

Read—For the Win!

7

**Public Library Programming
for Active Duty Service Personnel,
Veterans, and Their Families**





Birmingham, Alabama, 1919. This banner from the Birmingham Public Library welcomed returning World War I veterans.

Introduction

Libraries are an important resource for all Americans. They remain a critical source of information, entertainment, technology, and programs for all ages. Additionally, even in our segmented digital age, libraries serve as a significant source of community.

For military families, this is true in cities, towns, and rural areas as well as military installations around the world. As librarians, what can we do to serve families of those engaged in military service, both within our communities and on military installations worldwide?

On military bases and installations, libraries provide both traditional collections and valuable technology resources. Military spouses and children, far from home and new to a base, can find immediate community for the whole family at their installation's library.

Beginning in late 2001 National Guard and Reserve units from communities across the United States have been activated and deployed overseas, with more than 300,000 soldiers called to action. More than half a million children have one or both parents serving in the Guard or Reserves. Many Reservists and National Guard members never expected to be away from home for more than one weekend a month. The impact of the "deployment cycle" (predeployment, deployment, and reunion) on these soldiers and their families is very stressful. Therefore, for military families during these times, a sense of connection, both with other military families and to the larger community, is vitally important. *Your library can provide that sense of connection.*

Equally important, even those libraries that don't have patrons with loved ones serving overseas can use some of the ideas in this section to educate their community about men and women serving in the military, not only as personnel far from home but also as veterans returning home. Military deployment and return, with the accompanying adjustments, affect individual communities as well as the nation as a whole.

Thus, the activities, bibliographies, and websites contained in this section are intended for use in all libraries. The displays and the activities, while aimed at military personnel and their families, can and should be inviting and helpful for all library patrons. The sense of connection that is so vital to military families is also important to the civilian community in order to understand the significance of military service in today's world.

How to Use the Resources in This Chapter

Part 7a describes displays that can be used to draw attention to information about military deployment worldwide, including bases and installations in the United States—even your own community. Some of these displays can double as geography lessons.

The Activities section, part 7b, suggests activities that can be adapted to individual groups and libraries. In addition, there are many activities in earlier chapters for preschoolers, elementary school children, and young adults that can be incorporated into programs for military families.

In part 7c the book and play reading instructions are detailed and include specific titles of books and plays that can be used. There are also firsthand tips about what is successful and what should be avoided when setting up and maintaining reading groups.

Introduction

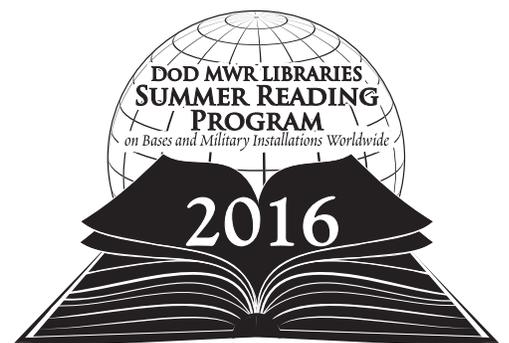
The master annotated bibliography, part 7d, is the core of this chapter. The master list contains recommended books and websites, listed in alphabetical order, and includes individual descriptions of the resources along with recommendations for their use. This master list can be copied as a handout to pass out to participants of activities or programs or to place on display tables or at the checkout counter for patrons to take.

Note: Following the master annotated bibliography at the end of the chapter are separate lists of resources, all of which appear in the master annotated bibliography, which have been sorted by interests and topics for ease of access to materials about specific activity or program topics. Children's books in the master bibliography have been sorted by age level into separate lists. Each of these lists can also be offered as handouts to patrons.

Information about military dogs and companion animals as well as websites for teachers that appear only in the master annotated bibliography can be reproduced as handouts as well.



Decorations and Displays



Where in the World

Post a large map of the world near the entrance to your library. Invite patrons to put pins or yellow ribbons on the map to represent their friend or family member deployed overseas and in the United States. Include a bulletin board to post photos.

Where in the World Signpost

In the movie and television show M*A*S*H, a signpost stands in camp indicating the distance to various locations around the world (Seoul, Korea, and Toledo, Ohio, among them). Set up a similar signpost in your library, recruiting patrons to affix markers that show the distance to other locations of family members around the globe.

Wall of Honor

Decorate bulletin boards, create a wall of honor, learn about patriotism, and become familiar with the places where family members of students are deployed.

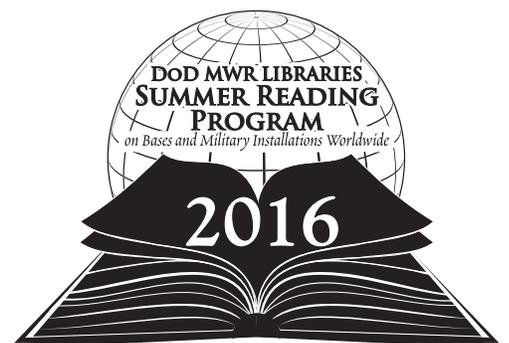
Displays of Handouts and Announcements

Set up tables to display handouts or allot space on a bulletin board or at checkout to post information about the availability of printouts of the bibliographic and resources lists, book and play reading programs, or other activities for military families and the larger community.





Activities



Activities

Hold Regular Programs

Hold regular programs with elementary and middle school students whose family members have been deployed. Use activities outlined in *Dealing with Deployment: A Small-Group Curriculum for Elementary and Middle School Students* (by Ann Aydlett; American School Counselor Association, 2006, ISBN: 1-929289-08-1).

Tell Me a Story Event

Host a Tell Me a Story event that's intended to "empower our military children by using literature and their own stories in a way that fosters skills for resilience, strong peer and parent connections, a sense of pride and accomplishment, and a caring community." Work with the Military Child Education Coalition, which will provide supplemental, training, and marketing materials. See <http://www.militarychild.org/parents-and-students/programs/tell-me-a-story-tmas>.

Current Events Discussion Group for Young Adults

Bring middle and high school students together to discuss and understand events in places like Afghanistan, Iraq, and elsewhere where their parents and other relatives are serving. Use the free ten-minute daily news program CNN Student News and supplemental materials from CNN for discussions about the news. For more information, go to <http://bit.ly/2y9aCV>.

Form a Weekly Club for Young Adults

Form a weekly club for high schoolers to discuss and sharpen their thoughts about events in places where their family members are deployed. Use the free Learning Network of the New York Times as a resource, with its articles, quizzes, games, opinion and discussion questions, and other resources. For more information, go to <http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com>.

Organize Reading Groups

Start reading groups for friends and family members of soldiers. Separate groups can be developed for spouses, children, entire families, and returning veterans. The suggestions and recommendations in 7c offer detailed programs.

Set Up Writing Groups

Start a letter writing group that meets regularly at your library to send cards, postcards, and letters to soldiers when they are away from home. This is an activity that can include everyone from your community, whether or not they have a family member or friend in the military. Invite children to draw pictures to send with the letters. Ask local businesses to supply products for "care packages." The Internet has many sites that list items to send; here are a few to review:

http://www.military.com/deployment/what-to-send-someone-who-is-deployed.html

http://adoptaplatoon.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/How-To-Send-A-Care-Package.pdf

http://www.veteransunited.com/life/what-deployed-troops-really-want-in-their-care-packages/

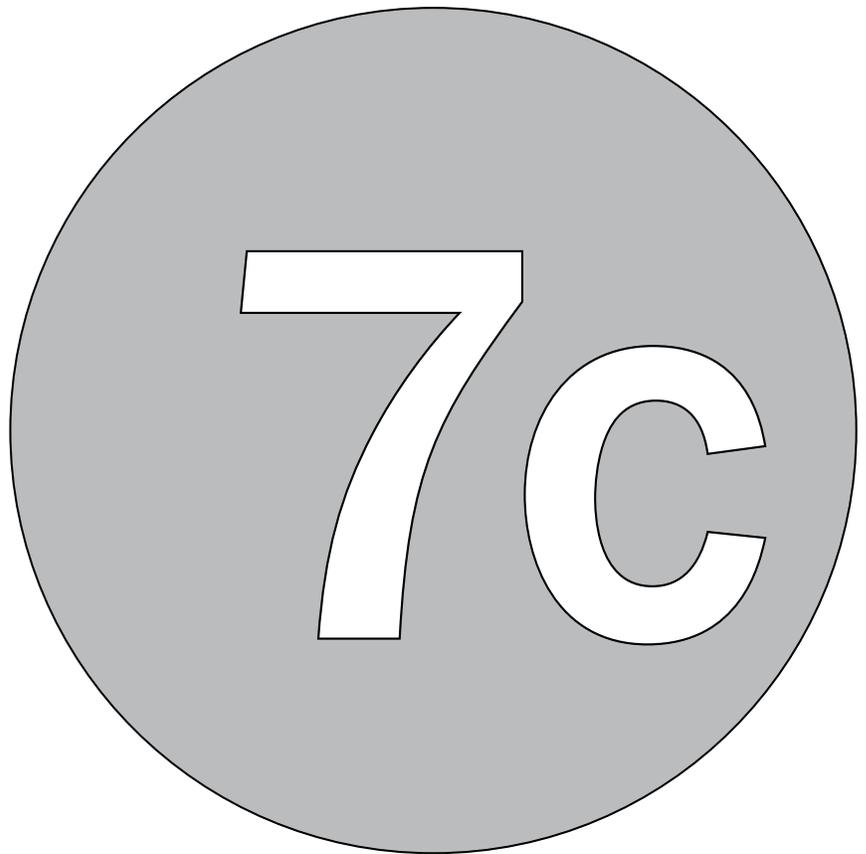
Host A Day from Home Event

Ask a local business to donate disposable cameras to your library. Send out groups from the library to take pictures of sites from the community. Once the photos are developed, make a scrapbook with them. Host an event at the library for community members to come in and write messages in the book and send it to the unit deployed from your area. Or ask a local copy shop to make copies to send to individuals. This would be a great activity during the holiday season.

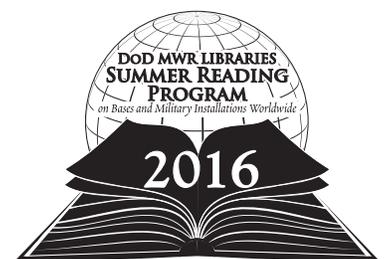
Activities

Establish Teachers Groups

Organize a group in which educators can come together to share ideas about how to help children understand what is happening. Begin with reading and discussing the *Educator's Guide to the Military Child During Deployment*, available at <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oe/homefront/index.html>. Teachers can also be asked to speak to other groups about the geography, culture, and people in those parts of the world where soldiers have been deployed.



Book and Play Reading Groups



Book and Play Reading Groups

One way to bring returning veterans together is to form groups to discuss books or read plays. This section provides guidance about forming book groups and play reading groups.

Book Groups

Many veterans will be using libraries as a job search resource. Consider putting together a display table inviting them to participate in a book or play reading group of their own. Veterans who might be reluctant to join a “support group” may still appreciate an opportunity to get together with other people who have shared a similar experience.

Members learn from and about each other. “I was amazed by the knowledge of the people involved. I learn more about the people in the group from what they say about the book than I learn about the book.” The discussions are often stimulating and expose members to new ideas; some of the books they read are life changing, influential, or inspiring.

How to set up and run a book group

- Someone really committed to having the group needs to get it started. This could be a member of the group or a professional, such as a librarian.
- The ideal size for a group is about eight people or twelve at the most. It works if only six people attend, but if it is too large, people don't have a chance to talk. Bigger isn't always better.
- It is essential to have a permanent or rotating convener who makes sure the meeting happens. Otherwise the group could fall apart.
- It is helpful if the group members decide at the beginning the kinds of books they want to read. The group may create some written guidelines, which will probably change over time.
- The group needs to decide how it will select the books, which may be by vote of the members or selection by the host or someone the group designates. It is helpful if the group chooses books some months in advance.
- A discussion leader needs to be chosen for every meeting. That person prepares discussion questions, which may be handed out in advance, and guides the discussion for that book.
- A clear distinction needs to be made between time for socializing and for discussing the book.
- The convener or someone else needs to have clear responsibility for publicizing the group.

How to attract members

- Start with a small core of people who are enthusiastic about having the group and who recruit people they know.
- Encourage word of mouth referrals to the group.
- Give the group a name? This may help to attract members.
- Post announcements about the group in the library and on community bulletin boards.

Some pitfalls

- Sometimes a few people dominate the discussion, which frustrates the other members and may lead them to leave the group. Ground rules for how the group operates can be referenced at times like these.
- It's hard to have a satisfying discussion if people haven't read the book or read all of it.

Where a group may go

- Sometimes a book group becomes an excuse for getting together, and the book is not even discussed. This is another way for a book group to be, though it's important that the members discuss and agree that a social group is what they want.
- It is possible that a group may decide to take action about what they're reading, going from benefiting members personally and socially to having a social impact. The books may become a call to action.

Resources for Starting and Running a Book Group

Books

Jacobsohn, Rachel W. *The Reading Group Handbook: Everything You Need to Know to Start Your Own Book Club*, Hyperion, 1998.

ISBN-10: 0786883243

ISBN-13: 978-0786883240

Simic, Marjorie R., and Eleanor C. MacFarlane. *Family Book Sharing Groups: Start One in Your Neighborhood*. Grayson Bernard Publishers, 1995.

ISBN-10: 1883790115

ISBN-13: 978-1883790110

Slezak, Ellen, ed. *The Book Group Book: A Thoughtful Guide to Forming and Enjoying a Stimulating Book Discussion Group*, 3rd ed. Chicago Review Press, 2000.

ISBN-10: 1556524129

ISBN-13: 978-1556524127

Online Resources

Reading Group Guides

<http://www.readinggroupguides.com>

“The online community for reading groups.” Includes a section of librarians’ interviews on their experiences with book groups. Gives information on starting and running a book group. Suggests books, with a section for veterans, and includes discussion questions.

Reading Group Choices

<http://www.readinggroupchoices.com>

Offers information on starting and running a book group. Suggests books and includes conversation starters. Lists links to other websites.

Book Group Buzz

<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com>

Note especially “Book Club Resources” on this ALA website.

Books to Get a Group Started

A Book Group for Returning Veterans and Their Spouses or Partners

Armstrong, Keith, Suzanne Best and Paula Domenici. *Courage After Fire: Coping Strategies for Troops Returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and Their Families* [Kindle Edition]. Foreword by Bob Dole. Ulysses Press, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1569755132

ISBN-13: 978-1569755136

“...offers soldiers and their families a comprehensive guide to dealing with the all-too-common repercussions of combat duty, including post-traumatic stress symptoms, anxiety, depression, and substance abuse. It details state-of-the-art treatments for these difficulties and outlines specific ways to improve couple and family relationships. It also offers tips on areas such as rejoining the workforce and reconnecting with children.” (Amazon.com.) Armstrong and Best are longtime clinicians and researchers in PTSD.

Fountain, Ben. *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk: A Novel*. Ecco, 2012.

ISBN-10: 0060885599

ISBN-13: 978-0060885595

A brilliant first novel about the “victory tour” taken by a squad in a bloody battle in Iraq, which centers on a Dallas Cowboys game. “A masterful echo of ‘Catch-22,’ with war in Iraq at the center” according to the *Washington Post*. Deftly takes readers into the chasm between the reality and the glorification of war.

Kingston, Maxine Hong. *The Fifth Book of Peace*. Vintage, 2004.

ISBN-10: 0679760636

ISBN-13: 978-0679760634

In a “visionary and redemptive work” (Amazon.com.), Kingston weaves fiction and memoir into a luminous meditation on war and peace, devastation and renewal. She follows the tradition of the old Chinese Three Books of Peace while telling a tale of a poet who evades the Vietnam draft and recounting her experiences teaching writing workshops for Vietnam veterans.

Scotti, Mike. *The Blue Cascade: A Memoir of Life After War*. Grand Central Publishing, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1455503487

ISBN-13: 978-1455503483

A memoir by a soldier from Operation Iraqi Freedom, who returned to the United States determined to get ahead based on how he learned to succeed in the war—not to hesitate, focus energies on your objective, and complete the mission. When depression and emotional explosions led him to contemplate suicide, he ultimately was able to find a path to healing and wisdom to share: “It’s ok if you are not ok.”

Other Selections

Gologorsky, Beverly. *The Things We Do to Make It Home*. Seven Stories Press, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1583228845

ISBN-13: 978-1583228845

Letts, Billie. *The Honk and Holler Opening Soon*. Grand Central Publishing, 1999.

ISBN-10: 0446675059

Spencer-Fleming, Julia. *One Was a Soldier: A Clare Fergusson/Russ Van Alstyne Mystery*. Minotaur Books, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0312334893

A Family Book Group

Dennis, Brian, Mary Nethery and Kirby Larson. *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle*. Little, Brown and Company, 2009.

ISBN-10: 031605318X

ISBN-13: 978-0316053181

A heartwarming story of the war dog Nubs who was befriended by U.S. soldiers in Iraq. When the team of soldiers relocated, Nubs traveled a treacherous seventy miles and found them. Nubs was sent to the United States and eventually was reunited with his favorite soldier pal. Best for grades 2–5.

Hoffman, Mary and Rhiannon Lassiter, eds. *Lines in the Sand: New Writing on War and Peace*. Disinformation Books, 2003.

ISBN-10: 0972952918

ISBN-13: 978-0972952910

A “challenging and thought-provoking collection of new poetry and prose from some of the world’s most prestigious and talented children’s authors and illustrators.” (Amazon.com.) Includes more than 150 poems, stories, and pictures about war and peace. All royalties go to UNICEF for work in Iraq. “Readers will find lots to talk about here.” (*Booklist*) Best for grades 2–9.

Myers, Walter Dean. *Sunrise over Fallujah*. Scholastic Press, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0439916259

ISBN-13: 978-0439916257

Critically acclaimed author of children’s books, Myers tells the story of a teenager from Harlem who joined the Army and what he encountered in Iraq. “...it is difficult to watch his innocence erased as war leaves its mark on him, but it is the reality for many young men and women.” (Amazon.com.) Best for ages 12 and up.

Play Reading

How to Set Up and Run a Play Reading Group

Play reading groups share many features of book reading groups, but they’re different in some important ways. Both are good ways to bring people together. But the members of a play reading group don’t have to do any reading in advance. Group meetings are devoted to actually reading the play, rather than discussing what they’ve read in advance.

The group may read any play, but it’s best if the play can be finished in two to three hours. Once the group is formed, it may decide how to select the plays. Will members take turns choosing? Will a staff member make the choices, or provide a list from which the members may choose? The group may also decide what kinds of plays to read. Just Shakespeare? Just plays written by playwrights from the United States or other country? Plays from ancient Greece?

Make sure the group has a copy of the play for each member. If there are more group members than parts in the play, people can take turns. Sometimes a member may have more than one part. Take a break about halfway through the play for refreshments.

Books

Plays for Group Reading: Seven Years. Badger Publishing, 1998.

ISBN-10: 1858806623

ISBN-13: 978-1858806624

Online Resources

<http://www.eHow.com>

“How to Start a Playreading Group”

<http://vl-theatre.com/list4.shtml>

A free service for play readers and playwrights giving links to all plays known by the WWW Virtual Library: Theatre and Drama to be available in full versions online for free.

<http://www.mit.edu/~dfm/shakespeare>

The “Sunday Shakespeare” website describes a system devised by Gareth Morgan, classics scholar and amateur thespian, for informal dramatic readings of all Shakespeare’s plays and others, including suggestions for casting.

Plays to Get a Group Started

A Play Reading Group for Returning Veterans

Consider the books below or those included in “Books for Returning Veterans” above for a veterans’ book group.

Aeschylus. The ancient Greek trilogy of tragedies, *Oresteia*, concerns shifting from personal vendetta to litigation to resolve conflicts. It involves impossible decisions and conflicts of family duty. In *Agamemnon*, Orestes sets out to avenge his father, Agamemnon, King of Argos. During the king’s ten-year absence in the Trojan War, his wife, Clytemnestra, has an affair with Aegisthus, Agamemnon’s cousin, who wants to become king. Clytemnestra kills Agamemnon and Cassandra, his concubine.

