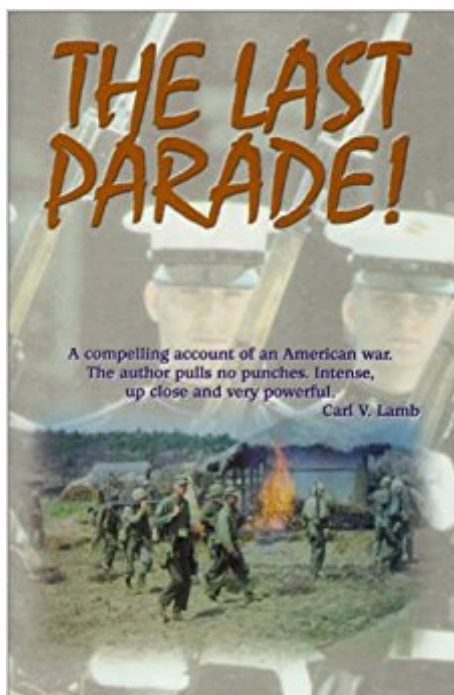


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The Last Parade: A True American War Story



Synopsis

This compelling book recently sparked an investigation by the USMC Inspector General's office that resulted in a renewal of a fifty year cover up of a war crime. But, this time the cover up was exposed by US News & World Report in a major story written November 3, 2003. The real story in this book is about the struggle of the protagonist to fulfil his duty to fight the enemy and an equally compelling duty to uphold human values. The story is propelled on the combat scenes which continue uninterrupted while the real story, the thing that makes this book so compelling, is laced between the scenes like a fine silk thread that ties the whole thing together. Simultaneously with the combat action he suffers the treachery of his battalion commander working through a Navy Medical doctor to have the protagonist judged mentally ill. He is committed, transported to Bethesda Naval Hospital in Bethesda Maryland, gets off a plane and is met by four Navy Corpsmen who force him into a straight jacket. The sole purpose being to keep him quiet about the war crime. He is then forced to take insulin shock treatments designed to erase his memory.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book provides valuable insight to the daily life of a U.S. Marine during the Korean Conflict. Focusing on the personal struggle between duty and moral conscience as told first hand by author, this is a story that will hold your attention to the unexpected end. Definitely a good selection for anyone interested in the Korean Conflict.

This novel is one of the very best I have ever read on military service. The author, a U.S. Marine,

enlisted for the same reason many young men do. He believed in the values of honor, traditions, history, and duty which are bestowed upon all members of the U.S. Marine Corps. Believing he is being deployed to Korea to liberate the South Korean people he quickly learns that few values exist in combat. Even in the Marine Corps where he has been taught that values are supreme. In Korea, he experiences the very worst in terms of human behavior among those men whom he was taught were exemplary in character. This novel is a testimony to the brutality and cruelty of all warriors in battle. No matter if they are Chinese Communists or U.S. Marines. Atrocities are detailed which are often committed in hostile environments but are almost never talked about or written in a novel. A real eye opener to American readers. Enjoy.

I read this book in one of Sam's earliest manuscripts which he had sent to my father to read. He is a born storyteller. If you want to learn more about the Korean War and the effects it had on many unsung heroes, this book is a must read. I had grown up on some of the horror stories of this war from listening to my father. But this is one story he was never able to tell me. It haunted him for decades. He had finally made peace with it in the years before he passed away. This book helped me to understand my father and his demons. He loved the Corps and this was a very bitter experience for him. Thank you Sam for writing this book.

This story by Carl Lamb is different than other wartime memoirs. It reads like a novel, but niggling in the back of the mind is a voice that every chapter and every scene is a real memory. Other reviewers hit on the key themes, and an ending worthy of James Jones (The Thin Red Line, From Here to Eternity).

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