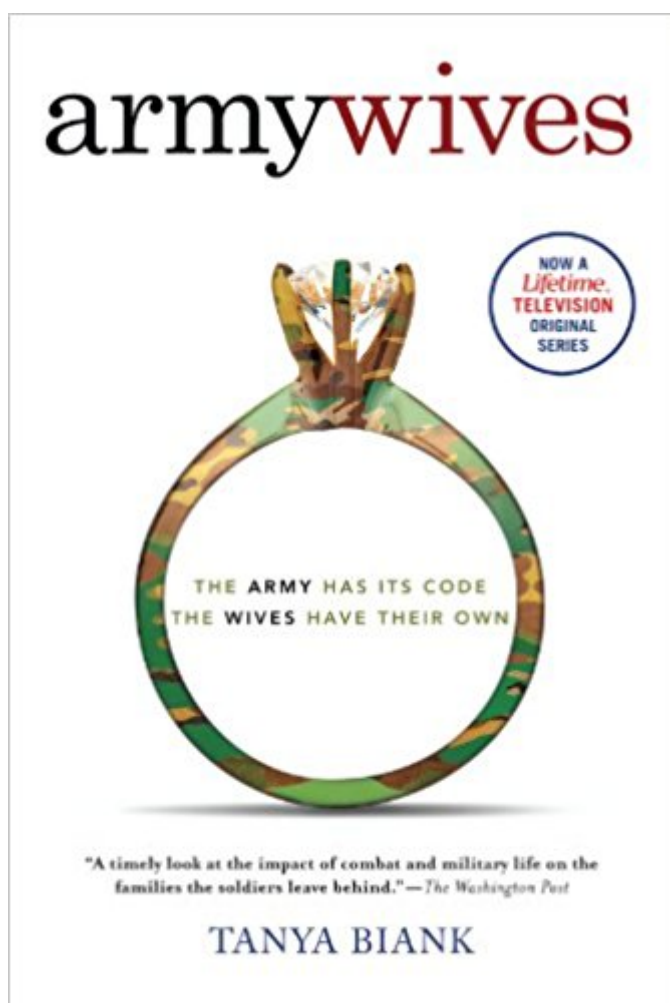


The book was found

Army Wives: The Unwritten Code Of Military Marriage



Synopsis

Army Wives goes beyond the sound bites and photo ops of military life to bring readers into the hearts and homes of today's military wives. Biank tells the story of four typical Army wives who, in a flash, find themselves in extraordinary circumstances that ultimately force them to redefine who they are as women and wives. This is a true story about what happened when real life collided with army convention. *Army Wives* is a groundbreaking narrative that takes the reader beyond the Army's gates, taking a close look at the other woman's side of the Army itself – and how its traditions, rules and war-time realities deeply impact marriage and home life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this insider's account of the sometimes-lethal strains that military life puts on families, Biank, an award-winning journalist and the daughter of a career army officer, finds much to admire in military spouses. She follows the lives of four women at Fort Bragg, N.C., home of the 82nd Airborne Division: the wife of a high-ranking officer who adds luster to her husband's career with her own polish; a senior noncommissioned officer's wife who ambivalently watches her son follow in his father's footsteps; a woman who falls in love with an enlisted man early in his career and struggles with balancing army demands with her own needs; and a former soldier who finds that the counterterrorist operative she married may be just as dangerous to her as he is to terrorists. Though her prose is sometimes clunky and some of the history feels a bit dated, Biank's novelistic sense of detail and suspense vividly demonstrates how "the Army... could bring couples closer together... or

it could rip relationships apart." Army wives cope with unpredictable deployments and struggle to raise children alone, often on small paychecks, in a community both tightknit and sharply judgmental. "Army wives serve, too," says Biank – in an institution ambivalent about families. She makes sympathetic both their pride and their tragedies. (Feb.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The author of this provocative portrait of modern army wives is herself an army wife and comes from an army family. That combination of experience and insight enhances the value of the book's depiction of the army-family community. Basically, army wives these days are more often than not educated professionals but are expected to function enmeshed in a unique hierarchy very different from anything in civilian life. Moreover, they are far more frequently required to move house and home than civilian wives, and their risk of suddenly becoming widows is constant. For this the army has established support networks, but again, those are sui generis. Overall, Biank furnishes a detailed reminder, if any is needed, that the military is still a hierarchical subculture dominated by male values that imposes a considerable burden on those semi-innocent quasi bystanders, army wives. A good choice for military collections of any size. Frieda Murray Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I cried a lot while reading this book. The television show does not come close to the book, nor how we Army wives lived. I knew these women, this place, this time . . . this fear. This book is not really about military life, but rather the author's investigations into the many deaths of family members that took place following the first deployment to Afghanistan. There have been many similar deaths since then, but only Tanya really investigated and tried to find connections. The women here are so different, from girls who married too early to escape a difficult life at home to women who have put in a full military career with their husband, then endured sending a son to serve as well. The book touches on the consequences of men being convinced that their girl will not be faithful through "Jody Calls" (marching songs) and rumor mills, who come home looking for proof to match their worst suspicions. Tanya Biank caught on early that there is something different going on here to cause so many soldiers to come home and kill their wives, children and/or themselves with such insane violence. After reading one passage about how many times one soldier stabbed his wife, I counted out the dozens of times as I pounded the table

for each stab $\tilde{f}\hat{\phi}\tilde{A} \hat{=} \neg\tilde{A} \hat{=} \text{œ true madness!}$ The military has since put into place measures to prevent post-deployment violence, and I think we can credit this book to encouraging that, but those measures are not near enough. Investigation of the cause of such animosity and violence that has become common in all branches needs to take place by an independent party so that this is no longer swept under the rug. We cannot fix this problem if we continue to ignore its existence. Sincere thanks to Tanya Biank $\tilde{f}\hat{\phi}\tilde{A} \hat{=} \neg\tilde{A} \hat{=}$ „çs work and service.

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

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

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

Just started reading and it is amazing. Having lived in Fayetteville for going on 20 years, I married a soldier from Fort Bragg who served during the Vietnam War, I find the book so far to be very interesting. My husband went to Vietnam with the Merchant Marines before the war got started but did not have to go during his time in the Army. Even stranger than that is that my husband worked for the Fayetteville Observer running the presses. We no longer stay in Fayetteville but the book so far is like going home again. I remember Jeffery McDonald murdering his family. It was during my senior year and I remember the office pulling classmates out of the classrooms to tell them that their family members had died in the Vietnam War. Can't wait to finish the book.

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

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