In *The Libation Bearers*, Orestes and his sister Electra are reunited. Orestes kills his mother to avenge the death of his father.

In the third play, *The Eumenides*, or *The Furies*, Orestes, Apollo, who acts as counsel for him, and the Furies go before Athena and eleven other judges to decide whether Orestes’ killing makes him guilty of the crime of murder. The Furies torment Orestes because of his killing, and Clytemnestra appears in a dream to all of the Furies to continue hunting Orestes. Orestes is acquitted of the crime, in a tie vote, which establishes the principle that mercy should take precedence over harshness. (Adapted from Wikipedia, “Oresteia.”)

Aristophanes. *The Wasps*. This play from ancient Greece is seen as one of the greatest comedies of all time. It pokes fun at a demagogue, Cleon, the populist leader of the pro-Peloponnesian war faction, and at the “wasps” (old men) in a plot that also ridicules the Athenian law courts. (Adapted from Wikipedia, “The Wasps.”)

Aristophanes. *Lysistrata*. This remarkably modern play from ancient Greece “is a comic account of one woman’s extraordinary mission to end the Peloponnesian War... [Lysistrata] persuades the women of Greece to withhold sexual privileges from their husbands and lovers as a means of forcing the men to negotiate peace...” (Adapted from Wikipedia, “Lysistrata.”)

Dantzschler, Barry. *An Evening at the Theatre with John Wilkes Booth: A Play in Two*

**Book and Play
Reading Groups**

Acts. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2013.

ISBN-10: 1481914790

ISBN-13: 978-1481914796

A play about the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln from the perspective of John Wilkes Booth.

Euripides. *Medea*. This tragedy from ancient Greece has a plot that “centers on the barbarian protagonist as she finds her position in the Greek world threatened and the revenge she takes against her husband Jason who has betrayed her for another woman.” (Adapted from Wikipedia, “Medea.”)

Friel, Brian. *The Freedom of the City*. Samuel French Inc. Plays, 2003.

ISBN-10: 0573609152

ISBN-13: 978-0573609152

“‘The Freedom of the City’ is a play by Irish playwright Brian Friel first produced in 1973. It is set in Derry, Northern Ireland in 1970, in the aftermath of a Roman Catholic Civil Rights meeting, and follows three protesters who mistakenly find themselves in the mayor’s parlour in the Guildhall...[T]heir circumstance is interpreted as an ‘occupation.’ The play illustrates their final hours in the Guildhall, their failed escape, and the tribunal into their deaths...” (Adapted from Amazon.com reader review.)

Gray, Hamlin. *How I Got That Story*. Dramatists Play Service, Inc., 1998.

“A new young war reporter meets up with ‘The Historic Event’ (another actor playing twenty-one parts) and together they experience the war from many different perspectives, causing the reporter to reevaluate his job and life.” For two males. (Amazon.com.)

Hansberry, Lorraine. *A Raisin in the Sun*. 7th edition. Vintage, 2004.

ISBN-10: 0679755330

ISBN-13: 978-0679755333

The plot of this “groundbreaking play ...[s]et on Chicago’s South Side...revolves around the divergent dreams and conflicts within three generations of the Younger family: son Walter Lee, his wife Ruth, his sister Beneatha, his son Travis and matriarch Lena, called Mama. When her deceased husband’s insurance money comes through, Mama dreams of moving to a new home and a better neighborhood in Chicago. Walter Lee, a chauffeur, has other plans, however: buying a liquor store and being his own man. Beneatha dreams of medical school.

“The tensions and prejudice they face form this seminal American drama. Sacrifice, trust, and love among the Younger family and their heroic struggle to retain dignity in a harsh and changing world is a searing and timeless document of hope and inspiration.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Joseph, Rajiv. *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*. Soft Skull Press, 2010.

ISBN-10: 1593762941

ISBN-13: 978-1593762940

“Rajiv Joseph is one of today’s most acclaimed young playwrights.

“... *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo* [is] a darkly comedic drama that looks on as the lives of two American soldiers, an Iraqi translator, and a tiger intersect on the streets of Baghdad.” This volume also contains *Gruesome Playground Injuries* and *Animals out of Paper*. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

McGuinness, Frank. *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme*. Faber & Faber, 1986.

ISBN-10: 0571146112

ISBN-13: 978-0571146116

“This powerful and subtle play...follows the experience of eight men who volunteer

to serve in the 36th (Ulster) Division at the beginning of the First World War. It reaches a climax at the start of the terrible battle of the Somme on July 1, 1916, the actual anniversary of the battle of the Boyne in 1690. The Somme, where the Ulster Division suffered heavy casualties, has, like the Boyne, come to have a sacred place in the Loyalist Protestant mind. It marks the Union sealed with blood. It stands for the ultimate test of Ulster's loyalty; a blood-sacrifice to match any made by the Irish nationalists.' —*Times Literary Supplement*" (Amazon.com.)

Meserve, Walter J. and Mollie Ann Meserve. *Fateful Lightning: America's Civil War Plays*. Feedback Theatre Books, 2000

ISBN-10: 0937657506

ISBN-13: 978-0937657508

"The coeditors of numerous theater books and anthologies, the Meserves have compiled a new anthology of 11 Civil War plays written between 1852 and 1895 that reflect the public sentiments of a nation divided, as well as private yearnings for reconciliation. Notable selections include George L. Aiken's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, J. T. Trowbridge's *Neighbor Jackwood*, James D. McCabe's *The Guerrillas*, Bronson Howard's *Shenandoah*, William Gillette's *Secret Service*, and David Belasco's *The Heart of Maryland*. These works present the themes of slavery, partisanship, patriotism, and loyalty in conflict with family and romantic ties. The introduction provides as background a history of the American theater in the last half of the 19th century, while one-page summaries of the playwright's work and reputation precede each play. Forty-one advertising photographs, posters of original productions, and illustrations and maps from historical magazines, greatly enhance this anthology." (Adapted from Amazon.com from *Library Journal*.)

Nottage, Lynn. *Ruined*. Dramatists Play Service, 2010.

ISBN-10: 0822223902

ISBN-13: 978-0822223900

"A rain forest bar and brothel in the brutally war-torn Congo is the setting for Lynn Nottage's extraordinary new play. The establishment's shrewd matriarch, Mama Nadi, keeps peace between customers from both sides of the civil war, as government soldiers and rebel forces alike choose from her inventory of women, many already 'ruined' by rape and torture when they were pressed into prostitution. Inspired by interviews she conducted in Africa with Congo refugees, Nottage has crafted an engrossing and uncommonly human story with humor and song served alongside its postcolonial and feminist politics in the rich theatrical tradition of Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage*." (Amazon.com.)

Poliakoff, Stephen. "Clever Soldiers" in *Poliakoff Plays: 1*. Bloomsbury Methuen Drama, 1990.

ISBN-10: 0413624609

ISBN-13: 978-0413624604

This is a thoughtful play about violence which attacks the mythology of Oxford and Cambridge universities against the background of war. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Rabe, David. *Streamers*. Samuel French Inc., 2009.

ISBN-10: 057364019X

ISBN-13: 978-0573640193

"This volatile, incendiary drama premiered in 1976, the third in author Rabe's quartet of 'Vietnam Plays'. [It] is set in the Army barracks housing a group of young men, the "streamers" of the title: hapless parachutists who streak to certain death when their parachutes fail to open. This group includes Billy, a new recruit; Roger, a street-wise refugee from the ghetto; Richie, a sarcastic, bitter homosexual and their sodden, ineffectual sergeants, Cokes and Rooney. Awaiting deployment to Vietnam, they are joined by Carlyle, an angry, psychotic young black man, whose presence sets

Book and Play Reading Groups

off an escalating spiral of violence and death. ‘Hard hitting and extremely funny. A masterly drama with humor, power and impressive depths of understanding.’ —*New York Daily News*.” The other three plays are *The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel*, *Sticks and Bones*, and *The Orphan*. “*The Orphan* [is] a brilliant synthesis of classic Greek drama and the conflicted character of contemporary America. All four plays focus on what the author calls ‘the eternal human pageant.’ War is not a political phenomenon but an elemental force, a human inevitability, like love or death, and Rabe’s plays encompass it as such. They are essential works about our society.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Shakespeare, William. Shakespeare’s works may be compelling once a play reading group has gotten some experience. His tragedies, comedies, and other plays all offer possibilities for meaningful and enjoyable readings. The group may start with these: *The Tempest*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *Titus Andronicus*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *King Lear*, *Antony and Cleopatra*.

Sherriff, R. C. *Journey’s End*. Penguin Classics, 2000.

ISBN-10: 0141183268

ISBN-13: 978-0141183268

“...*Journey’s End* is an unflinching vision of life in the trenches towards the end of the First World War... Set in the First World War, *Journey’s End* concerns a group of British officers on the front line and opens in a dugout in the trenches in France. Raleigh, a new eighteen-year-old officer fresh out of...school, joins the besieged company of his friend and cricketing hero Stanhope, and finds him dramatically changed...[T]he play was an instant stage success and remains a remarkable anti-war classic. ‘Its unrelenting tension, and its regard for human decency in a vast world of human waste, are impressive and, even now, moving’. (Clive Barnes).” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Sophocles. The Oedipus Rex trilogy from ancient Greece tells the story of Oedipus, a mythical king of Thebes. He “fulfilled a prophecy that said he would kill his father, and thereby bring disaster on his city and family.” The three plays are titled *Oedipus the King*, followed by *Oedipus at Colonus* and *Antigone*. The trilogy represents the enduring themes of “the flawed nature of humanity and an individual’s powerlessness against the course of destiny in a harsh universe.” (Adapted from Wikipedia, “Oedipus.”)

Valdez, Luis. “Zoot Suit” in *Zoot Suit and Other Plays*. Arte Publico, 1992.

ISBN-10: 1558850481

ISBN-13: 978-1558850484

In this play, Luis Valdez weaves a story involving the real-life events of the Sleepy Lagoon murder trial—when a group of young Mexican-Americans were wrongfully charged with murder—and the Zoot Suit Riots. (Adapted from Amazon.com.) The Zoot Suit Riots were a series of riots in 1943 during World War II that broke out in Los Angeles, California, between white sailors and Marines stationed in the city and Latino youths, who were recognizable by the zoot suits they favored. (Adapted from Wikipedia article on “Zoot Suit Riots.”)

Vogel, Paula. *A Civil War Christmas*. Theatre Communications Group, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1559363789

ISBN-13: 978-1559363785

“The Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of *How I Learned to Drive*, Paula Vogel, has crafted... ‘an ambitious, richly detailed and beautiful new seasonal offering.’ [*The New York Times*] Set on a chilly Christmas Eve during the latter days of the Civil War, *A Civil War Christmas* weaves a tapestry of fictional and historical characters, such as President and Mrs. Lincoln—together with holiday music, marches, hymns and spirituals of the period—to tell a story of companionship and communal hope

arising from one of our nation's darkest hours.

“This volume features a conversation between the author and noted historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, commentary on the music of the Civil War and its singing soldiers and excerpts from historical journals such as that of Walt Whitman.” (Amazon.com.)

Wilson, August. *Gem of the Ocean*. Theatre Communications Group, 2008.

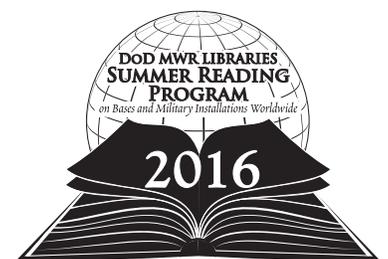
ISBN-10: 1559362812

ISBN-13: 978-1559362818

Set in 1904, a young African-American named Citizen Barlow, like many others traveling north in the years after the Civil War, arrives in Pittsburgh in search of purpose, prosperity, and redemption. A woman named Aunt Ester, who is rumored to be 285 years old and possess healing powers, decides to help the young man on his life's journey. (About.com)



Annotated Bibliographies and Other Resources



Master Annotated Bibliography

Books

Books for Veterans, Spouses, Partners, and Families

Armstrong, Keith, Suzanne Best and Paula Domenici. *Courage After Fire: Coping Strategies for Troops Returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and Their Families*. Ulysses Press, 2005.

ISBN-10: 1569755132

ISBN-13: 978-1569755136

Authored by three mental health professionals with many years of experience counseling veterans, this book provides strategies and techniques for the challenging journey home after deployment. It offers soldiers and their families a comprehensive guide to dealing with the all-too-common repercussions of combat duty, including posttraumatic stress symptoms, anxiety, depression, and substance abuse. It details state-of-the-art treatments for these difficulties and outlines specific ways to improve couple and family relationships. It also offers tips on areas such as rejoining the workforce and reconnecting with children. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Bender, Janet M. *Getting Yourself Together When Your Family Comes Apart: Coping with Family Changes*. National Center for Youth Issues, 2004.

ISBN-10: 1931636281

ISBN-13: 978-1931636285

This book focuses on the five stages of grief often experienced by children when their family structure changes, such as when someone is deployed. It offers a read-aloud story and 21 reproducible activities designed to help children move through the grief process and adjust to their new circumstances. It also includes helpful articles and reference materials for parents. (From American School Counselor Association website)

Brown, Bruce C. *Returning from the War on Terrorism: What Every Iraq, Afghanistan, and Deployed Veteran Needs to Know to Receive Their Maximum Benefits*. Atlantic Publishing Company, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1601381506

ISBN-13: 978-1601381507

“This groundbreaking new book will provide help to those heroic Americans who have answered our government’s call to duty. You will find all contact information and Web sites included, making it easy to apply for the benefits you are entitled to, while meeting the requirements of the Department of Veterans Affairs and other organizations and private institutions.” An invaluable resource for those in the military now, a veteran, or a military family member. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Buckholtz, Alison. *Standing By: The Making of an American Military Family in a Time of War*. Tarcher, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1585426954

ASIN: B002KAOS3S

This is Alison Buckholtz’s candid and moving account of her family’s experiences during her husband’s seven-month deployment on an aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf. With insight and humor she describes living near a military base in Washington state, far from home and in the midst of great upheaval, while trying to keep life as normal as possible for the couple’s two young children. She portrays her friendships with other military wives and the ways in which this supportive community of women helps one another to endure—to even thrive—during difficult times. A rare and intimate portrait of one of the tens of thousands of families who wait for their

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service member to return home, this book is a window into what matters most for families everywhere. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Canfield, Jack. *Chicken Soup for the Military Wife's Soul: 101 Stories to Touch the Heart and Rekindle the Spirit*. Health Communications, 2005.

ISBN: 9780757302657

ISBN-10: 0757302653

A military member swears an oath to uphold the Constitution and protect the country, while their spouse takes the unwritten oath to a life of constant moves, lengthy separations, and endless anxieties—and yes, adventure. Their commitment requires a unique blend of patriotism, dedication, hard work, and flexibility. The stories speak directly to those who live the life, understand the jargon, and thrive on the joys and challenges of military life.

Cantrell, Bridget C. *Once a Warrior: Wired for Life*. Hearts Toward Home Int'l, 2007.

ISBN-10: 0615141323

ISBN-13: 978-0615141323

“...illustrates how to turn negatives into positives and assists our highly trained military personnel in utilizing their tremendous potential in achieving success and happiness after their release from military service. This book highlights the path along the way to transitioning from warrior to civilian.” (Amazon.com.)

Caputo, Jessica. *The Other Side of War*. AuthorHouse, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1438949642

ISBN-13: 978-1438949642

In her own words, the author explains what it means to be a military girlfriend, temporarily left behind by a man who is serving his country. The book follows her on an emotional roller coaster as she learns to cope with her peers' opposing views of the war, struggles to graduate from college, and finally marries her soldier boyfriend. A few weeks after the wedding, she says good-bye to her husband for a second time. She will move to an unfamiliar state where she knows no one and face some of her greatest fears. In the book, you watch her adapt to the role of military wife, and become accustomed to what life is like on The Other Side of War. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Carroll, Andrew, ed. *Operation Homecoming: Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Home Front, in the Words of U.S. Troops and Their Families*. University of Chicago Press, 2008.

ISBN-10: 0226094995

ISBN-13: 978-0226094991

Operation Homecoming is the result of a major initiative launched by the National Endowment for the Arts to bring distinguished writers to military bases to inspire U.S. soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, and their families to record their wartime experiences. Encouraged by such authors as Tom Clancy, Tobias Wolff, and Marilyn Nelson, American military personnel and their loved ones wrote candidly about what they saw, heard, and felt while in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as on the home front. These unflinching eyewitness accounts, private journals, short stories, and letters offer an intensely revealing look into extraordinary lives and are an unforgettable contribution to wartime literature. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Dawalt, Sara. *365 Deployment Days: A Wife's Survival Story*. Daisy & Ivy Books, 2007.

ISBN-10: 0615499457

ISBN-13: 978-0615499451

This book follows a military wife's experiences during her husband's deployment to Iraq, exploring the wide-ranging emotions brought about by his deployment. Through self-exploration Sara Dawalt learns the skills necessary to make sense of her

life during turmoil. Her quest for happiness during potentially her darkest year will touch your life. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Dumler, Elaine Gray. *I'm Already Home—Again: Keeping Your Family Close While on Assignment or Deployment*. Frankly Speaking, 2006.

ISBN: 9780974035918

ISBN-10: 0974035912

Military families are especially vulnerable to tough separations. Here's an easy-to-follow, practical guide to fun and inexpensive ways for keeping your spouse connected while on assignment or deployed. The book features over 200 ideas for coping, 75+ resource websites, and a reunion and reintegration section. This guide will help lessen the impact of being apart from those you love.

Ellis, Deborah. *Off to War: Voices of Soldiers' Children*. Groundwood Books, 2008.

ISBN: 9780888998941

ISBN-10: 0888998945

Canadian and American children tell what life is like when a member of their family goes off to the Iraqi or Afghanistan war, discussing the things they do to keep in touch and the significant changes in their lives that result from the separation. Ranging in age from 6 to 17, young people talk about the things that are on their minds. Worry about their parents' safety, pride in their service to their country, and confusion about why such service is necessary are all intermingled with the everyday concerns of friends, school, and "just getting on with life."

Evans, Shannon, editor. *Operation Military Family: How to Strengthen Your Military Marriage and Save Your Family*. Aviva Publishing, 2007.

ISBN-10: 1890427861

ISBN-13: 978-1890427863

This book follows several families through their emotions, struggles, and victories prior to and throughout deployment and then together back home. These couples share how they overcame challenges they faced transitioning from civilian to military and then back to civilian life. The book is a "must-have" for service members and their families who are looking for a true-to-life road map on how other couples strengthened their marriages, despite the odds. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Friedman, Matthew J., Ph.D., and Laurie B. Slone, Ph.D. *After the War Zone: A Practical Guide for Returning Troops and Their Families*. DaCapo Press, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1600940544

ISBN-13: 978-1600940545

"Two experts from the VA National Center for PTSD provide an essential resource for service members, their spouses, families, and communities, sharing what troops really experience during deployment and back home. Pinpointing the most common after-effects of war and offering strategies for troop reintegration to daily life, Drs. Friedman and Slone cover the myths and realities of homecoming; reconnecting with spouse and family; anger and adrenaline; guilt and moral dilemmas; and PTSD and other mental-health concerns. With a wealth of community and government resources, tips, and suggestions, *After the War Zone* is a practical guide to helping troops and their families prevent war zone stresses from having a lasting negative impact." (Amazon.com.)

Green, Jocelyn. *Faith Deployed: Daily Encouragement for Military Wives*. Moody Publishers, 2008.

ISBN-10: 0802452507

ISBN-13: 978-0802452504

—. *Faith Deployed...Again: More Daily Encouragement for Military Wives*. Moody Publishers, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0802452515

ISBN-13: 978-0802452511

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The highly acclaimed book and sequel provide encouragement and strength to military wives who need to maintain the home front under stressful circumstances.

Henderson, Kristin. *While They're at War: The True Story of American Families on the Homefront*. Mariner Books, 2006.

