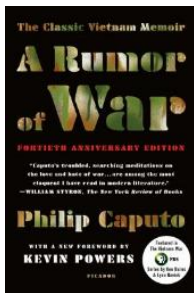




Veterans Resources Reading List

The Veterans Resource Center at the Mission Viejo Library contains a wide variety of books about military veterans and their experiences, military and service animals, war history, and military families. Check out these inspirational and educational books from the Veterans Resource Center collection!

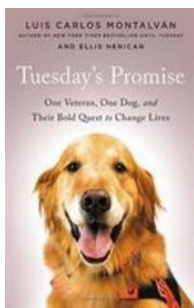
Adult Nonfiction



[A Rumor of War](#)

Philip Caputo | VRC 959.70438 CAP

The classic Vietnam memoir, this is an honest and unapologetic account of one man's experience as a Marine during the Vietnam War and later as a reporter covering it. Featured in the PBS documentary series The Vietnam War by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick.



[Tuesday's Promise : One Veteran, One Dog, and Their Bold Quest to Change Lives](#)

Luis Carlos Montalván and Ellis Henican| VRC 616.8521 MON

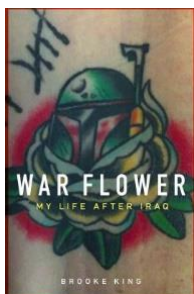
Iraq War veteran Luis Carlos Montalván takes to the road with his beloved Golden Retriever service dog, Tuesday, advocating for America's wounded warriors and showing how these beautifully trained animals can assist soldiers, veterans and many others with disabilities.



[The Things They Cannot Say : Stories Soldiers Won't Tell You About What They've Seen, Done or Failed To Do In War](#)

Kevin Sites | VRC 355.0092 SIT

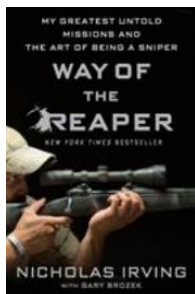
In this work the author asks the difficult questions of these combatants, many of whom he first met while in Afghanistan and Iraq and others he sought out from different wars.



[War Flower : My Life After Iraq](#)

Brooke King| VRC 956.7044 KIN

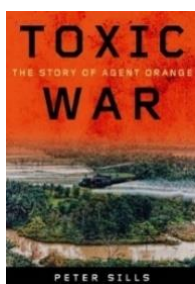
Kirsten Holmstedt, trusted chronicler of women soldiers and veterans, tells the ups-and-downs stories of veterans struggling with the aftereffects of military service.



[Way of the Reaper : My Greatest Untold Missions and the Art of Being a Sniper](#)

Nicholas Irving with Gary Brozek | VRC 956.7044 IRV

An elite Army Special Ops sniper's gives step-by-step accountings of his 10 most significant missions while offering insight into the art of sniper shooting.



[Toxic War : the Story of Agent Orange](#)

Peter Sills | VRC 959.70438 SIL

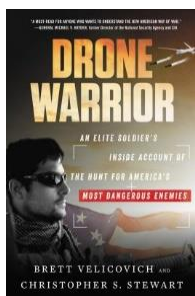
Sills goes behind the scenes of political power and industry into the debate about the use of Agent Orange and its potential side effects. Though manufacturers understood the dangers of this compound, they did nothing to protect soldiers, and veterans were left seek justice in the court of law and public opinion.



[Baghdaddy : How Saddam Hussein Taught Me to Be a Better Father](#)

Lt. Col. Bill Riley (Ret.) | VRC 973.931092 RIL

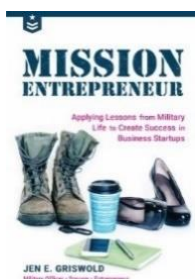
Follow Riley's journey through a turbulent youth and into a challenging adulthood as he discovers that no matter how different we may seem, we are all trying to make the best of life and learn how to be the best versions of ourselves.



[Drone Warrior : an Elite Soldier's Inside Account of the Hunt for America's Most Dangerous Enemies](#)

Brett Velicovich and Christopher S. Stewart. | VRC 956.7044348 VEL

Velicovich spent nearly a decade using drones for covert operations. Here he offers an unprecedented perspective on the remarkably complex nature of drone operations and the rigorous and wrenching decisions behind them.



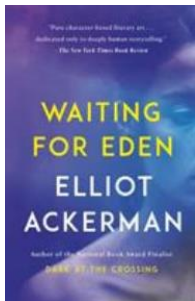
[Mission Entrepreneur : Applying Lessons From Military Life to Create Success in Business Start-ups](#)

Jen Griswold | VRC 658.1141 GRI

Veteran and military spouse Griswold shares her personal story of transforming skills gained from military life - work ethic, vision, passion, and resilience - into a successful business career.



