •and deserved more than the sugarcoating that often accompanied their stories in the media.Under the Sabers tells the story of four typical Army wives, who, in a flash, find themselves neck-deep in extraordinary circumstances that ultimately force them to redefine who they are as women and Army wives. In this fascinating and meticulously researched account, Biank takes the reader past the Army's gates, where everyone has a role to play, rules are followed, discipline is expected, perfection praised, and perception often overrides reality. Biank explores what happens when real life collides with Army convention.Biank describes what it means to be a wife and mother in a subculture that is in a constant state of readiness for war. In this hard-hitting and powerful book, Biank takes a close look at the other womanÃ¢â ¬â •the Army itselfÃ¢â ¬â •and its impact on wives, marriages, and home life. This story of strength and perseverance is an eye-opener for those who have never experienced military life and an anthem to those women who each day live the "unwritten code."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I cried a lot while reading this book. The television show does not come close to the book, nor how we Army wives lived. I knew these women, this place, this time . . . this fear. This book is not really about military life, but rather the authorÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s investigations into the many deaths of family members that took place following the first deployment to Afghanistan. There have been many similar deaths since then, but only Tanya really investigated and tried to find connections.The women here are so different, from girls who married too early to escape a difficult life at home to women who have put in a full military career with their husband, then endured sending a son to serve as well. The book touches on the consequences of men being convinced that their girl will not be faithful through ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Jody CallsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (marching songs) and rumor mills, who come home looking for proof to match their worst suspicions. Tanya Biank caught on early that there is something different going on here to cause so many soldiers to come home and kill their wives, children and/or themselves with such insane violence. After reading one passage about how many times one soldier stabbed his wife, I counted out the dozens of times as I pounded the table for each stab ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ true madness!The military has since put into place measures to prevent post-deployment violence, and I think we can credit this book to encouraging that, but those measures are not near enough. Investigation of the cause of such animosity and violence that has become common in all branches needs to take place by an independent party so that this is no longer swept under the rug. We cannot fix this problem if we continue to ignore its existence. Sincere thanks to Tanya BiankÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s work and service.

I play the clarinet in a community band that supports the military, and I watched the Army Wives show on Netflix, so I was interested to see how the show compares to the book. The book centers around the murder of 4 army wives in a 6 week period in 2002. The show didn't talk about the murders at all, but a lot of the elements in the book are infused into the show. The author did a great job of profiling the women who are the main characters of the book. The characters in the show are somewhat similar to the characters in the book, but there are differences (I won't spoil it!). All in all, it was an interesting read!

Wow, I did not know what to expect when I ordered this book, but I was astounded when I read it. It should be noted that this book is a report by an Army wife and daughter about what took place on Ft. Bragg in the 2000's. The tv show was simply a spin-off of this documentary.It gives a realistic, if grim, look at the pressure-cooker lives of army families when the country is at war. Armt is about several murders that took place at an army base in the Carolinas. Several G.I.s murdered their wives due to the tension of the deployments and the war. I was a military wife for years and I can relate to this book, although my husband was never at war. I wish everybody would read books like this so that they can realize what it sometimes takes to keep our country safe. Military life takes its toll on those who protect us and on their families. The book is well written and well documented; it is a riveting fast read. Five stars are not enough.

Having been an army wife I found the book fascinating. I had the privilege of being around when the army attitude was "if we wanted you to have a wife and family, we'd have issued you one." By the time the army started having briefings for soldiers leaving on deployment, I resented it. I felt I had survived almost 20 years without one, why did I need it now. My husband was retired by the time Desert Storm and Iraq and Afghanistan came along. Instead, I've watched my nephew deploy repeatedly. His wife and children adapt to his departure and arrival home. Tanya wrote a great book about the life of a military wife.

Just started reading and it is amazing. Having lived in Fayetteville for going on 20 years, I married a soldier from Fort Bragg who served during the Vietnam War, I find the book so far to be very interesting. My husband went to Vietnam with the Merchant Marines before the war got started but did not have to go during his time in the Army. Even stranger than that is that my husband worked for the Fayetteville Observer running the presses. We no longer stay in Fayetteville but the book so

far is like going home again. I remember Jeffery McDonald murdering his family. It was during my senior year and I remember the office pulling classmates out of the classrooms to tell them that their family members had died in the Vietnam War. Can't wait to finish the book.

As an Army brat who spent time on Ft. Bragg, I was excited to read this book set in good ol' Fayettenam. I liked that the town itself was an important character in the work, and thought the author did a decent job of describing it. I enjoyed the work overall, but would advise that the issues discussed in the work are pretty extreme examples. Military life is no doubt tough and comes with its fair share of idiosyncrasies and issues, but it's not all bad. I wouldn't really recommend this as a guide for anyone marrying into or joining the military because of its focus on the extremes, but it's great as a companion to the show or entertainment for those of us who are military savvy.

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