ISBN-10: 0618773452

ASIN: B003IWYLP2

Kristin Henderson, whose husband is a Navy chaplain, profiles military families, focusing on two wives coping with life at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Beth Pratt and Marissa Bootes face the challenges of their husbands' first deployment as junior enlisted men, and they are full of anxieties while struggling to maintain emotional and financial stability. Henderson details the support groups developed by military wives to bolster themselves against depression, substance abuse, infidelity, the pressures of single parenthood, suicidal impulses, and husbands who return with emotional problems. This powerful, revealing, and sometimes painful book offers a look behind the scenes of military families. (Excerpted from *Booklist*)

Hightower, Kathie and Holly Scherer. *Help! I'm a Military Spouse—I Get a Life Too!: How to Craft a Life for You as You Move with the Military*. Potomac Books, 2007.

ISBN: 9781597970679

ISBN-10: 1597970670

This book is about creatively taking advantage of the military life's opportunities to fulfill your own dreams. Authors Kathie Hightower and Holly Scherer are longtime military spouses who also write military lifestyle columns and present workshops on military family issues. They show how you can tap into the richness and possibilities of a life with the military. This book is for anyone engaged to someone in the military, for the new military spouse, or for the long-time spouse challenged by the military lifestyle.

Hill, Janelle. *The Military Marriage Manual: Tactics for Successful Relationships*. Government Institutes, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1605907650

ISBN-13: 978-1605907659

At a time when divorce and suicide rates are at record levels in the military, this book is an invaluable aid to members of the military and their spouses and families. It presents advice for couples on a range of issues, both extraordinary and mundane, such as the wedding ceremony, relationships with friends and family, household responsibilities, finances, dealing with tension and conflict, raising a family, domestic violence, deployment and long periods apart, depression, and relocating. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Hill, Janelle, Cheryl Lawhorne and Don Philpott. *The Wounded Warrior Handbook: A Resource Guide for Returning Veterans*. 2nd ed. Government Institutes, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1605907383

ISBN-13: 978-1605907383

This trusted resource is comprehensive and easy to use, and the second edition is now the most up-to-date guide for wounded veterans and their families dealing with active-duty injuries. It directs you to answers and resources for the most pressing and difficult questions that wounded veterans face. The second edition has been thoroughly revised to reflect new policies, additional benefits, updated procedures, and changes to insurance, including traumatic injury insurance and social security disability insurance. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Hoge, Charles W. *Once a Warrior—Always a Warrior: Navigating the Transition from Combat to Home—Including Combat Stress, PTSD, and mTBI*. GPP Life, 2010.

ISBN-10: 0762754427

ISBN-13: 978-0762754427

The essential handbook for anyone who has ever returned from a war zone, and their spouse, partner, or family members. In clear practical language, Dr. Hoge explores the latest knowledge in combat stress, PTSD, mTBI, other physiological reactions to war, and their treatment options. Recognizing that warriors and family members change during deployment, he helps them understand each other's experience, especially living with enduring survival skills from the combat environment that are often viewed as "symptoms" back home. The heart of this book focuses on what's necessary to successfully navigate the transition to the home front. The book shows how a warrior's knowledge and skills are vital for living at peace in an insane world. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Holmstedt, Kirsten. *The Girls Come Marching Home: Stories of Women Warriors Returning from the War in Iraq*. Stackpole Books, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0811708462

ISBN-13: 978-0811708463

Deeply personal and emotional accounts of more than a dozen American soldiers returning home from the war in Iraq. Includes women from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Inspiring stories of courage while recovering from physical and psychological wounds. Shows how combat affects someone's entire life, including her family and friends. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Houppert, Karen. *Home Fires Burning: Married to the Military, for Better or Worse*. Ballantine Books, 2006.

ISBN: 9780345461704

ISBN-10: 0345461703

A study of the modern American soldier's wife profiles a group of military wives—many living at Fort Drum in upstate New York—over the course of a year, detailing the conflict between military traditions and a changing social climate.

Kay, Ellie. *Heroes at Home: Help and Hope for America's Military Families*. Bethany House, 2008.

ISBN: 9780764205590

ISBN-10: 0764205595

Filled with actual stories of life in the military, this encouraging book provides helpful guidance for families on active duty and insight for their extended families, friends, and support networks. From her perspective as the wife of an Air Force pilot and mom with five school-age kids, the author includes practical ideas on how to cope with frequent moves, pre-deployment readiness, and how to stay in touch when families are separated.

Korb, Lawrence J., Sean E. Duggan, Peter M. Juul and Max A. Bergmann. *Serving America's Veterans: A Reference Handbook*. Praeger, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0313355266

ISBN-13: 978-0313355264

Korb, former top officer in the Department of Defense, and his co-authors "survey, analyze, and evaluate the infrastructural conditions, administrative and health care service challenges, policies, and politics affecting veterans affairs....They overview the historical context of contemporary veterans affairs....Most critically, they provide practical prescriptions and policy recommendations to address veterans' many, pressing needs.

"The full spectrum of veterans issues is examined: changing personnel policies in the armed forces; unprecedented levels of National Guard and Reserve mobilization; societal reintegration and funding adequacy when the professional military is a relatively small fraction of the U.S. electorate; rising costs of medical technology; and the growing proportion of veterans with conditions requiring protracted rehabilitation or lifelong intensive care." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

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Leyva, Meredith. *Married to the Military: A Survival Guide for Military Wives, Girl-friends, and Women in Uniform*. Simon & Schuster, 2003.

ISBN: 9780743255547

ISBN-10: 0743255542

Written by a seasoned military wife, this book offers advice on dealing with everything from relocation to deployment, discussing the benefits and services to which one is entitled, key military events and how to handle them, how to maintain one's own career in the face of continual moves, and finally deciphering the ins and outs of retirement benefits.

Martinez, J. R. and Alexandra Rockey Fleming. *Full of Heart: My Story of Survival, Strength and Spirit*. Hyperion, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1401324746

ASIN: B00C2IA17U

Full of Heart is the story of Private J. R. Martinez's recovery from severe injuries and burns when his Humvee hit an antitank mine in Iraq. "Out of that tragedy came an improbable journey of inspiration, motivation, and dreams come true... Martinez shares his story... from his upbringing in the American South and his time in the Army to his recovery and the indomitable spirit that have made him an inspiration to countless fans.

"Today, J. R. tours the country sharing his story and his lessons for overcoming challenges and embracing hope, lessons that abound in this book. *Full of Heart* is an unforgettable story of a man who never gave up on his dreams." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Maxwell, Marc C. B. *Surviving Military Separation: A 365-Days Activity Guide for the Families of Deployed Personnel*. Savas Beatie, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1932714235

ISBN-13: 978-1932714234

This book by Marc C. B. Maxwell, a Department of Defense Guidance Counselor and former Army Airborne Ranger, is a helping hand for military families to get through their family member's deployment. It has 365 fun, easy-to-understand, and enjoyable activities broken down into weeklong chunks, to pass the deployment more quickly by taking it one fun and creative step at a time. It also includes a section for journal entries to record thoughts and feelings for a deployed loved one to read later; a calendar to help family members remember important dates; stationery to write their deployed personnel; and a world map to assist family members in locating their deployed loved one. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Pavlicin, Karen M. *Life After Deployment: Military Families Share Reunion Stories and Advice*. Elva Resa, 2007.

ISBN: 9780965748377

ISBN-10: 0965748375

This book captures the moving stories of military families during their reunions. Service members and their spouses, parents, loved ones, and children share the joy and anxiety of homecoming, the adjustments of living together again, and how they coped with anger, depression, PTSD, injuries, grief, and other challenges. Some families had fairy-tale endings. Most worked hard to rebuild relationships after much time and change. A few suffered great losses. They all talk candidly about what their experience was really like, offering hope and advice to others who make this journey.

—. *Surviving Deployment: A Guide for Military Families*. Elva Resa Publishing, 2003.

ISBN-10: 0965748367

ISBN-13: 978-0965748360

Learn what to expect, how to prepare, and how to personally grow as individuals and families. Your survival gear will range from a sturdy toilet plunger to the fine art of

letter writing. You'll manage financial changes, help children express their feelings, and discover a renewed appreciation for everyday life.

Powers, Kevin. *The Yellow Birds: A Novel*. Back Bay Books, 2013.

ISBN-10: 0316219347

ISBN-13: 978-0316219341

Written "by a veteran of the war in Iraq, *The Yellow Birds* is the harrowing story of two young soldiers trying to stay alive." Two privates "cling to life as their platoon launches a bloody battle for the city. Bound together since basic training when Bartle makes a promise to bring Murphy safely home, the two have been dropped into a war neither is prepared for. . . . As reality begins to blur into a hazy nightmare, Murphy becomes increasingly unmoored from the world around him and Bartle takes actions he could never have imagined." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Powers, Rod. *Veterans Benefits for Dummies*. For Dummies, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0470398655

ISBN-13: 978-0470398654

"Saving veterans and their families from months of phone calls and internet searches, *Veterans Benefits for Dummies* outlines the various programs that the VA and other government agencies have in place as well as the procedures for filing applications, claims, and appeals." Benefits covered include: health care, ongoing care for wounded and disabled vets, education assistance, vocational rehabilitation, life insurance, home loan guarantees, pensions, survivors' benefits, and burial benefits. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Redmond, Jessica. *A Year of Absence: Six Women's Stories of Courage, Hope and Love*.

Elva Resa Publishing LLC, 2005.

ISBN-10: 0965748316

ISBN-13: 978-0965748315

A Year of Absence follows the lives of six women whose husbands deploy to Iraq in April 2003. Through tearful goodbyes, long-awaited communication from the front, and joyful yet troubled reunions, this book captures what life is like for many families of deployed soldiers: the ever-present fear of death, the pressures of single-parent hood, and the strength and comfort that come with the support of close friends. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Salbi, Zainab. *The Other Side of War: Women's Stories of Survival and Hope*. National Geographic, 2006.

ISBN-10: 0792262115

ASIN: B002WTCBE0

With stunning images by award-winning photographers Susan Meiselas, Lekha Singh, and Sylvia Plachy, Zainab Salbi presents a riveting collection of letters and first-person narratives by amazing women who survived war's devastation and now must find the strength to rebuild families and communities. Throbbing with pain and loss, yet glowing with courage and hope, the book explores six regions where the nonprofit Women for Women International has helped survivors learn new skills, open small businesses, and forge bonds with sponsors. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Seals-Allers, Kimberly and Pamela M. McBride. *The Mocha Manual to Military Life: A Savvy Guide for Wives, Girlfriends, and Female Service Members*. Harper Paperbacks, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0061690481

ASIN: B003H4RBQ2

From Kimberly Seals-Allers, creator of the Mocha Manual™ series, and Pamela McBride, a seasoned military wife, comes the ultimate guide to life, love, and logistics for military spouses, girlfriends, and female service members. This book has a host

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of tips for optimizing your romance with someone in the military. Beyond matters of the heart, the book offers advice on everything from how to thrive during deployment to how to master military protocol to how to build friendships among military wives. Accessible and witty, this book is a must-read for all women—but particularly African-American and Latina women—affected by military service. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Sherman, Nancy. *The Untold War: Inside the Hearts, Minds, and Souls of Our Soldiers*. Norton, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0393341003

ISBN-13: 978-0393341003

“*The Untold War* draws on revealing interviews with servicemen and -women to offer keen psychological and philosophical insights into the experience of being a soldier. Bringing to light the ethical quandaries that soldiers face—torture, the thin line between fighters and civilians, and the anguish of killing even in a just war—Nancy Sherman opens our eyes to the fact that wars are fought internally as well as externally, . . .” creating serious emotional tolls. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Trudeau, G. B. *The War Within: One More Step at a Time*. Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2006. Kindle Edition 2012.

ISBN-10: 0740762028

ISBN-13: 978-0740762024

“The initial stages of B.D.’s recovery from losing a leg in Iraq were dramatically portrayed in *The Long Road Home: One Step at a Time*, but his healing journey was far from over. As this powerful sequel shows, the ‘war within’ can be a long and lonely struggle. . . . With his coaching job at Walden re-secured and the marathon PT sessions paying off, B.D.’s return to normalcy seems to be progressing well. But those who love him see alarming signs of trouble, namely anger and alcohol. . . . our wounded warrior forces himself to begin circling the local Vet Center, where he is gently and skillfully reeled in by a remarkable counselor and fellow Vietnam Vet named Elias. Their sessions together form an extraordinary and moving chronicle of catharsis and coming-to-terms. The words ‘Welcome home, soldier,’ are powerful and transformative, and B.D. is fortunate in finally getting to a place where he can hear them.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Vandesteeg, Carol. *When Duty Calls: A Handbook for Families Facing Military Separation*. Life Journey/Cook Communications Ministries, 2005.

ISBN: 9780781442886

ISBN-10: 0781442885

In this unique and thorough handbook, a military wife and mom shares practical advice about preparing and dealing with deployment of a loved one. Vandesteeg helps families learn what to expect as they prepare for deployment, how to communicate while separated, how to help children through the separation, and how to prepare for the reunion at the end of the tour of duty.

Vandevoorde, Shellie. *Separated by Duty, United in Love: A Guide to Long-Distance Relationships for Military Couples*. Citadel Press, 2006.

ISBN: 9780806527277

ISBN-10: 0806527277

Addressing head-on the challenges of long-distance relationships with frank, practical advice and anecdotes, this selection is perfect for military couples. Author Shellie Vandevoorde writes with over 20 years’ experience as a military wife. She tackles the tough issues from dealing with the struggle of being a single parent to just managing day to day. The book provides a practical hands-on guide that can help couples in every branch of the service.

Strengthening Our Military Families: Meeting America's Commitment. January 2011, 24 pp. available at www.whitehouse.gov.

A report of a government-wide review of federal and private sector resources that will lay the foundation for a coordinated approach to supporting military families.

Finding Employment After Deployment

There are many resources for job seekers. These books are directed toward veterans in particular.

Clare, Stephen A. *The Little Green Guide for Veterans: The 8 Principles You Need to Know to Get the Job You Want.* CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2010.

ISBN-10: 1453731172

ISBN-13: 978-1453731178

“The book teaches veterans how to successfully transition into finding jobs in the private sector.” (Amazon.com.)

Dorch, Patricia. *Military to Civilian Transition: Job Search Strategies and Tips to Get Hired in the Civilian Job Market.* Execu Dress, 2013.

ISBN-10: 0981685471

ISBN-13: 978-0981685472

This book “is a comprehensive...career resource for Military men and women in transition.” It provides strategies to communicate how military knowledge, skills, and abilities are transferable to the civilian job market. It describes how to prepare for a successful interview, brand for civilian career distinction, overcome an employment gap, use key words in resumes, cover letters and interview conversations, conduct a telephone interview, and ask questions to stand out. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Enelow, Wendy and Louise Kursmark. *Expert Resumes for Military-to-Civilian Transitions.* 2nd edition. Jist Works, 2009.

ISBN-10: 159357732X

ISBN-13: 978-1593577322

Resume strategies and a collection of resumes for former service members looking for a civilian job.

Farley, Janet. *Military-to-Civilian Career Transition Guide: The Essential Job Search Handbook for Service Members.* 2nd Edition. Jist Works, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1593577311

ISBN-13: 978-1593577315

“This book provides a framework for career transition for military service members and their families....[It] addresses the actual entire transition process and includes the family perspective with it.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Faulkner, Michael L., Andrea Nierenberg, and Michael Abrams. *Networking for Veterans: A Guidebook for a Successful Military Transition into the Civilian Workforce.* Pearson Learning Solutions, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1256888877

ISBN-13: 978-1256888871

This book “teaches transitioning service-members how to properly network and build relationships with the people in their community who are most willing and able to help them launch new careers of their choosing.” Topics covered include overcoming the challenges of making a military transition, properly applying military skills and experiences to business situations, building a network of contacts, overcoming the fear of communicating, and interpersonal relationship building. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

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Henderson, David G. *Job Search: Marketing Your Military Experience*. 3rd edition. Stackpole Books, 1999.

ISBN-10: 081172820X

ISBN-13: 978-0811728201

A comprehensive “How to” guide for separating and retiring military personnel. It goes through the entire job search process and contains “chapters on designing an Individual Transition Plan with the latest information on military online services and job search sites on the Internet. Appendices...[have] over 34 sample resumes... cover letters, and a formula for computing salary requirements.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Krannich, Ronald L. and Carl S. Savino. *Military-to-Civilian Resumes and Letters: How to Best Communicate Your Strengths to Employers*. 3rd edition. Impact Publications, 2007.

ISBN-10: 1570232679

ISBN-13: 978-1570232671

This book shows how transitioning military personnel can produce, distribute, follow up, and evaluate employer-centered resumes and letters for maximum impact. It includes 65 key principles, a 6-step military-to-civilian language translation process, over 75 sample resumes and letters, and 100 top Internet employment sites. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Lyden, Mark. *Veterans: Do This! Get Hired! Proven Advice for Veterans That Need a Job*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1456496123

ISBN-13: 978-1456496128

This is a no-nonsense-oriented guide for veterans.

Stein, Tom and Greg Wood. *Fire Your Resume—Military Edition: Tactics for Military Veteran Job Seekers*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1466383828

ISBN-13: 978-1466383821

“A guide for Military Veterans who are looking for civilian employment whether they are still in the military or transition from one civilian career to another.” It describes “strategies and tactics to help employers see the value in the veteran’s military training, skills and expertise.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

—. *Lock and Load!: Job Interview Questions Military Veterans Must Know!* volume 3. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1470138158

ISBN-13: 978-1470138158

This third book in TheHireTactics™ series, explains how to conduct an effective interview. It is designed to help job seekers prepare and rehearse. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

—. *Veteran Employment Tactics!: Packing Yourself for Job Hunting Success*, volume 1. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1470123401

ISBN-13: 978-1470123406

This is the first book in TheHireTactics™ series. It introduces military veterans to the tools needed to brand themselves to stand out from the competition. It explains how the job search system really works and how to use being a veteran as a tactical advantage. The book presents a strategic approach instead of the resume-based approach to a job search. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Troutman, Kathryn Kraemer. *Federal Resume Guidebook: Strategies for Writing a Winning Federal Resume*. Jist Works, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1593578504

ISBN-13: 978-1593578503

This book presents successful resume writing methods and shows how to maximize readability with the Outline Format federal resume, utilize keywords in vacancy announcements, and master the Assessment Questionnaire. It includes dozens of sample federal resumes. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

—. *Military to Federal Career Guide*. 2nd edition. The Resume Place, Inc., 2010.

ISBN-10: 0982419023

ISBN-13: 978-0982419021

This book guides veterans to write a stellar resume for jobs in the federal government. It provides resume tips on how to add keywords to match the resume to a particular vacancy announcement, highlight accomplishments so that federal human resources specialists will notice them, and interpret important sections of the vacancy announcement, such as instructions on how to apply. This edition features a CD-ROM with resume samples. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Wolfe, Tom. *Out of Uniform: Your Guide to a Successful Military-to-Civilian Career Transition*. Potomac Books Inc., 2011.

ISBN-10: 1597977152

ISBN-13: 978-1597977159

This book “is designed to help all transitioning military personnel, regardless of service, branch, rank, rating, time in service, time in grade, or specialty.” It covers the steps in the military-to-civilian transition process. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Books and Plays to Read with Children

Andrews, Beth. *I Miss You!: A Military Kid's Book About Deployment*. Prometheus Books, 2007.

ISBN: 9781591025344

ISBN-10: 1591025346

A guide to help children understand why a parent or sibling had to leave home for military duty, how to cope with their feelings in a positive way, and be assured that they are not alone. This book includes activities to help with the adjustment process.

Brott, Peggie et al. *Military Life: Stories and Poems for Children*. Elva Resa Publishing, 2010.

ISBN-10: 1934617091

ISBN-13: 978-1934617090

“This collection of original stories and poems touches on many aspects of military life from a child’s point of view. From moving to making new friends, deployment, homecoming, patriotism, and tender family moments, *Military Life* gives a glimpse of the many joys and challenges military children experience.” (MilitaryFamily-Books.com.)