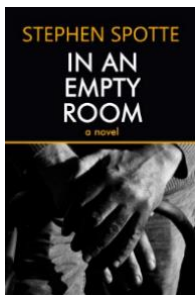
Adult Fiction



[Waiting for Eden](#)

Elliot Ackerman | VRC FIC ACKERMAN, E.

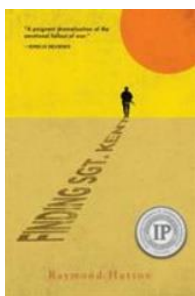
Following an accident that kills Eden's best friend and leaves Eden clinging to life, his wife tries to navigate grief, loss, and motherhood. A breathtakingly spare and shattering novel that explores the unseen aftereffects--and unacknowledged casualties--of war.



[In an Empty Room : a Novel](#)

Stephen Spotte | VRC FIC SPOTTE, S.

A Marine fighting in Vietnam is horribly burned, disfigured, and unable to speak. The only remaining survivor of his platoon, the doctors don't know his identity and the survivor himself isn't sure who he is. This story explores the lives of the soldiers before they shipped overseas, and how the remaining survivor struggles to go on after his return.



[Finding Sgt. Kent](#)

Raymond Hutson | VRC FIC HUTSON, R.

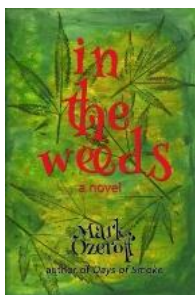
When U.S. Army sniper Robert Kent retires at the age of 36, he struggles to find his place in society. Haunted by his past, he sets out in search of information about his biological father who died in Vietnam, taking the reader on his journey through PTSD, tragic loss, self-reflection, and learning to trust and love.



[Price of Duty](#)

Todd Strasser | VRC YA FIC STRASSER, T.

Jake returns from the battlefield to his hometown and family unsure if he can return to active duty. Though he is hailed as a hero and being considered for a Silver Star, he struggles with physical wounds and haunting memories of the human cost of war.



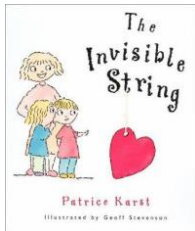
[In the Weeds](#)

Mark Ozeroff | VRC FIC OZEROFF, M.

Ozeroff tells the story of a Vietnam veteran fighting through his own PTSD. Using skills he learned as an Air Force pilot, Slats Kilov smuggles marijuana into Florida from the Bahamas. This page-turner is action-packed, humorous, and full of Vietnam War history



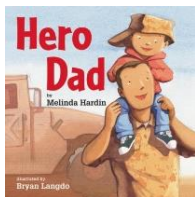
Books for Children



[The Invisible String](#)

Patrice Karst | VRC J PIC KAR

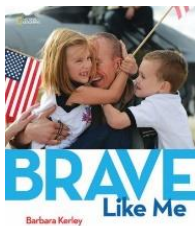
When Liza and Jeremy run to their mother during a scary storm, she comforts them by telling them about the Invisible String, which connects people who love each other no matter where they are and means that they are never alone.



[Hero Dad](#)

Melinda Hardin | VRC J PIC HAR

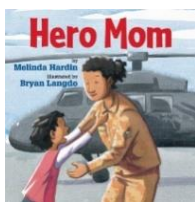
A child demonstrates that while Dad differs from a traditional superhero, as an American soldier he is a superhero of a different kind.



[Brave Like Me](#)

Rio Cortez | VRC J 355.120973 KER

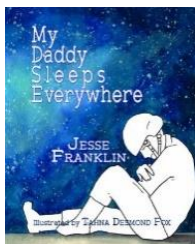
When someone is serving our country, far from home, everyone in their family has to be brave. Including -- and sometimes especially -- the kids. This book speaks to all kids in this situation in telling the story of a boy and a girl with parents away on duty.



[Hero Mom](#)

Melinda Hardin | VRC J PIC HAR

The moms in this book are superheroes. They may not leap over tall buildings, and they may not have super-human speed. But these moms construct buildings, fly planes, and make tanks roll. They do all kinds of things to help create a safer world.



[My Daddy Sleeps Everywhere](#)

Jesse Franklin | VRC FIC FRANKLIN, J.

In this wonderful story, daddy travels to every clime and place including the mountains, the prairie, the jungle, and everywhere in between. Though daddy's particular location and sleeping arrangements are constantly changing, one thing never does- no matter how far daddy is from home, home is never far from his mind.