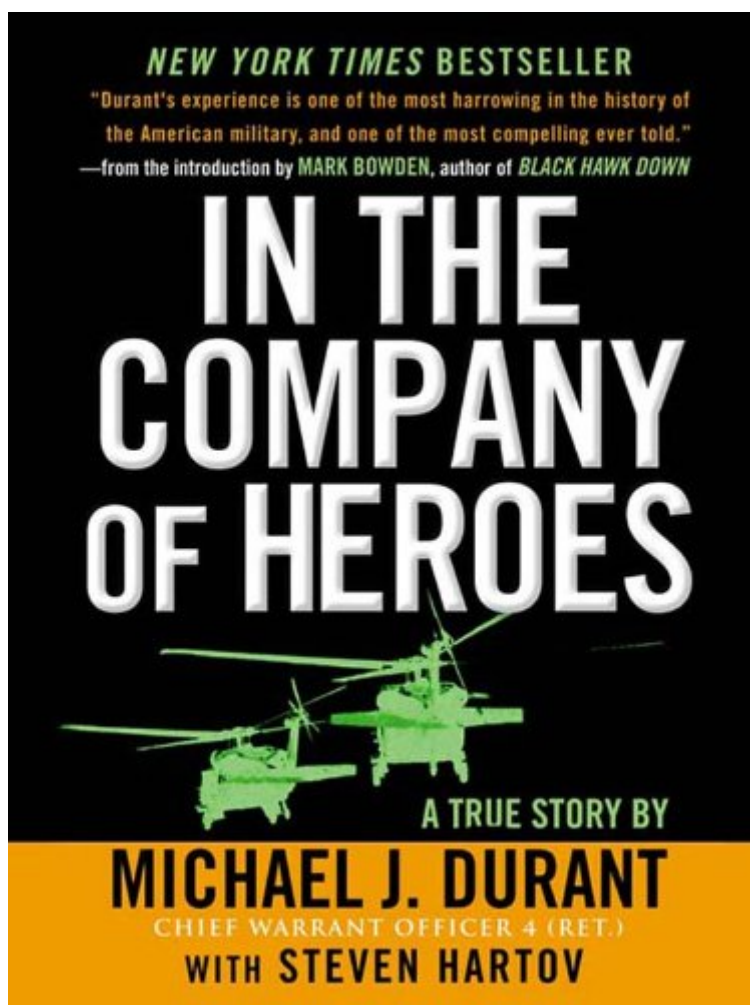


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In The Company Of Heroes



Synopsis

Piloting a U.S. Army Special Operations Blackhawk over Somalia, Michael Durant was shot down with a rocket-propelled grenade on October 3, 1993. With devastating injuries, he was taken prisoner by a Somali warlord. With revealing insight and emotion, he tells the story of what he saw, how he survived, and the courage and heroism that only soldiers under fire could ever know.

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Customer Reviews

A good book that deals with one of our finest during captivity. Follows where Black Hawk Down, the book and the movie, left us wondering what happened to the fallen pilots, and what became of their fortune. A tough book written with a light heart, a good sense of humor, and plenty of flashbacks to good rock and roll songs, and previous missions before. I found the book, if anything, a little less on the dramatic state of things, and more on the light hearted personality of the author. Even the moments of extreme bad news, the narrator finds time to shoot out a couple of wisecracks regarding his situation, surely a braver man is capable of taking a lighter tone to an otherwise very dramatic

situation. These pilots are the best of the best, their daring is beyond what most would be willing to undertake. Respect and admiration for these individuals comes easy, and the book shows what they are made of. 3.5 Stars.

Like a great many people, I've watched the movie Black Hawk Down. I loved that movie and have watched it more times than I can count. That movie made me want to learn more about Operation Gothic Serpent. In my quest for knowledge, I came across this book. I had heard about it in the past, but I finally had to read it. Now, I'm not an avid reader. There are books I like, but not all that many. When I first started reading, I couldn't put the book down. I finally forced myself to stop reading at 1:30 AM! This book is an emotional roller coaster. Some parts are making you almost cry from laughing, while other parts make you cry from sorrow. The writing is fantastic and makes for an easy read. Durant's tale is nothing short of incredible. One of the wonderful things about this book is you don't need to be a history or military buff to understand and follow it. You could literally know nothing of what happened and still love the story. If you have any interest in military history, or even if you don't, I highly recommend this book.

This book is a great compliment to the book "Black Hawk Down". Mr. Durant not only takes you inside his captivity but also provides many stories of the brotherhood within the Night Stalkers, including many stories of his fellow men in the Mog that lost their lives. This book is a great stand-alone story, but also gives more insight and humanity to the brave men that sacrificed so much on that day in October, 1993.

Mr. Durant, sir, first, may I thank you for honoring your country the way you have done and still do--and secondly, thank you for sharing this story with the rest of us. It will be significant for Special Ops in training...for instructors to use your story as one of survival in captivity. (No, I am not in the military...just using some common sense.) I have decided to write my review to you personally, as there have been so many other Reviewers that I'd be a needle in a haystack if you ever read them all. What went down in Mogadishu, was you, sir. I can remember seeing your face on t.v. those years ago when everything just so happened to go just so wrong. I can't imagine how you sustained your inner peace with so much physical pain and mental anguish of not knowing exactly what was going on. You are used to knowing exactly what is going on, making that a hardship and a trigger for you in your mind. Your captivity will be something unforgettable. But I did notice (in your fascinating book) that even though you were in a rock bottom situation, you still used all of your senses that

were left to you, and you used them to survive your upheaval, as well as your time spent there. I absolutely loved finding out who Firimbi actually was! I had a huge smile on my face, realizing that 'so much conflict in life could be resolved if we all could communicate', via your relationship with him. This indecisiveness between the two of you only shows that if we let ourselves find a way to communicate country to country/person to person, we'd understand each other's ways better. So much of this type of conflict exists in Somalia as they are literally brainwashed by their government that we are an axis of evil, as the U.S. promised food and amenities to the poor, yet their corrupt government kept it from them, thus blaming us. I don't have to tell you the rest...you know why you were sent there, though not expecting what we saw on t.v., and magazines around the world of you. I am so glad that you made it home. I am terribly sorry for those whom did not. (just as those who were frantic to find you...had your same instrument ingrained in them...leave no soldier behind). And if times ever get tough, just always remember the two women of the husbands who perished looking for you. They don't want you to blame yourself. Take any of that weight that is still there off of your shoulders because in the long run, you will be together with them in the next life. And I hope that writing this book (though it may have been quite difficult) strengthened you in more ways than you had expected it to. All the best to you and have a happy and healthy life! Jane Lavoie for Peace around the globe--(somehow, someday!)

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