Bunting, Eve. *My Red Balloon*. Boyds Mills Press, 2005.

ISBN-10: 1590782631

ISBN-13: 978-1590782637

“A young, blonde preschooler, Bobby, cannot wait for a huge aircraft carrier to dock; Daddy’s ship is coming home after many months at sea. Tension builds as Bobby and his mom leave home and join other families on the quay, watching for the ship, and then, finally, rejoicing as the sailors disembark. To make sure Daddy will recognize him, Bobby carries a big, heart-shaped ‘Welcome home’ balloon. ‘Daddy won’t know me,’ Bobby cries, after losing the balloon, but Daddy knows his son and lifts him in a smiling embrace. True to the small child’s viewpoint, there is no talk of war or patriotism, right or wrong, only that Daddy was ‘making sure our country stays safe.’ The clear, idyllic watercolors show the poignant homecoming and one loving family’s pride, yearning, and heartfelt reunion.” For preschool–grade 4. (*Booklist*.)

**Annotated
Bibliographies
and Other
Resources**

Christiansen, Rebecca. *My Dad's a Hero*. Word Association, 2007.

ISBN-10: 1595712097

ISBN-13: 978-1595712097

This book addresses any child whose father is serving in the military, far from home. These are children who miss their dads, worry about them, and have conflicting emotions and unanswered questions. The author has kept the book uplifting and free from scary words like guns, war, and fighting. The book gives kids permission to be happy and proud of their military dad. "The great illustrations and storylines bring the book to life. Every young person should be exposed to the values and message this book offers in this time of great tribulation," —Major General Patrick D. Wilson, Army National Guard. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Dennis, Brian, Mary Nethery and Kirby Larson. *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle*. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2009.

ISBN-10: 031605318X

ISBN-13: 978-0316053181

"Nubs, an Iraqi dog of war, never had a home or a person of his own. He was the leader of a pack of wild dogs living off the land and barely surviving. But Nubs' life changed when he met Marine Major Brian Dennis. The two formed a fast friendship...Nubs became part of Dennis's human 'pack' until duty required the Marines to relocate a full 70 miles away—without him. Nubs had no way of knowing that Marines were not allowed to have pets.

"So began an incredible journey that would take Nubs through a freezing desert, filled with danger to find his friend and would lead Dennis on a mission that would touch the hearts of people all over the world." (Ages 3 and older) (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Ehrmantraut, Brenda. *Night Catch*. Bubble Gum Press, 2005.

ISBN-10: 0972983392

ISBN-13: 978-0972983396

When a soldier's work takes him halfway around the world, he enlists the help of the North Star for a nightly game of catch with his son. *Night Catch* is a timeless story that connects families while they are apart and offers comforting hope for their reunion. (Amazon.com.)

Ferguson-Cohen, Michelle. *Daddy, You're My Hero!* Little Redhaired Girl Publishing, 2005.

ISBN: 9780972926447

ISBN-10: 0972926445

Children express their feelings about saying good-bye to their fathers, who must leave to fulfill their military obligations.

Greive, Bradley Trevor. *The Blue Day Book for Kids: A Lesson in Cheering Yourself Up*. Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2005.

ISBN: 9780740750236

ISBN-10: 0740750232

Uses photographs of animals to lift the spirits of anyone feeling "blue" and help young readers put negative incidents and feelings in perspective.

Hardin, Melinda. *Hero Dad*. Cavendish, 2010.

ISBN-13: 9780761457138

ISBN: 0761457135

A book that asks (and answers) the question, "What is a hero?"

Hart, Alison. *Darling, Mercy Dog of World War I*. Peachtree Publishers, 2013.
ISBN-10: 1561457051

ISBN-13: 978-1561457052

“At home in England, Darling is a mischievous but much loved pet to Robert and Katherine. But when the British military asks families to volunteer their dogs to help the war effort, they send Darling off to be trained...Darling goes through training along with many other dogs and is ultimately used as a mercy dog, seeking out injured soldiers on the battlefield and leading the medics to them. After saving the lives of numerous soldiers, Darling is faced with a major challenge.” (Amazon.com.)

Herbert, Janis. *The Civil War for Kids: A History with 21 Activities*. Chicago Review Press, 1999.

ISBN-10: 1556523556

ISBN-13: 978-1556523557

“History explodes in this activity guide spanning the turmoil preceding secession, the first shots fired at Fort Sumter, the fierce battles on land and sea, and finally the Confederate surrender at Appomattox. Making butternut dye for a Rebel uniform, learning drills and signals with flags, decoding wigwag, baking hardtack, reenacting battles, and making a medicine kit bring this pivotal period in our nation’s history to life. Fascinating sidebars tell of slaves escaping on the Underground Railroad, the adventures of nine-year-old drummer boy Johnny Clem, animal mascots who traveled with the troops, and friendships between enemies. The resource section includes short biographies of important figures from both sides of the war, listings of Civil War sites across the country, pertinent websites, glossary, and an index.” Grades 4–8. (Amazon.com.)

Hopkinson, Deborah. *From Slave to Soldier: Based on a True Civil War Story*. Simon Spotlight, 2007.

ISBN-10: 0689839669

ISBN-13: 978-0689839665

“Johnny loves his uncle and his master’s mule, but he hates being a slave. So when he’s asked to join the Union army, he accepts. Being a soldier is hard work, and Johnny wonders if he made the right choice. But when the army needs him, Johnny knows it’s up to him to come to the rescue!” Ages 6–8. (Amazon.com.)

Kadohata, Cynthia. *Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008.

ISBN-10: 141690638X

ISBN-13: 978-1416906384

Cracker is one of the U.S. Army’s most valuable weapons: “... a German shepherd trained to sniff out bombs, traps, and the enemy. The fate of entire platoons rests on her keen sense of smell. She’s a Big Deal, and she likes it that way. Sometimes Cracker remembers when she was younger, and her previous owner would feed her hot dogs and let her sleep in his bed. That was nice, too.

“Rick Hanski is headed to Vietnam.” He wants to prove himself but sometimes wonders if he’s got what it takes.

“When Cracker is paired with Rick, she isn’t so sure about this new owner. He’s going to have to prove himself to her before she’s going to prove herself to him. They need to be friends before they can be a team, and they have to be a team if they want to get home alive.

“Told in part through the uncanny point of view of a German shepherd, *Cracker!* is an action-packed glimpse into the Vietnam War as seen through the eyes of a dog and her handler.” For ages 10 and older. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

**Annotated
Bibliographies
and Other
Resources**

LaBelle, Julie and Christina Rodriguez. *My Dad's Deployment: A Deployment and Reunion Activity Book for Young Children*. Elva Resa Publishing, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1934617075

ISBN-13: 978-1934617076

Useful for predeployment and the day of a dad's departure, this book features mazes, dot-to-dot, counting, matching, coloring, crafts, telling time, and other activities familiar to preschool and early elementary children. Addressing common deployment and reunion topics, the activities offer children the opportunity to ask questions, talk about their feelings, and feel connected to their deployed parent. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

—. *My Mom's Deployment: A Deployment and Reunion Activity Book for Young Children*. Elva Resa Publishing, 2010.

ISBN-10: 1934617083

ISBN-13: 978-1934617083

Companion to *My Dad's Deployment*.

London, C. Alexander. *Dog Tags #1: Semper Fido*. Scholastic Paperbacks, 2013.

ISBN-10: 0545477042

ISBN-13: 978-0545477048

"When Gus Dempsey joins the US Marine Corps, he knows without a doubt that he will make a great dog handler. He's always been good with dogs. In fact, he's often better with dogs than he is with people.

"But Loki is not the dog that Gus was expecting. Fun-loving and playful, Loki acts more like a pet than the well-trained, bomb-sniffing Marine that he's supposed to be.

"When Gus and Loki deploy to Afghanistan, though, they have no choice but to learn to work together. Because in war, getting along is a matter of life and death."

Dog Tags "is a series of stand-alone books, each exploring the bond between soldier and dog in times of war." For ages 10 and older. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

McCormick, Wendy. *Daddy, Will You Miss Me?* Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1999.

ISBN: 9780689818981

ISBN-10: 068981898X

A boy and his daddy come up with lots of different ways to stay close to one another while the daddy is in Africa for four weeks.

McElroy, Lisa Tucker and illustrated by Diane Paterson. *Love, Lizzie: Letters to a Military Mom*. Whitman, 2005.

ISBN: 9780807547779

ISBN-10: 0807547778

Nine-year-old Lizzie writes to her mother, who is deployed overseas during wartime, and includes maps that show her mother what Lizzie has been thinking and doing. Includes nonfiction tips for helping children of military families.

McPherson, James M. *Fields of Fury: The American Civil War*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2002.

ISBN-10: 0689848331

ISBN-13: 978-0689848339

“Pulitzer Prize award-winning historian James M. McPherson has written for young readers a stirring account of...the Civil War, bringing to life the tragic struggle that divided not only a nation, but also friends and family. From the initial Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, to the devastating loss of life at Shiloh as Ulysses S. Grant led the Union to unexpected victory, to the brilliance of Stonewall Jackson’s campaign at Shenandoah, to General Pickett’s famous charge at Gettysburg, to the Union’s triumph at Appomattox Court House, *Fields of Fury* details the war that helped shape us as a nation.

“Also included are personal anecdotes from the soldiers at the battlefield and the civilians at home, as well as profiles of...Robert E. Lee, Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, and Ulysses S. Grant. McPherson also explores the varied roles that women played during the war, healthcare on the battlefield, and the demise of slavery.

“McPherson’s narrative is highlighted with black-and-white photographs taken by Civil War photographers Mathew Brady and Timothy O’Sullivan, period oil paintings, and key campaign and battlefield maps, that make *Fields of Fury* the consummate book on the American Civil War for kids.” For ages 9 and older. (Amazon.com.)

Murphy, Sylvia. *Shadow: The Story of a Wartime Cat*. S A Greenland, 2010. Kindle edition available through Amazon Digital Services, Inc.

ISBN-10: 0955051266

ISBN-13: 978-0955051265

Shadow is a story that combines the lives of two stray Persian cats during World War II. One of them was adopted by a family despite the rationing of food during the war. The cat enjoyed more than 20 years of love and care and lived with the family until she died of old age (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Myers, Laurie. *Escape by Night: A Civil War Adventure*. Holt, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0805088253

ISBN-13: 978-0805088250

“Ten-year-old Tommy and his sister Annie are intrigued by the new soldiers arriving in their Georgia town. Since the Civil War started, wounded men waiting to be treated at the local church-turned-hospital have been coming in by droves. When Tommy sees a soldier drop his notebook, he sends his dog, Samson, to fetch it. Tommy soon meets the soldier and is faced with the hardest decision he’s ever had to make: whether or not he should help a Yankee escape to freedom.

“Filled with intriguing suspense and tackling difficult questions about slavery, this story, told in accessible short chapters, will appeal to history buffs as well as those who appreciate a faithful dog.” Ages 8 and older. (Amazon.com.)

Nolan, Timothy. *Read-Aloud Plays: Civil War*. Scholastic Professional Books, 1999.

ISBN-10: 0590028979

ISBN-13: 978-0590028974

These five original plays for children nine and older (grades 4–8) in this unique collection cover important points during the Civil War such as the South’s decision to secede, the Battle of Gettysburg, the surrender at Appomattox, and Lincoln’s plan for reconstruction. It makes history real by giving students insights into the people who lived through these events such as Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, Abraham Lincoln, and Frederick Douglass. Includes background information and related creative activities. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

**Annotated
Bibliographies
and Other
Resources**

Osborne, Mary Pope. *Abe Lincoln at Last!* Magic Tree House #47. Random House, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0375868259

ISBN-13: 978-0375868252

“Jack and Annie are [on a presidential adventure]! They are trying to get a special feather that will help save Merlin’s baby penguin, Penny. When the magic tree house whisks them back to Washington, D.C., in 1861, Jack can’t wait to meet Abraham Lincoln himself! But the new president is too busy to see them, as he is desperately trying to save a nation in crisis.

“When Jack and Annie ask for some magical help, they go back even further in time to a mysterious woods. Are these the same woods where Abraham Lincoln takes his daily horse ride? If so, can an orphan named Sam help them find Abe? Or will Jack and Annie have to help Sam instead?

“It’s a race against time as Jack and Annie try to do the right thing. Plus, they still have to aid a president and a troubled nation, as well as get the object that will save Penny the penguin!” For ages 7–10. (Amazon.com.)

—. *Civil War on Sunday*. Magic Tree House #21. Random House, 2000.

ISBN-10: 067989067X

ISBN-13: 978-0679890676

“...Jack and Annie hear [cannon fire] when the Magic Tree House whisks them back to the time of the American Civil War. There they meet a famous nurse named Clara Barton and do their best to help wounded soldiers. It is their hardest journey in time yet—and the one that will make the most difference to their own lives!” For ages 6–9. (Amazon.com.)

Osborne, Mary Pope, Natalie Pope Boyce and Sal Murdocca. *Magic Tree House Fact Tracker: Abraham Lincoln: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #47: Abe Lincoln at Last!* Random House, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0375870245

ISBN-13: 978-0375870248

“Filled with up-to-date information, photos, illustrations, and fun tidbits from Jack and Annie,” this companion volume helps kids from 7-10 learn more about Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. *Dogs on Duty: Soldiers’ Best Friends on the Battlefield and Beyond*. Walker Childrens, 2012.

ISBN: 0802728456

ISBN-13: 978-0802728456

“Throughout history, dogs have been key contributors to military units. Dorothy Hinshaw Patent follows man’s best friend onto the battlefield, showing readers why dogs are uniquely qualified for the job at hand, how they are trained, how they contribute to missions, and what happens when they retire. With full-color photographs throughout and sidebars featuring heroic canines throughout history, *Dogs on Duty* provides a fascinating look at these exceptional soldiers and companions.” For children ages 7–10. (Amazon.com.)

Schepper, Denise Marie. *My Dad the Navy Hero*. PublishAmerica, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1424195195

ISBN-13: 978-1424195190

A little girl sees her father as her hero. She is so proud of her dad; they have so much love for each other. Her dad is in the Navy. He has been living on a ship for some time. He’s at war helping other countries fight for freedom. She tries to understand the best way she can for a little girl. The small amount of time they have together, before he has to go back to his duty, is very special. (Amazon.com.)

Sederman, Marty and Seymour Epstein. *The Magic Box: When Parents Can't Be There to Tuck You In*. Magination Press, 2002.

ISBN: 9781557988065

ISBN-10: 1557988064

Casey's dad has to go away for a couple of days—AGAIN! Casey hates it that his father has to travel so often. But this time Dad leaves a special gift that will help Casey cope with his absence and future trips as well. This upbeat and delightfully illustrated book contains many valuable tips for families in which a parent is frequently away from home. Includes a note to parents.

Skolmoski, Stephanie and Anneliese Bennion. *A Paper Hug*. Self published, 2006.

ISBN-10: 0978642503

ISBN-13: 978-0978642501

Have you ever said good-bye to someone very dear? Here's a story about a little boy who figured out the best gift to give his dad who was leaving to serve his country...a paper hug. (Amazon.com.)

Spinelli, Eileen. *While You Are Away*. Hyperion Paperbacks for Children, 2008.

ISBN: 9781423113515

ISBN-10: 1423113519

In first-person narratives, three children anticipate happy reunions with their parents, who are on active military duty overseas. The stories are upbeat and reassuring, and the book concludes with the safe return of all, each from a different branch of the armed forces.

Stanchak, John. *Eyewitness Civil War*. DK Publishing, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0756672678

ISBN-13: 978-0756672676

Eyewitness Books released this volume "in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the Civil War" and reissued it with a CD and wall chart. It provides photographs of rare documents, weapons, and artifacts plus images of "legendary commanders, unsung heroes, and memorable heroines." These "combine with stories of courage, adventure, and defiance to paint an unforgettable portrait of the Civil War." For ages 8 and older. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Warren, Andrea. *Under Siege!: Three Children at the Civil War Battle for Vicksburg*.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0374312559

ISBN-13: 978-0374312558

"Meet Lucy McRae and two other young people, Willie Lord and Frederick Grant, all survivors of the Civil War's Battle for Vicksburg. In 1863, Union troops intend to silence the cannons guarding the Mississippi River at Vicksburg—even if they have to take the city by siege. To hasten surrender, they are shelling Vicksburg night and day. Terrified townspeople, including Lucy and Willie, take shelter in caves—enduring heat, snakes, and near suffocation. On the Union side, twelve-year-old Frederick Grant has come to visit his father, General Ulysses S. Grant, only to find himself in the midst of battle, experiencing firsthand the horrors of war.

"Period photographs, engravings, and maps extend this dramatic story as award-winning author Andrea Warren re-creates one of the most important Civil War battles through the eyes of ordinary townspeople, officers and enlisted men from both sides, and, above all, three brave children who were there." For ages 10 and older. (Amazon.com.)

Wilson, Karma and Raul Colon. *How to Bake an American Pie*. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2007. (Source: militarychild.org)
ISBN-10: 0689865066
ISBN-13: 978-0689865060

This book for elementary school children serves up a celebration of our country, its founders, and the immigrants who built it with a rhyming recipe. With frequent references to America the Beautiful, the tribute includes tangible geographic ingredients such as fruited plains, fields of amber grains, and purple mountain majesties. Less-tangible fixings include meekness, might, courage, liberty, justice, freedom, dreams, forgiveness, and customs from faraway lands. (Excerpted from *School Library Journal*)

Additional Titles

- Appel, Allen and Mike Rothmiller. *My Hero: Military Kids Write About Their Moms and Dads*.
- Barboza, Jayden. *Come Home Soon*.
- Biank, Tanya. *Army Wives: The Unwritten Code of Military Marriage*.
- Biden, Jill. *Don't Forget, God Bless Our Troops*.
- Brott, Armin A. *The Military Father: A Hands-on Guide for Deployed Dads*.
- Burana, Lily. *I Love a Man in Uniform: A Memoir of Love, War, and Other Battles*.
- Cline, Lydia. *Today's Military Wife*.
- Cook, Jane Hampton, John Croushorn and Jocelyn Green. *Battlefields and Blessings Iraq/Afghanistan: Stories of Faith and Courage*.
- DeMille, Katherine. *I Wish Daddy Was Here*.
- Diaz, Sue. *Minefields of the Heart: A Mother's Stories of a Son at War*.
- Eckhart, Jacey. *Homefront Club: The Hardheaded Woman's Guide to Raising a Military Family*.
- Fallon, Siobhan. *You Know When the Men Are Gone*.
- Fitzgerald, Helen. *The Grieving Teen: A Guide for Teenagers and Their Friends*.
- Garnett, Sammie, Jerry Pallotta and Rob Bolster. *U.S. Navy Alphabet Book*.
- Garrett, Sheryl and Sue Hoppin. *A Family's Guide to the Military for Dummies*.
- Goldblatt, Rob. *The Boy Who Didn't Want to Be Sad*.
- Gross, Mollie. *Confessions of a Military Wife*.
- Hall, Lynn K. *Counseling Military Families: What Mental Health Professionals Need to Know*.
- Hallowell, Kirsten. *Daddy Is a Soldier*.
- Hilbrecht, Kirk and Sharron Hilbrecht. *My Daddy Is a Soldier*.
- Holland, Trish and Christine Ford. *The Soldier's Night Before Christmas*.
- Horn, Sara. *My So-Called Life as a Proverbs 31 Wife: A One-Year Experiment...and Its Surprising Results*.
- Hoyt, Carmen R. *Daddy's in Iraq, But I Want Him Back*.
- Jensen-Fritz, Sara, Paula Jones-Johnson and Thea L. Zitzow. *You and Your Military Hero: Building Positive Thinking Skills During Your Hero's Deployment*.
- Karst, Patrice and Geoff Stevenson. *The Invisible String*.
- Lange, Janel. *The Treasure of Staying Connected for Military Couples*.
- Mackenzie, Ross H. *My Sailor Dad*.
- Madison, Alan. *100 Days and 99 Nights*.
- Makekau, Maryann and Colonel Wayne Sumpter. *When Your Dad Goes to War: Helping Children Cope with Deployment and Beyond*.
- Marler, Jerilyn and Nathan Stoltenberg. *Lily Hates Goodbyes*.
- McBride, Sharon. *My Mommy Wears Combat Boots*.

