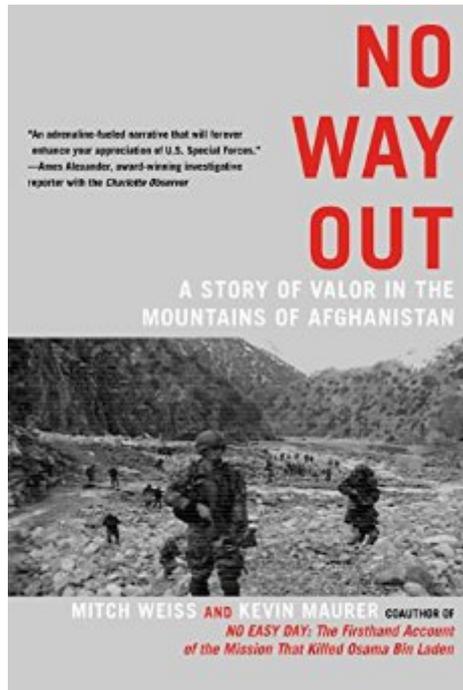


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No Way Out: A Story Of Valor In The Mountains Of Afghanistan



Synopsis

In a remote, enemy-held valley in Afghanistan, a Special Forces team planned to scale a steep mountain to surprise and capture a terrorist leader. But before they found the target, the target found them. The team was caught in a deadly ambush that not only threatened their lives, but the entire mission. The elite soldiers fought huddled for hours on a small rock ledge as rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine-gun fire rained down on them. With total disregard for their own safety, they tended to their wounded and kept fighting to stay alive. When the battle finally ended, ten soldiers had earned Silver Stars—the Army's third highest award for combat valor. It was the most Silver Stars awarded to any unit in one battle since Vietnam. Based on dozens of interviews with those who were there, *No Way Out* is a compelling narrative of an epic battle that not only tested the soldiers' mettle but serves as a cautionary tale. Be careful what you ask a soldier to do because they will die trying to accomplish their mission.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have no natural inclination to read military books, but started doing so after my son was killed in combat so that I would have a better understanding of his life as a soldier. I read "No Way Out"

because I know some of the soldiers who were in the Shok Valley battle. I haven't asked them if they've read the book so I can't review it on its accuracy, but the little I heard from them about the battle is consistent with what's in the book. I like the book overall. It's fast paced and there's a good balance between telling the story of the battle, the background surrounding it, and the personalities of the soldiers. It's a little disorienting to constantly go from one soldier to another in such short chapters, but that also probably helps convey some sense of the chaos and the speed at which events unfolded. Having read sworn eyewitness statements of a different battle, I appreciate how each soldier has his own vantage point in the battle and his own piece of the puzzle. Eyewitness statements can even contradict each other at times, and it is difficult to weave together a coherent and consistent account of such a complex battle. The authors of "No Way Out" do a good job of bringing things together. Just for the sake of comparison, the last book of this genre that I read was "Lone Survivor," allegedly by Marcus Luttrell. That was such a braggadocio bunch of BS that I could barely get past the first few pages. I wanted to throw up reading the account of how he met with the families of his fallen comrades. I've been through that, and it doesn't happen the way described in "Lone Survivor." I felt I couldn't trust anything that was written in the rest of the book. "No Way Out," on the other hand, didn't strike a wrong tone at all and I felt it was trustworthy.

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