- McGrath, Lissa. *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Life as a Military Spouse*.
- Mersiowsky, Anissa. *A Yellow Ribbon for Daddy*.
- Monetti, Tony and Penny Monetti. *Called to Serve: Encouragement, Support, and Inspiration for Military Families*.
- Mull, Donna. *A Prayer Journey Through Deployment*.
- Neven, Tom. *On the Frontline: A Personal Guidebook for the Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual Challenges of Military Life*.
- Pace, Brenda and Carol McGlothlin. *Medals Above My Heart: The Rewards of Being a Military Wife*.
- . *The One Year Yellow Ribbon Devotional: Take a Stand in Prayer for Our Nation and Those Who Serve*.
- Panier, Karen and Teresa Blomquist. *Love Spots*.
- Pelton, Mindy and Robert Gantt Steele. *When Dad's at Sea*.
- Penn, Audrey. *The Kissing Hand*.
- Petty, Karen. *Deployment: Strategies for Working with Kids in Military Families*.
- Pickup, Stephanie L. *The Soldier's Tree*.
- Pierce-Lunderman, Cursha. *God's Going Too!: His Promises for Kids During Deployments*.
- Rahm, Julie. *Military Kids Speak: Celebrating the Way You Think About Being a Military Kid*.
- Record a Story: Guess How Much I Miss You*. Editors of Publications International, 2010.
- Redman, Mary and Christina Rodriguez. *The Wishing Tree*.
- Reinart, Janie and Mary Anne Mayer. *Love You More Than You Know*.
- Rivera, Santana. *Deployment*.
- Robertson, Rachel. *Deployment Journal for Kids*.
- . *Deployment Journal for Spouses: Memories and Milestones While My Loved One Is Deployed*.
- Rusackas, Francesca. *I Love You All Day Long*.
- Schindler, Michael J. R., Shannon Evans and Shoto Design. *Operation Military Family: How Military Couples Are Fighting to Preserve Their Marriages*.
- Scillian, Devin and Victor Juhasz. *H Is for Honor: A Military Family Alphabet*.
- Smiley, Sarah. *Going Overboard: The Misadventures of a Military Wife*.
- Sokol, Jenny. *I'm a Hero Too*.
- The Soldier's Bible*. Holman Bible Editorial Staff, 2004.
- Spelman, Cornelia Maude and Kathy Parkinson. *When I Miss You*.
- Spelman, Cornelia Maude and Nancy Cote. *When I Feel Angry*.
- Thomas, James R. and Jill M. Norton. *What Will I Play While You Are Away?*
- Thomas, Pat and Leslie Harker. *I Miss You: A First Look at Death*.
- Tillman, Nancy. *Wherever You Are: My Love Will Find You*.
- Tomp, Sarah Wones and Ann Barrow. *Red, White, and Blue Good-bye*.
- Trudeau, G. B. *Signature Wound: Rocking TBI*.
- . *The War Within: One Step at a Time*.
- Waddle, Marshelle Carter. *Hope for the Home Front: Winning the Emotional and Spiritual Battles of a Military Wife*.
- . *Hope for the Home Front Bible Study: Winning the Emotional and Spiritual Battles of a Military Wife*.
- Weaver, Susan B. *Heroes! Activities for Kids Dealing with Deployment*.

Military Dogs and Other Animals and Bringing Them Home from the War

Anthony, Lawrence, and Graham Spence. *Babylon's Ark: The Incredible Wartime Rescue of the Baghdad Zoo*. St. Martin's Griffin, 2008.

ISBN-10: 0312382154

ISBN-13: 978-0312382155

This book tells the story of one of the world's greatest animal rescues. "When the Iraq war began, conservationist Lawrence Anthony could think of only one thing: the fate of the Baghdad Zoo, caught in the crossfire at the heart of the city. Once Anthony entered Iraq he discovered that hostilities and uncontrolled looting had devastated the zoo and its animals. Working with members of the zoo staff and a few compassionate U.S. soldiers, he defended the zoo, bartered for food on war-torn streets, and scoured bombed palaces for desperately needed supplies. *Babylon's Ark* chronicles Anthony's hair-raising efforts to save a pride of Saddam's lions, close a deplorable black-market zoo, run ostriches through shoot-to-kill checkpoints, and rescue the dictator's personal herd of thoroughbred Arabian horses." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Bacon, Lance M. *Hero Dogs: Secret Missions and Selfless Service*. White Star Publishers, 2012.

ISBN-10: 8854406570

ISBN-13: 978-8854406575

"Today's specially trained war dogs...are a breed apart, assisting their human friends in locating improvised explosive devices, conducting clandestine missions, and more. Many have earned recognition for heroism. Others struggle with wounds and post-traumatic stress. Dozens died in the line of duty. Filled with hundreds of dramatic never-before-seen photos, this one-of-a-kind book features inspiring tales of selfless battlefield service related by the war dogs' handlers and fellow soldiers." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Crisp, Terri, and Cynthia Hum. *No Buddy Left Behind: Bringing U.S. Troops' Dogs and Cats Safely Home from the Combat Zone*. Lyons Press, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0762773863

ISBN-13: 978-0762773862

This book tells about "[h]ow the love of a stray dog or cat rescued in the combat zone helps U.S. troops deal with the trauma of war, and how one woman risks everything to bring these soldiers' buddies home." (Amazon.com.)

Dowling, Mike. *Sergeant Rex: The Unbreakable Bond Between a Marine and His Military Working Dog*. Atria Books, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1451635974

ISBN-13: 978-1451635973

"Called 'a deeply affecting tale of courage and devotion in the cauldron of war' by *Publishers Weekly*, Sergeant Mike Dowling's heart-pounding account of an unbreakable bond between man and dog takes us into the searing 130-degree heat, the choking dust, and the ever-present threat of violent attack in Iraq's infamous Triangle of Death. In 2004, Dowling and his military working dog Rex were part of the first Marine Corps military K9 teams sent to the front lines of combat since Vietnam. It was Rex's job to sniff out weapons caches, suicide bombers, and IEDs, the devastating explosives that wreaked havoc on troops and civilians. It was Mike's job to lead Rex into the heart of danger. An extraordinary chronicle of loyalty in the face of terrible adversity, *Sergeant Rex* is an unforgettable story of sacrifice, courage, and love." (Amazon.com.)

Farthing, Pen. *One Dog at a Time: Saving the Strays of Afghanistan*. St. Martin's Griffin, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1250001951

ASIN: B00BJY0D80

“In the remote outpost of Now Zad, Afghanistan, Pen Farthing and his troop of young [British] Royal Marines survive frequent engagements with the Taliban and forge links with the local community. Appalled by the horrors of local dog fighting, Pen has no choice but to intervene. Then one of the dogs he frees finds his way into the Marine compound—and into Pen’s heart. Soon other strays are drawn into the sanctuary provided by the makeshift pound, including one young mother who crawls under the compound fence carrying her newborn pups to safety. As his tour of duty draws to an end, Pen cannot leave the dogs of Now Zad to their fates. He begins hatching plans to help them escape to a better life.

“*One Dog at a Time* is the gripping account of one man’s courage and humanity, and his fight to make a difference in the most hostile and dangerous environments, one dog at a time.” (Amazon.com.)

Frankel, Rebecca. *War Dogs*. Atria Books, 2013.

ISBN-10: 1451674074

ISBN-13: 978-1451674071

“For more than 100 years, dogs have fought alongside U.S. soldiers on and off the battlefield...In *War Dogs*, journalist Rebecca Frankel delves into the remarkable realm of these specially trained canines...to provide a full understanding of what dogs and their human compatriots go through day after day under fire—and the striking bond that evolves between them. Frankel explores this full-circle relationship even as it extends beyond war with therapy dogs—canines healing the wounds of combat, both physical and psychological. From the Civil War to the War on Terror, dogs’ role in military missions has remained one of the most intriguing—and most effective—weapons in the arsenal of modern warfare. And...Frankel makes a passionate case for keeping war dog programs as a permanent and well-funded military force.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Gardiner, Juliet. *The Animals’ War: Animals in Wartime from the First World War to the Present Day*. Portrait, 2006.

ISBN-10: 0749951036

ISBN-13: 978-0749951030

This book was “[p]ublished in association with the [British] Imperial War Museum, to coincide with their major exhibition...From the First World War to the present day, animals have played a key part in warfare...Juliet Gardiner’s book is a moving tribute to their efforts and sacrifice—illustrated with hundreds of evocative photographs and paintings. Many different animals have played a role on the battlefield—horses and mules carrying supplies and munitions; dogs, like Buster in Iraq, seeking out ammo dumps; canaries trained by tunnellers to detect gas; carrier pigeons sending messages, like Gustav who flew back with the first reports of the D-Day landings; camels used in the Arab Revolt in the First World War; and dolphins trained to protect submarines.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Goodavage, Maria. *Soldier Dogs*. Dutton, 2012.

ISBN-10: 0525952780

ASIN: B00B9ZE3LM

“A dog’s natural intelligence, physical abilities, and pure loyalty contribute more to our military efforts than ever before. You don’t have to be a dog lover to be fascinated by the idea that a dog...could be one of the heroes who helped execute the” raid on Osama bin Laden’s compound.

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Soldier Dogs "...tells heartwarming stories of modern soldier dogs and the amazing bonds that develop between them and their handlers. Beyond tales of training, operations, retirement, and adoption into the families of fallen soldiers, Goodavage talks to leading dog-cognition experts about why dogs like nothing more than to be on a mission with a handler they trust, no matter how deadly the IEDs they are sniffing, nor how far they must parachute or rappel from aircraft into enemy territory." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Keeney, Douglas. *Buddies: Men, Dogs and World War II*. Zenith Press, 2001.

ISBN-10: 0760310203

ISBN-13: 978-0760310205

"One of the most effective forms of American propaganda during World War II was the morale-boosting dog or buddy photo. The photos in this collection are, for the most part, previously unpublished, and each is accompanied by the stories of the dogs and their service in Europe and the Pacific." (Amazon.com.)

Kinsolving, Kathleen. *Dogs of War: The Stories of FDR's Fala, Patton's Willie, and Ike's Telek*. WND Books, 2012.

ISBN-10: 193648840X

ISBN-13: 978-1936488407

"*Dogs of War* is a treasure trove of marvelous anecdotes, scintillating tidbits, and delightful photographs of three beloved dogs sharing the limelight with Roosevelt, Patton, and Eisenhower as they battled together in their efforts to save the world from fascism. It includes such stories as Fala accompanying FDR on board the *USS Augusta*, where the President and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill signed the Atlantic Charter; Willie, who shuddered with fear at the sounds of gunfire during combat but traveled with Patton everywhere; and Telek, who garnered front page coverage in the British tabloid media when he and 'wife' Caacie, pregnant with puppies, were photographed at a kennel during a six-month quarantine after returning home with Ike from Algiers. *Dogs of War* celebrates the unconditional, loving bond for man and his best friend, [and] pays tribute to World War II history...." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Kopelman, Jay and Melinda Roth. *From Baghdad with Love: A Marine, the War, and a Dog Named Lava*. Lyons Press, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1599211823

ISBN-13: 978-1599211824

"A war memoir that will capture the hearts of its readers, just as one scruffy puppy sneaked his way into the hearts of hardened Marines just when they needed it most." (Amazon.com.)

Lemish, Michael G. *War Dogs: A History of Loyalty and Heroism*. Potomac Books, 1999.

ISBN-10: 1574882163

ISBN-13: 978-1574882162

"... *War Dogs* provides an eye-opening look at unsung canine heroes from World War I to the present. Terriers, shepherds, beagles, collies, huskies, and Dobermans are only a few of the breeds that have pulled sleds, searched caves and bunkers, and even parachuted into combat. Michael Lemish has collected true stories and rare photographs that reflect the strong bonds that have formed between war dogs and their masters as they worked together in dangerous situations." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Montalvan, Luis Carlos and Bret Witter. *Until Tuesday: A Wounded Warrior and the Golden Retriever Who Saved Him*. Hyperion Reprint edition, 2012.

ISBN-10: 978-1401310752

ISBN-13: 978-1401310752

A heartwarming story about a golden retriever, Tuesday, who changes a former soldier's life. Luis Montalvan suffered physical wounds and PTSD after returning from two tours of duty in Iraq. Tuesday was trained to assist disabled people and had lost his ability to trust or connect with humans. *Until Tuesday* tells the story of how the veteran and the dog help each other recover. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

O'Donnell, John E. *None Came Home: The War Dogs of Vietnam*. 1st Book Library, 2001.

ISBN-10: 0759601593

ISBN-13: 978-0759601598

"Mr. O'Donnell is a...USAF Vietnam Combat Veteran/K-9 Sentry Dog Handler who served in U-Tapao, Thailand during his active duty service. Sgt. O'Donnell's novel represents a dream of what could have been done to restore order from the powerless trauma...regarding the U.S. Government's requirement to abandon K-9s at the end of the Vietnam War. It is a poignant piece criss-crossed with hope and hopelessness..." from the loss of the dogs by the handlers who had bonded with them. (Adapted from Amazon.com customer review)

Putney, William. *Always Faithful: A Memoir of the Marine Dogs of WWII*. Potomac Books, 2003.

ISBN-10: 157488719X

ISBN-13: 978-1574887198

Marine "... veterinarian, William W. Putney...commanded the Third Dog Platoon during the battle for Guam and later served as chief veterinarian and commanding officer of the War Dog Training School, where he helped train former pets for war in the Pacific. After the war, he fought successfully to have USMC war dogs returned to their civilian owners.

"*Always Faithful* is Putney's celebration of the four-legged soldiers that he both commanded and followed. It is a tale of immense courage as well as of incredible sacrifice..."(Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Ritland, Michael and Gary Brozek. *Trident K9 Warriors: My Tale from the Training Ground to the Battlefield with Elite Navy SEAL Canines*. St. Martin's, 2013.

ISBN-10: 1250024978

ISBN-13: 978-1250024978

"... *Trident K9 Warriors* gives readers an inside look at the...fewer than 1 percent of all working dogs [that have] what it takes to contribute to the success of our nation's elite combat units." It describes "...who they are, how they are trained, and the extreme missions they undertake saving countless lives, asking for little in the way of reward."

"Though fiercely aggressive and athletic, these dogs develop a close bond with the handlers they work side by side with and the other team members. Truly integrating themselves into their units, these K9 warriors are much like their human counterparts—unwavering in their devotion to duty, strong enough and tough enough to take it to the enemy through pain, injury, or fear." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Rogak, Lisa. *The Dogs of War: The Courage, Love, and Loyalty of Military Working Dogs*. St Martin's Griffin, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1250009464

ISBN-13: 978-1250009463

"*The Dogs of War* reveals the amazing range of jobs that our four-legged soldiers now perform, examines the dogs' training and equipment, and sets the record straight on

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those rumors of titanium teeth. You'll find heartwarming stories of the deep bond that dogs and their handlers share with each other, and learn how soldiers and civilians can help the cause by fostering puppies or adopting retirees." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Selbert, Kathryn. *War Dogs: Churchill and Rufus*. Charlesbridge Publishing, 2013.
ISBN-10: 1580894143

ISBN-13: 978-1580894142

"Winston Churchill, often noted for his tenacious, bulldog-like personality, was one of the greatest wartime leaders of the modern era. But few people know that he was also a devoted poodle owner. The friendship between the British Bulldog and his faithful miniature poodle, Rufus, spans World War II and takes readers through the bombings of London, the invasion of Normandy, and post-war reconstruction. Churchill quotes appear as secondary text and underscore the prime minister's trademark eloquence and forceful personality." (Amazon.com.)

Sullivan, Christine. *Saving Cinnamon: The Amazing True Story of a Missing Military Puppy and the Desperate Mission to Bring Her Home*. St Martin's Griffin, 2010.

ISBN-10: 031264955X

ISBN-13: 978-0312649555

"Set against the backdrop of the war in Afghanistan, *Saving Cinnamon* chronicles the love story of Navy Reservist Mark Feffer and a stray puppy he bonded with while stationed outside of Kandahar. When Mark is about to return stateside, he decides to adopt Cinnamon and sets up her transport back to the U.S. But the unthinkable happens and Cinnamon is abandoned by the dog handler who was supposed to bring her home, and disappears without a trace. Mark and his family start a desperate search for the puppy which lasts 44 days and ends dramatically when Mark and Cinnamon are finally reunited. This is a touching memoir told by Mark's sister, who initiated the rescue efforts." (Amazon.com.)

Websites

VA Kids

<http://www.va.gov/kids/>

VA Kids: Helping kids understand what it means to be a veteran
Deployment Health and Family Readiness Library

<http://deploymenthealthlibrary.fhp.osd.mil/>

Defense Threat Reduction Agency: Deployed Military Family Support

<http://www.dtra.mil/be/deployed/index.cfm>

National Mental Health Information Center

<http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/cmhs/ChildrensCampaign/>

Military101.com

<http://www.military101.com/>

Source for information on the resources available to those who serve, and those who have served in the US Armed Forces.

Armed Forces Resources

<http://www.fafirt.ala.org/president/>

Official blog for the Federal and Armed Forces Librarian Round Table

Mental Health America

[http://www.mentalhealthanswers.org/page.](http://www.mentalhealthanswers.org/page.asp?pageid=0|117|135&id=0|armed_forces_resources)

[asp?pageid=0|117|135&id=0|armed_forces_resources](http://www.mentalhealthanswers.org/page.asp?pageid=0|117|135&id=0|armed_forces_resources)

MilitaryHOMEFRONT

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

MilitaryHOMEFRONT is the Department of Defense website for official Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP) program information, policy and guidance designed to help troops and their families, leaders, and service providers. Whether you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, you'll find what you need!

Reader's Digest

<http://www.rd.com/your-america-inspiring-people-and-stories/resources-for-military-families/article142004.html>

Resources for military families compiled by Kathryn M. Tyranski from Reader's Digest.

The National Military Family Association

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/>

The National Military Family Association fights for benefits and programs that strengthen and protect uniformed services families and reflect the nation's respect for their service.

The National Military Family Association website also includes a toolkit for Military Teens at:

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/publications/deployment-family-research/toolkits.html>

The Military.com

<http://www.military.com/NewContent/1,13190,Spouse,00.html>

Spouse and Family Benefits & Resources: Know your benefits as the spouse or family member of a military service member or veteran—keep up with benefits and resources in the Insider's Spouse and Family Benefits & Resources section, and find useful guides on deployment, careers, relocation, and more.

SurvivingDeployment.com: Information and resources for military families

<http://www.survivingdeployment.com/>

SurvivingDeployment.com is a site for and about military families written by military family members. Our mission is to inform and support military families during the difficult time of deployment. Contains articles and books on many topics, including homecoming. Many links to other websites.

Deploymentkids.com

www.deploymentkids.com

Contains activities to do with kids whose family members are deployed.

The Military Family Research Institute

<http://www.mfri.purdue.edu/>

The Military Family Research Institute is one of the leading organizations in the nation with the mission of conducting research about, with, and for military families.

United States Department of Veterans Affairs

<http://www.mirecc.va.gov>

Additional resources, bibliography, and websites can be found at:

http://www.mirecc.va.gov/VISN16/docs/Resources_OIF_Families_090319.pdf

The Armed Forces Legal Assistance

<http://legalassistance.law.af.mil/index.php>

The Armed Forces Legal Assistance (AFLA) website is a joint initiative of the Armed Forces legal assistance offices that aims to provide general legal information to the military community to enhance its readiness.

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Defense Centers of Excellence

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/>

DCoE assesses, validates, oversees, and facilitates prevention, resilience, identification, treatment, outreach, rehabilitation, and reintegration programs for psychological health and traumatic brain injury to ensure the Department of Defense meets the needs of the nation's military communities, warriors, and families.

DCoE brings together a variety of interdisciplinary resources and centers of excellence that can help family members identify community and military resources to help better understand and cope with psychological health and traumatic brain injury concerns affecting them or the warriors they love at:

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/forfamilies.aspx>

National Child Traumatic Stress Network

http://nctsnet.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=ctr_top_military

The Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress—an NCTSN member site—and FOCUS (Families OverComing Under Stress)—a project cosponsored by the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress—perform research on, develop resources about, and provide assistance to military families.

SesameWorkshop.org

<http://www.sesameworkshop.org/initiatives/emotion/tlc>

Videos for children about coping with deployments, homecomings, changes, and grieving.

Military Child Education Coalition

<http://www.militarychild.org/>

Army Well-Being: Sustaining the All-Volunteer Force

<http://www.armywell-being.org/skins/WBLO/home.aspx>

U.S. Army Child, Youth & School Services

<http://www.armymwr.com/family/childandyouth/default.aspx>

Military Impacted Schools Association

<http://www.militarystudent.org/>

Military Youth on the Move

<http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/pls/psgprod/>

?p=MYOM:HOME:4529426912561325

Joining Forces

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces>

Joining Forces “is a national initiative by First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden that mobilizes all sectors of society to give our service members and their families the opportunities and support they have earned” (from website). It promotes ways for individuals to get involved, including activities that could be hosted by libraries.

SchoolQuest.org, an Initiative of Military Child Education Coalition

<http://www.schoolquest.org>

<http://www.schoolquest.org/state-education-resources/>

A compilation of school requirements and resources for all 50 states, DoDEA and Washington, D.C.

<http://www.schoolquest.org/library/>

Full of resources to answer questions about educational transitions, college and workplace readiness, special needs, and many other subjects.

National Association of Child Care Resources and Referral

[http://www.naccrra.org/MilitaryPrograms/.](http://www.naccrra.org/MilitaryPrograms/)

Lists the NACCRRRA (National Association of Child Care Resources and Referral)-accredited child care programs for each branch of the military.

Military-Connected Students and Public School Attendance Policies

http://www.militarychild.org/files/pdfs/2010_SchoolAttendancePolicies.pdf

Make the Connection: Shared Experiences and Support for Veterans

<http://maketheconnection.net>

A website of the US Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans returning home.

VA GI Bill

<http://www.gibill.va.gov/>

This website is the home for all educational benefits provided by VA with tools and resources to help veterans pursue college degrees, on-the-job training, apprenticeships, or non-college degrees programs.

After Deployment: Wellness Resources for the Military Community

<http://www.afterdeployment.org>

Resources especially for veterans and service members related to job performance, making the transition to civilian life, and how to recognize other issues you may be dealing with.

Books for Military Families

www.militaryfamilybooks.com

“MilitaryFamilyBooks.com is owned and operated by Elva Resa Publishing, an independent book publisher whose main imprint specializes in resources for military families and whose mission is to make a positive difference in people’s lives. The vision of MilitaryFamilyBooks.com is to offer a range of carefully chosen, high quality resources catered to military families’ needs and lifestyle.”
(from website)

Websites from the Educator’s Guide to the Military Child During Deployment

available at <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/homefront/index.html>

Army:

www.goacs.org (click on family readiness)

Navy:

<http://www.lifelines.navy.mil/lifelines/index.htm>

Marine Corps:

www.usmc-mccs.org (click on deployment information)

Air Force:

www.afcrossroads.com (click on family separation)

Reserves:

www.defenselink.mil/ra/ (click on family readiness)

Department of Defense Education Activity:

<http://www.dodea.edu/home/>

Department of Defense Educational Opportunities:

www.militarystudent.org

National Military Families Association:

www.nmfa.org

National Children, Youth and Families at Risk Initiative:

www.cyfernet.org

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National Guard & Reserve Websites

National Guard Bureau Joint Services Support

<http://www.jointservicesupport.org/>

National Guard Family Program

<http://www.jointservicesupport.org/fp/>

National Guard Child and Youth Program

<http://www.guardfamily.org/Youth/>

Reserve Affairs

www.defenselink.mil/ra

Air National Guard

www.ang.af.mil

Army National Guard

www.arng.army.mil

Air Force Reserve

www.afreserve.com/home4.asp

Army Reserve

www4.army.mil/USAR/home/index.php

Coast Guard Reserve

www.uscg.mil/hq/reserve/reshmpg.html

Marine Reserve

www.marforres.usmc.mil

Naval Reserve

www.navalreserve.com/ps

National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

www.esgr.org

Companion Animals Websites

Useful websites about companion animals, including sites that provide dogs for veterans:

Assistance Dogs International (ADI)

<http://www.assistedogsinternational.org>

A “coalition of not for profit organizations that train and place Assistance Dogs.” ADI improves “the areas of training, placement, and utilization of Assistance Dogs as well as staff and volunteer education.” ADI is an internationally recognized governing body that establishes industry standards and practices. Its website includes a list of certified trainers and training centers throughout the US and the world.

Assistance Dog United Campaign (ADUC)

<http://www.assistedogunitedcampaign.org>

Provides financial assistance to individuals who need an assistance dog but have difficulty raising the necessary funds and to programs and people whose purpose is to provide assistance dogs to people with disabilities. Funds are for use with ADUC’s approximately 100 member programs.

Canines for Service

www.caninesforservice.org

Its Canines for Veterans program provides trained service dogs to veterans with disabilities throughout the country.

Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers

<http://www.ccpdt.org>

An “international testing and certification resource for animal training and behavior professionals.”

Companions for Heroes (C4H)

<http://www.companionsforheroes.org>

“[P]rovides companion animals, skilled companion dogs, and service dogs obtained from shelters and/or rescues, who might otherwise be euthanized, free of charge to active duty military personnel, military veterans, and first-responders recovering from the psychological challenges they suffered during service to our country.”

Dogs for Deaf and Disabled Americans

www.neads.org

Provides “independence to people who are deaf or have a disability through the use of canine assistance.” Its Canines for Combat Veterans program is specially designed to meet the needs of combat veterans.

4 Paws for Ability

<http://www.4pawsforability.org>

Trains and places task-trained service dogs. It works with veterans from recent conflicts who have lost the use of their limbs or their hearing while in active combat.

Freedom Service Dogs of America (FSD)

www.freedomservicedogs.org

“[T]rains rescue dogs to assist and provide companionship for people with disabilities.” Its Operation Freedom program helps “returning war veterans and military personnel transition from active duty and combat to civilian life.”

K9s for Warriors

www.k9sforwarriors.org

“[P]rovides service canines to our warriors suffering from post-traumatic stress as a result of conflicts and war after 9/11.”

National Association of Dog Obedience Instructors

<http://www.nadoi.org>

Certifies dog obedience instructors, provides continuing education and learning resources, and promotes humane, effective training methods and competent instruction.

Paws Assisting Veterans

www.paveusa.org

Trains service dogs for veterans with mental and/or physical disabilities.

Pet Partners (formerly the Delta Society)

<http://www.deltasociety.org>

Maintains a list of certified trainers and training centers.

Pets for Vets

<http://www.pets-for-vets.com>

Nonprofit organization that trains shelter dogs and pairs them with veterans.

Power Paws Assistance Dogs

www.azpowerpaws.org

Fee-based nonprofit organization that provides highly skilled assistance dogs to adults and children with disabilities, including PTSD.

Service Dogs for America (Great Plains Assistance Dogs Foundation Inc.)

www.servicedogsforamerica.com

Assists “physically challenged individuals living with disability to gain greater independence and opportunity by use of a trained working assistance dog.”
Trains dogs at its facility in Jud, ND.

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This Able Veteran (TAV)

www.thisableveteran.org

Trains and provides service dogs and pairs them with veterans. Trains and certifies trainers and breeds dogs for the program.

U.S. Vets Adopt Pets

www.usvetsadoptpets.org

Provides free pet adoptions, fee waivers, or reduced fees to veterans.

Vets Adopt Pets

www.vetsadoptpets.org

Provides a list of organizations that provide free pet adoptions, fee waivers, or reduced fees to veterans.

Resources by Interests, Topics, Age Groups

The following lists of resources, all of which appear in the master annotated bibliography, have been sorted by interests and topics for ease of access to materials about specific activity or program topics. Each category includes a list of titles followed by pertinent websites.

Information about military dogs and companion animals has been annotated only in the master bibliography.

Military Service

Korb, Lawrence J., Sean E. Duggan, Peter M. Juul and Max A. Bergmann. *Serving America's Veterans: A Reference Handbook*. Praeger, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0313355266

ISBN-13: 978-0313355264

Korb, former top officer in the Department of Defense, and his co-authors “survey, analyze, and evaluate the infrastructural conditions, administrative and health care service challenges, policies, and politics affecting veterans affairs....They overview the historical context of contemporary veterans affairs....Most critically, they provide practical prescriptions and policy recommendations to address veterans’ many, pressing needs.

“The full spectrum of veterans issues is examined: changing personnel policies in the armed forces; unprecedented levels of National Guard and Reserve mobilization; societal reintegration and funding adequacy when the professional military is a relatively small fraction of the U.S. electorate; rising costs of medical technology; and the growing proportion of veterans with conditions requiring protracted rehabilitation or lifelong intensive care.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Powers, Kevin. *The Yellow Birds: A Novel*. Back Bay Books, 2013.

ISBN-10: 0316219347

ISBN-13: 978-0316219341

Written “by a veteran of the war in Iraq, *The Yellow Birds* is the harrowing story of two young soldiers trying to stay alive.” Two privates “cling to life as their platoon launches a bloody battle for the city. Bound together since basic training when Bartle makes a promise to bring Murphy safely home, the two have been dropped into a war neither is prepared for....As reality begins to blur into a hazy nightmare, Murphy becomes increasingly unmoored from the world around him and Bartle takes actions he could never have imagined.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Sherman, Nancy. *The Untold War: Inside the Hearts, Minds, and Souls of Our Soldiers*. Norton, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0393341003

ISBN-13: 978-0393341003

“*The Untold War* draws on revealing interviews with servicemen and -women to offer keen psychological and philosophical insights into the experience of being a soldier. Bringing to light the ethical quandaries that soldiers face—torture, the thin line between fighters and civilians, and the anguish of killing even in a just war—Nancy Sherman opens our eyes to the fact that wars are fought internally as well as externally,...” creating serious emotional tolls. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

VA Kids

<http://www.va.gov/kids/>

VA Kids: Helping kids understand what it means to be a veteran

Military101.com

<http://www.military101.com/>

Source for information on the resources available to those who serve, and those who have served in the US Armed Forces.

Armed Forces Resources

<http://www.fafirt.ala.org/president/>

Official blog for the Federal and Armed Forces Librarian Round Table

Army Well-Being: Sustaining the All-Volunteer Force

<http://www.armywell-being.org/skins/WBLO/home.aspx>

Military Marriage

Evans, Shannon, editor. *Operation Military Family: How to Strengthen Your Military Marriage and Save Your Family*. Aviva Publishing, 2007.

ISBN-10: 1890427861

ISBN-13: 978-1890427863

This book follows several families through their emotions, struggles, and victories prior to and throughout deployment and then together back home. These couples share how they overcame challenges they faced transitioning from civilian to military and then back to civilian life. The book is a “must-have” for service members and their families who are looking for a true-to-life road map on how other couples strengthened their marriages, despite the odds. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Hill, Janelle. *The Military Marriage Manual: Tactics for Successful Relationships*. Government Institutes, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1605907650

ISBN-13: 978-1605907659

At a time when divorce and suicide rates are at record levels in the military, this book is an invaluable aid to members of the military and their spouses and families. It presents advice for couples on a range of issues, both extraordinary and mundane, such as the wedding ceremony, relationships with friends and family, household responsibilities, finances, dealing with tension and conflict, raising a family, domestic violence, deployment and long periods apart, depression, and relocating. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Houppert, Karen. *Home Fires Burning: Married to the Military, for Better or Worse*.

Ballantine Books, 2006.

ISBN: 9780345461704

ISBN-10: 0345461703

A study of the modern American soldier’s wife profiles a group of military wives—many living at Fort Drum in upstate New York—over the course of a year, detailing the conflict between military traditions and a changing social climate.

Spouses, Partners

Canfield, Jack. *Chicken Soup for the Military Wife’s Soul: 101 Stories to Touch the Heart and Rekindle the Spirit*. Health Communications, 2005.

ISBN: 9780757302657

ISBN-10: 0757302653

A military member swears an oath to uphold the Constitution and protect the country, while their spouse takes the unwritten oath to a life of constant moves, lengthy separations, and endless anxieties—and yes, adventure. Their commitment requires a unique blend of patriotism, dedication, hard work, and flexibility. The stories speak directly to those who live the life, understand the jargon, and thrive on the joys and challenges of military life.

Caputo, Jessica. *The Other Side of War*. AuthorHouse, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1438949642

ISBN-13: 978-1438949642

In her own words, the author explains what it means to be a military girlfriend, temporarily left behind by a man who is serving his country. The book follows her on an emotional roller coaster as she learns to cope with her peers' opposing views of the war, struggles to graduate from college, and finally marries her soldier boyfriend. A few weeks after the wedding, she says good-bye to her husband for a second time. She will move to an unfamiliar state where she knows no one and face some of her greatest fears. In the book, you watch her adapt to the role of military wife, and become accustomed to what life is like on *The Other Side of War*. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Dawalt, Sara. *365 Deployment Days: A Wife's Survival Story*. Daisy & Ivy Books, 2007.

ISBN-10: 0615499457

ISBN-13: 978-0615499451

This book follows a military wife's experiences during her husband's deployment to Iraq, exploring the wide-ranging emotions brought about by his deployment. Through self-exploration Sara Dawalt learns the skills necessary to make sense of her life during turmoil. Her quest for happiness during potentially her darkest year will touch your life. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Green, Jocelyn. *Faith Deployed: Daily Encouragement for Military Wives*. Moody Publishers, 2008.

ISBN-10: 0802452507

ISBN-13: 978-0802452504

—. *Faith Deployed...Again: More Daily Encouragement for Military Wives*. Moody Publishers, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0802452515

ISBN-13: 978-0802452511

The highly acclaimed book and sequel provides encouragement and strength to military wives who need to maintain the home front under stressful circumstances.

Hightower, Kathie and Holly Scherer. *Help! I'm a Military Spouse—I Get a Life Too!: How to Craft a Life for You as You Move with the Military*. Potomac Books, 2007.

ISBN: 9781597970679

ISBN-10: 1597970670

This book is about creatively taking advantage of the military life's opportunities to fulfill your own dreams. Authors Kathie Hightower and Holly Scherer are longtime military spouses who also write military lifestyle columns and present workshops on military family issues. They show how you can tap into the richness and possibilities of a life with the military. This book is for anyone engaged to someone in the military, for the new military spouse, or for the long-time spouse challenged by the military lifestyle.

Redmond, Jessica. *A Year of Absence: Six Women's Stories of Courage, Hope and Love*. Elva Resa Publishing LLC, 2005.

ISBN-10: 0965748316

ISBN-13: 978-0965748315

A Year of Absence follows the lives of six women whose husbands deploy to Iraq in April 2003. Through tearful goodbyes, long-awaited communication from the front, and joyful yet troubled reunions, this book captures what life is like for many families of deployed soldiers: the ever-present fear of death, the pressures of single-parent hood, and the strength and comfort that come with the support of close friends. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

**Annotated
Bibliographies
and Other
Resources**

Seals-Allers, Kimberly and Pamela M. McBride. *The Mocha Manual to Military Life: A Savvy Guide for Wives, Girlfriends, and Female Service Members*. Harper Paperbacks, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0061690481

ASIN: B003H4RBQ2

From Kimberly Seals-Allers, creator of the Mocha Manual™ series, and Pamela McBride, a seasoned military wife, comes the ultimate guide to life, love, and logistics for military spouses, girlfriends, and female service members. This book has a host of tips for optimizing your romance with someone in the military. Beyond matters of the heart, the book offers advice on everything from how to thrive during deployment to how to master military protocol to how to build friendships among military wives. Accessible and witty, this book is a must-read for all women—but particularly African-American and Latina women—affected by military service. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Vandevoorde, Shellie. *Separated by Duty, United in Love: A Guide to Long-Distance Relationships for Military Couples*. Citadel Press, 2006.

ISBN: 9780806527277

ISBN-10: 0806527277

Addressing head-on the challenges of long-distance relationships with frank, practical advice and anecdotes, this selection is perfect for military couples. Author Shellie Vandevoorde writes with over 20 years' experience as a military wife. She tackles the tough issues from dealing with the struggle of being a single parent to just managing day to day. The book provides a practical hands-on guide that can help couples in every branch of the service.

Family Adjustment

Bender, Janet M. *Getting Yourself Together When Your Family Comes Apart: Coping with Family Changes*. National Center for Youth Issues, 2004.

ISBN-10: 1931636281

ISBN-13: 978-1931636285

This book focuses on the five stages of grief often experienced by children when their family structure changes, such as when someone is deployed. It offers a read-aloud story and 21 reproducible activities designed to help children move through the grief process and adjust to their new circumstances. It also includes helpful articles and reference materials for parents. (From American School Counselor Association website)

Buckholtz, Alison. *Standing By: The Making of an American Military Family in a Time of War*. Tarcher, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1585426954

ASIN: B002KAOS3S

This is Alison Buckholtz's candid and moving account of her family's experiences during her husband's seven-month deployment on an aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf. With insight and humor she describes living near a military base in Washington state, far from home and in the midst of great upheaval, while trying to keep life as normal as possible for the couple's two young children. She portrays her friendships with other military wives and the ways in which this supportive community of women helps one another to endure—to even thrive—during difficult times. A rare and intimate portrait of one of the tens of thousands of families who wait for their service member to return home, this book is a window into what matters most for families everywhere. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Dumler, Elaine Gray. *I'm Already Home—Again: Keeping Your Family Close While on Assignment or Deployment*. Frankly Speaking, 2006.

ISBN: 9780974035918

ISBN-10: 0974035912

Military families are especially vulnerable to tough separations. Here's an easy-to-follow, practical guide to fun and inexpensive ways for keeping your spouse connected while on assignment or deployed. The book features over 200 ideas for coping, 75+ resource websites, and a reunion and reintegration section. This guide will help lessen the impact of being apart from those you love.

Henderson, Kristin. *While They're at War: The True Story of American Families on the Homefront*. Mariner Books, 2006.

ISBN-10: 0618773452

ASIN: B003IWYLP2

Kristin Henderson, whose husband is a Navy chaplain, profiles military families, focusing on two wives coping with life at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Beth Pratt and Marissa Bootes face the challenges of their husbands' first deployment as junior enlisted men, and they are full of anxieties while struggling to maintain emotional and financial stability. Henderson details the support groups developed by military wives to bolster themselves against depression, substance abuse, infidelity, the pressures of single parenthood, suicidal impulses, and husbands who return with emotional problems. This powerful, revealing, and sometimes painful book offers a look behind the scenes of military families. (Excerpted from *Booklist*)

Kay, Ellie. *Heroes at Home: Help and Hope for America's Military Families*. Bethany House, 2008.

ISBN: 9780764205590

ISBN-10: 0764205595

Filled with actual stories of life in the military, this encouraging book provides helpful guidance for families on active duty and insight for their extended families, friends, and support networks. From her perspective as the wife of an Air Force pilot and mom with five school-age kids, the author includes practical ideas on how to cope with frequent moves, predeployment readiness, and how to stay in touch when families are separated.

Maxwell, Marc C. B. *Surviving Military Separation: A 365-Days Activity Guide for the Families of Deployed Personnel*. Savas Beatie, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1932714235

ISBN-13: 978-1932714234

This book by Marc C. B. Maxwell, a Department of Defense Guidance Counselor and former Army Airborne Ranger, is a helping hand for military families to get through their family member's deployment. It has 365 fun, easy-to-understand, and enjoyable activities broken down into weeklong chunks, to pass the deployment more quickly by taking it one fun and creative step at a time. It also includes a section for journal entries to record thoughts and feelings for a deployed loved one to read later; a calendar to help family members remember important dates; stationery to write their deployed personnel; and a world map to assist family members in locating their deployed loved one. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Pavlicin, Karen M. *Surviving Deployment: A Guide for Military Families*. Elva Resa Publishing, 2003.

ISBN-10: 0965748367

ISBN-13: 978-0965748360

Learn what to expect, how to prepare, and how to personally grow as individuals and families. Your survival gear will range from a sturdy toilet plunger to the fine art of letter writing. You'll manage financial changes, help children express their feelings, and discover a renewed appreciation for everyday life.

**Annotated
Bibliographies
and Other
Resources**

Vandesteeg, Carol. *When Duty Calls: A Handbook for Families Facing Military Separation*. Life Journey/Cook Communications Ministries, 2005.

ISBN: 9780781442886

ISBN-10: 0781442885

In this unique and thorough handbook, a military wife and mom shares practical advice about preparing and dealing with deployment of a loved one. Vandesteeg helps families learn what to expect as they prepare for deployment, how to communicate while separated, how to help children through the separation, and how to prepare for the reunion at the end of the tour of duty.

Deployment Health and Family Readiness Library

<http://deploymenthealthlibrary.fhp.osd.mil/>

Defense Threat Reduction Agency: Deployed Military Family Support

<http://www.dtra.mil/be/deployed/index.cfm>

MilitaryHOMEFRONT

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

MilitaryHOMEFRONT is the Department of Defense website for official Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP) program information, policy and guidance designed to help troops and their families, leaders, and service providers. Whether you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, you'll find what you need!

Reader's Digest

<http://www.rd.com/your-america-inspiring-people-and-stories/resources-for-military-families/article142004.html>

Resources for military families compiled by Kathryn M. Tyranski from Reader's Digest.

The National Military Family Association

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/>

The National Military Family Association fights for benefits and programs that strengthen and protect uniformed services families and reflect the nation's respect for their service.

The National Military Family Association website also includes a toolkit for Military Teens at:

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/publications/deployment-family-research/toolkits.html>

SurvivingDeployment.com: Information and resources for military families

<http://www.survivingdeployment.com/>

SurvivingDeployment.com is a site for and about military families written by military family members. Our mission is to inform and support military families during the difficult time of deployment. Contains articles and books on many topics, including homecoming. Many links to other websites.

Deploymentkids.com

www.deploymentkids.com

Contains activities to do with kids whose family members are deployed.

The Military Family Research Institute

<http://www.mfri.purdue.edu/>

The Military Family Research Institute is one of the leading organizations in the nation with the mission of conducting research about, with, and for military families.

National Child Traumatic Stress Network

http://nctsnet.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=ctr_top_military

The Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress—an NCTSN member site—and FOCUS (Families OverComing Under Stress)—a project cosponsored by the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress—perform research on, develop resources about, and provide assistance to military families.

SesameWorkshop.org

<http://www.sesameworkshop.org/initiatives/emotion/tlc>

Videos for children about coping with deployments, homecomings, changes, and grieving.

Military Youth on the Move

<http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/pls/psgprod/>

Ⓣ:p=MYOM:HOME:4529426912561325

Joining Forces

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces>

Joining Forces “is a national initiative by First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden that mobilizes all sectors of society to give our service members and their families the opportunities and support they have earned” (from website).

It promotes ways for individuals to get involved, including activities that could be hosted by libraries.

Books for Military Families

www.militaryfamilybooks.com

“MilitaryFamilyBooks.com is owned and operated by Elva Resa Publishing, an independent book publisher whose main imprint specializes in resources for military families and whose mission is to make a positive difference in people’s lives. The vision of MilitaryFamilyBooks.com is to offer a range of carefully chosen, high quality resources catered to military families’ needs and lifestyle.”

(From website)

Education of Military Children

Military Child Education Coalition

<http://www.militarychild.org/>

U.S. Army Child, Youth & School Services

<http://www.armymwr.com/family/childandyouth/default.aspx>

Military Impacted Schools Association

<http://www.militarystudent.org/>

SchoolQuest.org, an Initiative of Military Child Education Coalition

<http://www.schoolquest.org>

<http://www.schoolquest.org/state-education-resources/>

A compilation of school requirements and resources for all 50 states, DoDEA and Washington, D.C.

<http://www.schoolquest.org/library/>

Full of resources to answer questions about educational transitions, college and workplace readiness, special needs, and many other subjects.

National Association of Child Care Resources and Referral

<http://www.naccrra.org/MilitaryPrograms/>

Lists the NACCRRRA (National Association of Child Care Resources and Referral)-accredited child care programs for each branch of the military.

Military-Connected Students and Public School Attendance Policies

http://www.militarychild.org/files/pdfs/2010_SchoolAttendancePolicies.pdf

Deployed Women

Holmstedt, Kirsten. *The Girls Come Marching Home: Stories of Women Warriors Returning from the War in Iraq*. Stackpole Books, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0811708462

ISBN-13: 978-0811708463

Deeply personal and emotional accounts of more than a dozen American soldiers returning home from the war in Iraq. Includes women from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Inspiring stories of courage while recovering from physical and psychological wounds. Shows how combat affects someone’s entire life, including her family and friends. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

**Annotated
Bibliographies
and Other
Resources**

Leyva, Meredith. *Married to the Military: A Survival Guide for Military Wives, Girlfriends, and Women in Uniform*. Simon & Schuster, 2003.

ISBN: 9780743255547

ISBN-10: 0743255542

Written by a seasoned military wife, this book offers advice on dealing with everything from relocation to deployment, discussing the benefits and services to which one is entitled, key military events and how to handle them, how to maintain one's own career in the face of continual moves, and finally deciphering the ins and outs of retirement benefits.

Salbi, Zainab. *The Other Side of War: Women's Stories of Survival and Hope*. National Geographic, 2006.

ISBN-10: 0792262115

ASIN: B002WTCBE0

With stunning images by award-winning photographers Susan Meiselas, Lekha Singh, and Sylvia Plachy, Zainab Salbi presents a riveting collection of letters and first-person narratives by amazing women who survived war's devastation and now must find the strength to rebuild families and communities. Throbbing with pain and loss, yet glowing with courage and hope, the book explores six regions where the nonprofit Women for Women International has helped survivors learn new skills, open small businesses, and forge bonds with sponsors. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Seals-Allers, Kimberly and Pamela M. McBride. *The Mocha Manual to Military Life: A Savvy Guide for Wives, Girlfriends, and Female Service Members*. Harper Paperbacks, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0061690481

ASIN: B003H4RBQ2

From Kimberly Seals-Allers, creator of the Mocha Manual™ series, and Pamela McBride, a seasoned military wife, comes the ultimate guide to life, love, and logistics for military spouses, girlfriends, and female service members. This book has a host of tips for optimizing your romance with someone in the military. Beyond matters of the heart, the book offers advice on everything from how to thrive during deployment to how to master military protocol to how to build friendships among military wives. Accessible and witty, this book is a must-read for all women—but particularly African-American and Latina women—affected by military service. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Returning Veteran

Armstrong, Keith, Suzanne Best and Paula Domenici. *Courage After Fire: Coping Strategies for Troops Returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and Their Families*. Ulysses Press, 2005.

ISBN-10: 1569755132

ISBN-13: 978-1569755136

Authored by three mental health professionals with many years of experience counseling veterans, this book provides strategies and techniques for the challenging journey home after deployment. It offers soldiers and their families a comprehensive guide to dealing with the all-too-common repercussions of combat duty, including posttraumatic stress symptoms, anxiety, depression, and substance abuse. It details state-of-the-art treatments for these difficulties and outlines specific ways to improve couple and family relationships. It also offers tips on areas such as rejoining the workforce and reconnecting with children. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Cantrell, Bridget C. *Once a Warrior: Wired for Life*. Hearts Toward Home Int'l, 2007.

ISBN-10: 0615141323

ISBN-13: 978-0615141323

"...illustrates how to turn negatives into positives and assists our highly trained military personnel in utilizing their tremendous potential in achieving success and happiness after their release from military service. This book highlights the path along the way to transitioning from warrior to civilian." (Amazon.com.)

Carroll, Andrew, ed. *Operation Homecoming: Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Home Front, in the Words of U.S. Troops and Their Families*. University of Chicago Press, 2008.

ISBN-10: 0226094995

ISBN-13: 978-0226094991

Operation Homecoming is the result of a major initiative launched by the National Endowment for the Arts to bring distinguished writers to military bases to inspire U.S. soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, and their families to record their wartime experiences. Encouraged by such authors as Tom Clancy, Tobias Wolff, and Marilyn Nelson, American military personnel and their loved ones wrote candidly about what they saw, heard, and felt while in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as on the home front. These unflinching eyewitness accounts, private journals, short stories, and letters offer an intensely revealing look into extraordinary lives and are an unforgettable contribution to wartime literature. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Friedman, Matthew J., Ph.D., and Laurie B. Slone, Ph.D. *After the War Zone: A Practical Guide for Returning Troops and Their Families*. DaCapo Press, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1600940544

ISBN-13: 978-1600940545

"Two experts from the VA National Center for PTSD provide an essential resource for service members, their spouses, families, and communities, sharing what troops really experience during deployment and back home. Pinpointing the most common after-effects of war and offering strategies for troop reintegration to daily life, Drs. Friedman and Slone cover the myths and realities of homecoming; reconnecting with spouse and family; anger and adrenaline; guilt and moral dilemmas; and PTSD and other mental-health concerns. With a wealth of community and government resources, tips, and suggestions, *After the War Zone* is a practical guide to helping troops and their families prevent war zone stresses from having a lasting negative impact." (Amazon.com.)

Pavlicin, Karen M. *Life After Deployment: Military Families Share Reunion Stories and Advice*. Elva Resa, 2007.

ISBN: 9780965748377

ISBN-10: 0965748375

This book captures the moving stories of military families during their reunions. Service members and their spouses, parents, loved ones, and children share the joy and anxiety of homecoming, the adjustments of living together again, and how they coped with anger, depression, PTSD, injuries, grief, and other challenges. Some families had fairy-tale endings. Most worked hard to rebuild relationships after much time and change. A few suffered great losses. They all talk candidly about what their experience was really like, offering hope and advice to others who make this journey.

Make the Connection: Shared Experiences and Support for Veterans

<http://maketheconnection.net>

A website of the US Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans returning home.

After Deployment: Wellness Resources for the Military Community

<http://www.afterdeployment.org>

Resources especially for veterans and service members related to job performance, making the transition to civilian life, and how to recognize other issues you may be dealing with.

Returning Wounded Veteran

Hill, Janelle, Cheryl Lawhorne and Don Philpott. *The Wounded Warrior Handbook: A Resource Guide for Returning Veterans*. 2nd ed. Government Institutes, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1605907383

ISBN-13: 978-1605907383

This trusted resource is comprehensive and easy to use, and the second edition is now the most up-to-date guide for wounded veterans and their families dealing with active-duty injuries. It directs you to answers and resources for the most pressing and difficult questions that wounded veterans face. The second edition has been thoroughly revised to reflect new policies, additional benefits, updated procedures, and changes to insurance, including traumatic injury insurance and social security disability insurance. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Hoge, Charles W. *Once a Warrior—Always a Warrior: Navigating the Transition from Combat to Home—Including Combat Stress, PTSD, and mTBI*. GPP Life, 2010.

ISBN-10: 0762754427

ISBN-13: 978-0762754427

The essential handbook for anyone who has ever returned from a war zone, and their spouse, partner, or family members. In clear practical language, Dr. Hoge explores the latest knowledge in combat stress, PTSD, mTBI, other physiological reactions to war, and their treatment options. Recognizing that warriors and family members change during deployment, he helps them understand each other's experience, especially living with enduring survival skills from the combat environment that are often viewed as "symptoms" back home. The heart of this book focuses on what's necessary to successfully navigate the transition to the home front. The book shows how a warrior's knowledge and skills are vital for living at peace in an insane world. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Martinez, J. R. and Alexandra Rockey Fleming. *Full of Heart: My Story of Survival, Strength and Spirit*. Hyperion, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1401324746

ASIN: B00C2IA17U

Full of Heart is the story of Private J. R. Martinez's recovery from severe injuries and burns when his Humvee hit an antitank mine in Iraq. "Out of that tragedy came an improbable journey of inspiration, motivation, and dreams come true...Martinez shares his story...from his upbringing in the American South and his time in the Army to his recovery and the indomitable spirit that has made him an inspiration to countless fans.

"Today, J. R. tours the country sharing his story and his lessons for overcoming challenges and embracing hope, lessons that abound in this book. *Full of Heart* is an unforgettable story of a man who never gave up on his dreams." (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Trudeau, G. B. *The War Within: One More Step at a Time*. Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2006. Kindle Edition 2012.

ISBN-10: 0740762028

ISBN-13: 978-0740762024

"The initial stages of B.D.'s recovery from losing a leg in Iraq were dramatically portrayed in *The Long Road Home: One Step at a Time*, but his healing journey was far from over. As this powerful sequel shows, the 'war within' can be a long and lonely struggle...With his coaching job at Walden re-secured and the marathon PT sessions paying off, B.D.'s return to normalcy seems to be progressing well. But those who love him see alarming signs of trouble, namely anger and alcohol...our wounded warrior forces himself to begin circling the local Vet Center, where he is gently and skillfully reeled in by a remarkable counselor and fellow Vietnam Vet named Elias. Their sessions together form an extraordinary and moving chronicle of catharsis and

coming-to-terms. The words ‘Welcome home, soldier,’ are powerful and transformative, and B.D. is fortunate in finally getting to a place where he can hear them.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

National Mental Health Information Center

<http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/cmhs/ChildrensCampaign/>

Mental Health America

[http://www.mentalhealthanswers.org/page.](http://www.mentalhealthanswers.org/page.asp?pageid=0|117|135&cid=0|armed_forces_resources)

[asp?pageid=0|117|135&cid=0|armed_forces_resources](http://www.mentalhealthanswers.org/page.asp?pageid=0|117|135&cid=0|armed_forces_resources)

Defense Centers of Excellence

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/>

DCoE assesses, validates, oversees, and facilitates prevention, resilience, identification, treatment, outreach, rehabilitation, and reintegration programs for psychological health and traumatic brain injury to ensure the Department of Defense meets the needs of the nation’s military communities, warriors, and families.

DCoE brings together a variety of interdisciplinary resources and centers of excellence that can help family members identify community and military resources to help better understand and cope with psychological health and traumatic brain injury concerns affecting them or the warriors they love at:

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/forfamilies.aspx>

Benefits

Brown, Bruce C. *Returning from the War on Terrorism: What Every Iraq, Afghanistan, and Deployed Veteran Needs to Know to Receive Their Maximum Benefits*. Atlantic Publishing Company, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1601381506

ISBN-13: 978-1601381507

“This groundbreaking new book will provide help to those heroic Americans who have answered our government’s call to duty. You will find all contact information and Web sites included, making it easy to apply for the benefits you are entitled to, while meeting the requirements of the Department of Veterans Affairs and other organizations and private institutions.” An invaluable resource for those in the military now, a veteran, or a military family member. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Powers, Rod. *Veterans Benefits for Dummies*. For Dummies, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0470398655

ISBN-13: 978-0470398654

“Saving veterans and their families from months of phone calls and internet searches, *Veterans Benefits for Dummies* outlines the various programs that the VA and other government agencies have in place as well as the procedures for filing applications, claims, and appeals.” Benefits covered include: health care, ongoing care for wounded and disabled vets, education assistance, vocational rehabilitation, life insurance, home loan guarantees, pensions, survivors’ benefits, and burial benefits. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Strengthening Our Military Families: Meeting America’s Commitment. January 2011, 24 pp. available at www.whitehouse.gov.

A report of a government-wide review of federal and private sector resources that will lay the foundation for a coordinated approach to supporting military families.

The Military.com

<http://www.military.com/NewContent/1,13190,Spouse,00.html>

Spouse and Family Benefits & Resources: Know your benefits as the spouse or family member of a military service member or veteran—keep up with benefits and resources in the Insider’s Spouse and Family Benefits & Resources section, and find useful guides on deployment, careers, relocation, and more.

Annotated Bibliographies and Other Resources

United States Department of Veterans Affairs

<http://www.mirecc.va.gov>

Additional resources, bibliography, and websites can be found at:

http://www.mirecc.va.gov/VISN16/docs/Resources_OIF_Families_090319.pdf

The Armed Forces Legal Assistance

<http://legalassistance.law.af.mil/index.php>

The Armed Forces Legal Assistance (AFLA) website is a joint initiative of the Armed Forces legal assistance offices that aims to provide general legal information to the military community to enhance its readiness.

VA GI Bill

<http://www.gibill.va.gov/>

This website is the home for all educational benefits provided by VA with tools and resources to help veterans pursue college degrees, on-the-job training, apprenticeships, or non-college degrees programs.

Finding Employment After Deployment

There are many resources for job seekers. These books are directed toward veterans in particular.

Cleare, Stephen A. *The Little Green Guide for Veterans: The 8 Principles You Need to Know to Get the Job You Want*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2010. ISBN-10: 1453731172

ISBN-13: 978-1453731178

“The book teaches veterans how to successfully transition into finding jobs in the private sector.” (Amazon.com.)

Dorch, Patricia. *Military to Civilian Transition: Job Search Strategies and Tips to Get Hired in the Civilian Job Market*. Execu Dress, 2013.

ISBN-10: 0981685471

ISBN-13: 978-0981685472

This book “is a comprehensive...career resource for Military men and women in transition.” It provides strategies to communicate how military knowledge, skills, and abilities are transferable to the civilian job market. It describes how to prepare for a successful interview, brand for civilian career distinction, overcome an employment gap, use key words in resumes, cover letters and interview conversations, conduct a telephone interview, and ask questions to stand out. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Enelow, Wendy and Louise Kursmark. *Expert Resumes for Military-to-Civilian Transitions*. 2nd edition. Jist Works, 2009.

ISBN-10: 159357732X

ISBN-13: 978-1593577322

Resume strategies and a collection of resumes for former service members looking for a civilian job.

Farley, Janet. *Military-to-Civilian Career Transition Guide: The Essential Job Search Handbook for Service Members*. 2nd edition. Jist Works, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1593577311

ISBN-13: 978-1593577315

“This book provides a framework for career transition for military service members and their families...[It] addresses the actual entire transition process and includes the family perspective with it.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Faulkner, Michael L., Andrea Nierenberg, and Michael Abrams. *Networking for Veterans: A Guidebook for a Successful Military Transition into the Civilian Workforce*. Pearson Learning Solutions, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1256888877

ISBN-13: 978-1256888871

This book “teaches transitioning service-members how to properly network and build relationships with the people in their community who are most willing and able to help them launch new careers of their choosing.” Topics covered include overcoming the challenges of making a military transition, properly applying military skills and experiences to business situations, building a network of contacts, overcoming the fear of communicating, and interpersonal relationship building. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Henderson, David G. *Job Search: Marketing Your Military Experience*. 3rd edition. Stackpole Books, 1999.

ISBN-10: 081172820X

ISBN-13: 978-0811728201

A comprehensive “How to” guide for separating and retiring military personnel. It goes through the entire job search process and contains “chapters on designing an Individual Transition Plan with the latest information on military online services and job search sites on the Internet. Appendices...[have] over 34 sample resumes... cover letters, and a formula for computing salary requirements.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Krannich, Ronald L. and Carl S. Savino. *Military-to-Civilian Resumes and Letters: How to Best Communicate Your Strengths to Employers*. 3rd edition. Impact Publications, 2007.

ISBN-10: 1570232679

ISBN-13: 978-1570232671

This book shows how transitioning military personnel can produce, distribute, follow up, and evaluate employer-centered resumes and letters for maximum impact. It includes 65 key principles, a 6-step military-to-civilian language translation process, over 75 sample resumes and letters, and 100 top Internet employment sites. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Lyden, Mark. *Veterans: Do This! Get Hired! Proven Advice for Veterans That Need a Job*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1456496123

ISBN-13: 978-1456496128

This is a no-nonsense-oriented guide for veterans.

Stein, Tom and Greg Wood. *Fire Your Resume—Military Edition: Tactics for Military Veteran Job Seekers*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1466383828

ISBN-13: 978-1466383821

“A guide for Military Veterans who are looking for civilian employment whether they are still in the military or transition from one civilian career to another.” It describes “strategies and tactics to help employers see the value in the veteran’s military training, skills and expertise.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

—. *Lock and Load!: Job Interview Questions Military Veterans Must Know!* volume 3. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012.

ISBN-10: 1470138158

ISBN-13: 978-1470138158

This third book in TheHireTactics™ series, explains how to conduct an effective interview. It is designed to help job seekers prepare and rehearse. (Adapted from

Amazon.com.)

—. *Veteran Employment Tactics!: Packing Yourself for Job Hunting Success*, volume 1. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012.
ISBN-10: 1470123401

ISBN-13: 978-1470123406

This is the first book in TheHireTactics™ series. It introduces military veterans to the tools needed to brand themselves to stand out from the competition. It explains how the job search system really works and how to use being a veteran as a tactical advantage. The book presents a strategic approach instead of the resume-based approach to a job search. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Troutman, Kathryn Kraemer. *Federal Resume Guidebook: Strategies for Writing a Winning Federal Resume*. Jist Works, 2011.

ISBN-10: 1593578504

ISBN-13: 978-1593578503

This book presents successful resume writing methods and shows how to maximize readability with the Outline Format federal resume, utilize keywords in vacancy announcements, and master the Assessment Questionnaire. It includes dozens of sample federal resumes. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

—. *Military to Federal Career Guide*. 2nd edition. The Resume Place, Inc., 2010.

ISBN-10: 0982419023

ISBN-13: 978-0982419021

This book guides veterans to write a stellar resume for jobs in the federal government. It provides resume tips on how to add keywords to match the resume to a particular vacancy announcement, highlight accomplishments so that federal human resources specialists will notice them, and interpret important sections of the vacancy announcement, such as instructions on how to apply. This edition features a CD-ROM with resume samples. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Wolfe, Tom. *Out of Uniform: Your Guide to a Successful Military-to-Civilian Career Transition*. Potomac Books Inc., 2011.

ISBN-10: 1597977152

ISBN-13: 978-1597977159

This book “is designed to help all transitioning military personnel, regardless of service, branch, rank, rating, time in service, time in grade, or specialty.” It covers the steps in the military-to-civilian transition process. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Books for Children by Age Groups

Kindergarten–Grade 2

Bunting, Eve. *My Red Balloon*. Boyds Mills Press, 2005.

ISBN-10: 1590782631

ISBN-13: 978-1590782637

“A young, blonde preschooler, Bobby, cannot wait for a huge aircraft carrier to dock; Daddy’s ship is coming home after many months at sea. Tension builds as Bobby and his mom leave home and join other families on the quay, watching for the ship, and then, finally, rejoicing as the sailors disembark. To make sure Daddy will recognize him, Bobby carries a big, heart-shaped ‘Welcome home’ balloon. ‘Daddy won’t know me,’ Bobby cries, after losing the balloon, but Daddy knows his son and lifts him in a smiling embrace. True to the small child’s viewpoint, there is no talk of war or patriotism, right or wrong, only that Daddy was making sure our country stays safe.’ The clear, idyllic watercolors show the poignant homecoming and one loving family’s pride, yearning, and heartfelt reunion.” (*Booklist*) For preschool–grade 4.

Ehrmantraut, Brenda. *Night Catch*. Bubble Gum Press, 2005.

ISBN-10: 0972983392

ISBN-13: 978-0972983396

When a soldier's work takes him halfway around the world, he enlists the help of the North Star for a nightly game of catch with his son. *Night Catch* is a timeless story that connects families while they are apart and offers comforting hope for their reunion. (Amazon.com.)

Ferguson-Cohen, Michelle. *Daddy, You're My Hero!* Little Redhaired Girl Publishing, 2005.

ISBN: 9780972926447

ISBN-10: 0972926445

Children express their feelings about saying good-bye to their fathers, who must leave to fulfill their military obligations.

Greive, Bradley Trevor. *The Blue Day Book for Kids: A Lesson in Cheering Yourself Up.* Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2005.

ISBN: 9780740750236

ISBN-10: 0740750232

Uses photographs of animals to lift the spirits of anyone feeling "blue" and help young readers put negative incidents and feelings in perspective.

LaBelle, Julie and Christina Rodriguez. *My Dad's Deployment: A Deployment and Reunion Activity Book for Young Children.* Elva Resa Publishing, 2009.

ISBN-10: 1934617075

ISBN-13: 978-1934617076

Useful for predeployment and the day of a dad's departure, this book features mazes, dot-to-dot, counting, matching, coloring, crafts, telling time, and other activities familiar to preschool and early elementary children. Addressing common deployment and reunion topics, the activities offer children the opportunity to ask questions, talk about their feelings, and feel connected to their deployed parent. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

—. *My Mom's Deployment: A Deployment and Reunion Activity Book for Young Children.* Elva Resa Publishing, 2010.

ISBN-10: 1934617083

ISBN-13: 978-1934617083

Companion to *My Dad's Deployment*.

McCormick, Wendy. *Daddy, Will You Miss Me?* Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1999.

ISBN: 9780689818981

ISBN-10: 068981898X

A boy and his daddy come up with lots of different ways to stay close to one another while the daddy is in Africa for four weeks.

Osborne, Mary Pope. *Abe Lincoln at Last!* Magic Tree House #47. Random House, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0375868259

ISBN-13: 978-0375868252

"Jack and Annie are [on a presidential adventure]! They are trying to get a special feather that will help save Merlin's baby penguin, Penny. When the magic tree house whisks them back to Washington, D.C., in 1861, Jack can't wait to meet Abraham Lincoln himself! But the new president is too busy to see them, as he is desperately trying to save a nation in crisis.

"When Jack and Annie ask for some magical help, they go back even further in time

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to a mysterious woods. Are these the same woods where Abraham Lincoln takes his daily horse ride? If so, can an orphan named Sam help them find Abe? Or will Jack and Annie have to help Sam instead?

“It’s a race against time as Jack and Annie try to do the right thing. Plus, they still have to aid a president and a troubled nation, as well as get the object that will save Penny the penguin!” For ages 7–10. (Amazon.com.)

—. *Civil War on Sunday*. Magic Tree House #21. Random House, 2000.

ISBN-10: 067989067X

ISBN-13: 978-0679890676

“...Jack and Annie hear [cannon fire] when the Magic Tree House whisks them back to the time of the American Civil War. There they meet a famous nurse named Clara Barton and do their best to help wounded soldiers. It is their hardest journey in time yet—and the one that will make the most difference to their own lives!” For ages 6–9. (Amazon.com.)

Osborne, Mary Pope, Natalie Pope Boyce and Sal Murdocca. *Magic Tree House Fact Tracker: Abraham Lincoln: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #47: Abe Lincoln at Last!* Random House, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0375870245

ISBN-13: 978-0375870248

“Filled with up-to-date information, photos, illustrations, and fun tidbits from Jack and Annie,” this companion volume helps kids from 7-10 learn more about Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Schepper, Denise Marie. *My Dad the Navy Hero*. PublishAmerica, 2008.

ISBN-10: 1424195195

ISBN-13: 978-1424195190

A little girl sees her father as her hero. She is so proud of her dad; they have so much love for each other. Her dad is in the Navy. He has been living on a ship for some time. He’s at war helping other countries fight for freedom. She tries to understand the best way she can for a little girl. The small amount of time they have together, before he has to go back to his duty, is very special. (Amazon.com.)

Sederman, Marty and Seymour Epstein. *The Magic Box: When Parents Can’t Be There to Tuck You In*. Magination Press, 2002.

ISBN: 9781557988065

ISBN-10: 1557988064

Casey’s dad has to go away for a couple of days—AGAIN! Casey hates it that his father has to travel so often. But this time Dad leaves a special gift that will help Casey cope with his absence and future trips as well. This upbeat and delightfully illustrated book contains many valuable tips for families in which a parent is frequently away from home. Includes a note to parents.

Skolmoski, Stephanie and Anneliese Bennion. *A Paper Hug*. Self published, 2006.

ISBN-10: 0978642503

ISBN-13: 978-0978642501

Have you ever said good-bye to someone very dear? Here’s a story about a little boy who figured out the best gift to give his dad who was leaving to serve his country...a paper hug. (Amazon.com.)

Grades 3–5

Andrews, Beth. *I Miss You!: A Military Kid’s Book About Deployment*. Prometheus Books, 2007.

ISBN: 9781591025344

ISBN-10: 1591025346

A guide to help children understand why a parent or sibling had to leave home for

military duty, how to cope with their feelings in a positive way, and be assured that they are not alone. This book includes activities to help with the adjustment process.

Brott, Peggie et al. *Military Life: Stories and Poems for Children*. Elva Resa Publishing, 2010.

ISBN-10: 1934617091

ISBN-13: 978-1934617090

“This collection of original stories and poems touches on many aspects of military life from a child’s point of view. From moving to making new friends, deployment, homecoming, patriotism, and tender family moments, *Military Life* gives a glimpse of the many joys and challenges military children experience.” (MilitaryFamily-Books.com.)

Christiansen, Rebecca. *My Dad’s a Hero*. Word Association, 2007.

ISBN-10: 1595712097

ISBN-13: 978-1595712097

This book addresses any child whose father is serving in the military, far from home. These are children who miss their dads, worry about them, and have conflicting emotions and unanswered questions. The author has kept the book uplifting and free from scary words like guns, war, and fighting. The book gives kids permission to be happy and proud of their military dad. “The great illustrations and storylines bring the book to life. Every young person should be exposed to the values and message this book offers in this time of great tribulation,” —Major General Patrick D. Wilson, Army National Guard. (Excerpted from Amazon.com.)

Dennis, Brian, Mary Nethery and Kirby Larson. *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle*. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2009.

ISBN-10: 031605318X

ISBN-13: 978-0316053181

“Nubs, an Iraqi dog of war, never had a home or a person of his own. He was the leader of a pack of wild dogs living off the land and barely surviving. But Nubs’ life changed when he met Marine Major Brian Dennis. The two formed a fast friendship...Nubs became part of Dennis’s human ‘pack’ until duty required the Marines to relocate a full 70 miles away—without him. Nubs had no way of knowing that Marines were not allowed to have pets.

“So began an incredible journey that would take Nubs through a freezing desert, filled with danger to find his friend and would lead Dennis on a mission that would touch the hearts of people all over the world.” (Ages 3 and older) (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Hardin, Melinda. *Hero Dad*. Cavendish, 2010.

ISBN-13: 9780761457138

ISBN: 0761457135

A book that asks (and answers) the question, “What is a hero?”

Hart, Alison. *Darling, Mercy Dog of World War I*. Peachtree Publishers, 2013.

ISBN-10: 1561457051

ISBN-13: 978-1561457052

“At home in England, Darling is a mischievous but much loved pet to Robert and Katherine. But when the British military asks families to volunteer their dogs to help

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the war effort, they send Darling off to be trained...Darling goes through training along with many other dogs and is ultimately used as a mercy dog, seeking out injured soldiers on the battlefield and leading the medics to them. After saving the lives of numerous soldiers, Darling is faced with a major challenge.” (Amazon.com.)

Herbert, Janis. *The Civil War for Kids: A History with 21 Activities*. Chicago Review Press, 1999.

ISBN-10: 1556523556

ISBN-13: 978-1556523557

“History explodes in this activity guide spanning the turmoil preceding secession, the first shots fired at Fort Sumter, the fierce battles on land and sea, and finally the Confederate surrender at Appomattox. Making butternut dye for a Rebel uniform, learning drills and signals with flags, decoding wigwag, baking hardtack, reenacting battles, and making a medicine kit bring this pivotal period in our nation’s history to life. Fascinating sidebars tell of slaves escaping on the Underground Railroad, the adventures of nine-year-old drummer boy Johnny Clem, animal mascots who traveled with the troops, and friendships between enemies. The resource section includes short biographies of important figures from both sides of the war, listings of Civil War sites across the country, pertinent websites, glossary, and an index.” Grades 4–8. (Amazon.com.)

Hopkinson, Deborah. *From Slave to Soldier: Based on a True Civil War Story*. Simon Spotlight, 2007.

ISBN-10: 0689839669

ISBN-13: 978-0689839665

“Johnny loves his uncle and his master’s mule, but he hates being a slave. So when he’s asked to join the Union army, he accepts. Being a soldier is hard work, and Johnny wonders if he made the right choice. But when the army needs him, Johnny knows it’s up to him to come to the rescue!” Ages 6–8. (Amazon.com.)

Kadohata, Cynthia. *Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008.

ISBN-10: 141690638X

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Cracker is one of the U.S. Army’s most valuable weapons: “... a German shepherd trained to sniff out bombs, traps, and the enemy. The fate of entire platoons rests on her keen sense of smell. She’s a Big Deal, and she likes it that way. Sometimes Cracker remembers when she was younger, and her previous owner would feed her hot dogs and let her sleep in his bed. That was nice, too.

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“Told in part through the uncanny point of view of a German shepherd, *Cracker!* is an action-packed glimpse into the Vietnam War as seen through the eyes of a dog and her handler.” For ages 10 and older. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

London, C. Alexander. *Dog Tags #1: Semper Fido*. Scholastic Paperbacks, 2013.

ISBN-10: 0545477042

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“When Gus Dempsey joins the US Marine Corps, he knows without a doubt that he will make a great dog handler. He’s always been good with dogs. In fact, he’s often better with dogs than he is with people.

“But Loki is not the dog that Gus was expecting. Fun-loving and playful, Loki acts more like a pet than the well-trained, bomb-sniffing Marine that he’s supposed to be.

“When Gus and Loki deploy to Afghanistan, though, they have no choice but to learn to work together. Because in war, getting along is a matter of life and death.”

Dog Tags “is a series of stand-alone books, each exploring the bond between soldier and dog in times of war.” For ages 10 and older. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

McElroy, Lisa Tucker and illustrated by Diane Paterson. *Love, Lizzie: Letters to a Military Mom*. Whitman, 2005.

ISBN: 9780807547779

ISBN-10: 0807547778

Nine-year-old Lizzie writes to her mother, who is deployed overseas during wartime, and includes maps that show her mother what Lizzie has been thinking and doing. Includes nonfiction tips for helping children of military families.

McPherson, James M. *Fields of Fury: The American Civil War*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2002.

ISBN-10: 0689848331

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“Pulitzer Prize award-winning historian James M. McPherson has written for young readers a stirring account of...the Civil War, bringing to life the tragic struggle that divided not only a nation, but also friends and family. From the initial Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, to the devastating loss of life at Shiloh as Ulysses S. Grant led the Union to unexpected victory, to the brilliance of Stonewall Jackson’s campaign at Shenandoah, to General Pickett’s famous charge at Gettysburg, to the Union’s triumph at Appomattox Court House, *Fields of Fury* details the war that helped shape us as a nation.

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Murphy, Sylvia. *Shadow: The Story of a Wartime Cat*. S A Greenland, 2010. Kindle edition available through Amazon Digital Services, Inc.

ISBN-10: 0955051266

ISBN-13: 978-0955051265

Shadow is a story that combines the lives of two stray Persian cats during World War II. One of them was adopted by a family despite the rationing of food during the war. The cat enjoyed more than 20 years of love and care and lived with the family until she died of old age. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Myers, Laurie. *Escape by Night: A Civil War Adventure*. Holt, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0805088253

ISBN-13: 978-0805088250

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“Ten-year-old Tommy and his sister Annie are intrigued by the new soldiers arriving in their Georgia town. Since the Civil War started, wounded men waiting to be treated at the local church-turned-hospital have been coming in by droves. When Tommy sees a soldier drop his notebook, he sends his dog, Samson, to fetch it. Tommy soon meets the soldier and is faced with the hardest decision he’s ever had to make: whether or not he should help a Yankee escape to freedom.

“Filled with intriguing suspense and tackling difficult questions about slavery, this story, told in accessible short chapters, will appeal to history buffs as well as those who appreciate a faithful dog.” Ages 8 and older. (Amazon.com.)

Nolan, Timothy. *Read-Aloud Plays: Civil War*. Scholastic Professional Books, 1999.
ISBN-10: 0590028979
ISBN-13: 978-0590028974

These five original plays for children nine and older (grades 4–8) in this unique collection cover important points during the Civil War such as the South’s decision to secede, the Battle of Gettysburg, the surrender at Appomattox, and Lincoln’s plan for reconstruction. It makes history real by giving students insights into the people who lived through these events such as Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, Abraham Lincoln, and Frederick Douglass. Includes background information and related creative activities. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Osborne, Mary Pope. *Abe Lincoln at Last!* Magic Tree House #47. Random House, 2011
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“Jack and Annie are [on a presidential adventure]! They are trying to get a special feather that will help save Merlin’s baby penguin, Penny. When the magic tree house whisks them back to Washington, D.C., in 1861, Jack can’t wait to meet Abraham Lincoln himself! But the new president is too busy to see them, as he is desperately trying to save a nation in crisis.

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“Filled with up-to-date information, photos, illustrations, and fun tidbits from Jack and Annie,” this companion volume helps kids from 7-10 learn more about Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.” (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. *Dogs on Duty: Soldiers’ Best Friends on the Battlefield and Beyond*. Walker Childrens, 2012.

ISBN: 0802728456

ISBN-13: 978-0802728456

“Throughout history, dogs have been key contributors to military units. Dorothy Hinshaw Patent follows man’s best friend onto the battlefield, showing readers why dogs are uniquely qualified for the job at hand, how they are trained, how they contribute to missions, and what happens when they retire. With full-color photographs throughout and sidebars featuring heroic canines throughout history, *Dogs on Duty* provides a fascinating look at these exceptional soldiers and companions.” For children ages 7–10. (Amazon.com.)

Spinelli, Eileen. *While You Are Away*. Hyperion Paperbacks for Children, 2008.

ISBN: 9781423113515

ISBN-10: 1423113519

In first-person narratives, three children anticipate happy reunions with their parents, who are on active military duty overseas. The stories are upbeat and reassuring, and the book concludes with the safe return of all, each from a different branch of the armed forces.

Stanchak, John. *Eyewitness Civil War*. DK Publishing, 2011.

ISBN-10: 0756672678

ISBN-13: 978-0756672676

Eyewitness Books released this volume “in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the Civil War” and reissued it with a CD and wall chart. It provides photographs of rare documents, weapons, and artifacts plus images of “legendary commanders, unsung heroes, and memorable heroines.” These “combine with stories of courage, adventure, and defiance to paint an unforgettable portrait of the Civil War.” For ages 8 and older. (Adapted from Amazon.com.)

Warren, Andrea. *Under Siege!: Three Children at the Civil War Battle for Vicksburg*.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009.

ISBN-10: 0374312559

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“Meet Lucy McRae and two other young people, Willie Lord and Frederick Grant, all survivors of the Civil War’s Battle for Vicksburg. In 1863, Union troops intend to silence the cannons guarding the Mississippi River at Vicksburg—even if they have to take the city by siege. To hasten surrender, they are shelling Vicksburg night and day. Terrified townspeople, including Lucy and Willie, take shelter in caves—enduring heat, snakes, and near suffocation. On the Union side, twelve-year-old Frederick Grant has come to visit his father, General Ulysses S. Grant, only to find himself in the midst of battle, experiencing firsthand the horrors of war.

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**Annotated
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Wilson, Karma and Raul Colon. *How to Bake an American Pie*. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2007. (Source: militarychild.org)
ISBN-10: 0689865066
ISBN-13: 978-0689865060

This book for elementary school children serves up a celebration of our country, its founders, and the immigrants who built it with a rhyming recipe. With frequent references to America the Beautiful, the tribute includes tangible geographic ingredients such as fruited plains, fields of amber grains, and purple mountain majesties. Less-tangible fixings include meekness, might, courage, liberty, justice, freedom, dreams, forgiveness, and customs from faraway lands. (Excerpted from *School Library Journal*)

Young Adult

Herbert, Janis. *The Civil War for Kids: A History with 21 Activities*. Chicago Review Press, 1999.
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