

Small Town Boys

An Alabama boy's innocence is shaken by murder and madness in the 1960s South in this novel by the New York Times–bestselling author of *Swan Song*. It's 1964 in idyllic Zephyr, Alabama. People either work for the paper mill up the Tecumseh River, or for the local dairy. It's a simple life, but it stirs the impressionable imagination of twelve-year-old aspiring writer Cory Mackenson. He's certain he's sensed spirits whispering in the churchyard. He's heard of the weird bootleggers who lurk in the dark outside of town. He's seen a flood leave Main Street crawling with snakes. Cory thrills to all of it as only a young boy can. Then one morning, while accompanying his father on his milk route, he sees a car careen off the road and slowly sink into fathomless Saxon's Lake. His father dives into the icy water to rescue the driver, and finds a beaten corpse, naked and handcuffed to the steering wheel—a copper wire tightened around the stranger's neck. In time, the townsfolk seem to forget all about the unsolved murder. But Cory and his father can't. Their search for the truth is a journey into a world where innocence and evil collide. What lies before them is the stuff of fear and awe, magic and madness, fantasy and reality. As Cory wades into the deep end of Zephyr and all its mysteries, he'll discover that while the pleasures of childish things fade away, growing up can be a strange and beautiful ride. “Strongly echoing the childhood-elegies of King and Bradbury, and every bit their equal,” *Boy's Life*, a winner of both the Bram

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Stoker and World Fantasy Awards, represents a brilliant blend of mystery and rich atmosphere, the finest work of one of today's most accomplished writers (Kirkus Reviews).

The book is the autobiography of a physician who grew up in a small town, became a small town pediatrician, then an allergy & asthma specialist, and then a leader in a large health care system.

Years ago, Danny and Jennifer met at a party, and their chemistry was off the charts. After a few months of being just friends, he did the right thing-cut off all contact with her to focus on his family. It was the right decision at the time. But they've never forgotten each other. Or the special connection they felt.

Small Town BoyThe Small Town Boy's Redemption

More than thirty million Americans live in small, out-of-the-way places. Many of them could have joined the vast majority of Americans who live in cities and suburbs. They could live closer to more lucrative careers and convenient shopping, a wider range of educational opportunities, and more robust health care. But they have opted to live differently. In Small-Town America, we meet factory workers, shop owners, retirees, teachers, clergy, and mayors--residents who show neighborliness in small ways, but who also worry about everything from school closings and their children's futures to the ups and downs of the local economy. Drawing on more than seven hundred in-depth interviews in hundreds of towns across America and three decades of census data,

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Robert Wuthnow shows the fragility of community in small towns. He covers a host of topics, including the symbols and rituals of small-town life, the roles of formal and informal leaders, the social role of religious congregations, the perception of moral and economic decline, and the myriad ways residents in small towns make sense of their own lives. Wuthnow also tackles difficult issues such as class and race, abortion, homosexuality, and substance abuse. *Small-Town America* paints a rich panorama of individuals who reside in small communities, finding that, for many people, living in a small town is an important part of self-identity.

Her family is the reason his brother went to prison. Thad Truax is focused on getting the shop he owns with his brothers on the right side of the law and turning a profit, but he's not against the idea of romance. So when he sees a beautiful woman along the river, he doesn't hesitate to strike up a conversation that leads to friendship. Unfortunately, by the time he realizes who she is, he's already falling for her. After the awful incident that split their town and ended up with Thad's brother in prison, Justice Hopkins could never be seen in public with Thad Truax. But there's another, even more explosive reason they can't be together. Still, they can't keep pretending to be strangers during the day while stealing sweet kisses at night under the willow tree. Can they bring their relationship out to their family and friends without it destroying them?

Blade Truax did some street racing when he was younger. Illegal, sure. But that's not what sent him to prison. It was the lying, conniving Watkins girl and her father, Judge

Watkins. He did his time, and he's out. But he has to register. Despite the fact that he was innocent to begin with. He'll never drive down that road again. His fines are paid, his time is served. All he wants now is to build his business legitimately. No more stripping exhausts and smoking the turbos. But in order to get soccer moms and little old ladies to bring their cars to his shop, he needs to look legit. Liberty Watkins suspects her sister lied. But she could never prove it. And Blade looked guilty. Still, Liberty couldn't stop believing in him. So, when she gets the opportunity to supplement her church secretary job by becoming his parts person and bookkeeper, she's tempted. When he suggests a dating relationship just for the summer, she's not as sure. She's not interested in being his temp. Can she convince the bad boy to make her his forever girl? The Bad Boy's Forever Girl is the first book in the NEW Richmond Rebels series by award-winning author and Kindle All-Star, Jessie Gussman. Grab your copy today! Richmond Rebels Series: 1. The Bad Boy's Forever Girl 2. The Bad Boy's Step Sister 3. The Bad Boy's Secret Romance

BLOW is the unlikely story of George Jung's roller coaster ride from middle-class high school football hero to the heart of Pablo Escobar's Medellin cartel-- the largest importer of the United States cocaine supply in the 1980s. Jung's early business of flying marijuana into the United States from the mountains of Mexico took a dramatic turn when he met Carlos Lehder, a young Colombian car thief with connections to the then newly born cocaine operation in his native land. Together they created a new

model for selling cocaine, turning a drug used primarily by the entertainment elite into a massive and unimaginably lucrative enterprise-- one whose earnings, if legal, would have ranked the cocaine business as the sixth largest private enterprise in the Fortune 500. The ride came to a screeching halt when DEA agents and Florida police busted Jung with three hundred kilos of coke, effectively unraveling his fortune. But George wasn't about to go down alone. He planned to bring down with him one of the biggest cartel figures ever caught. With a riveting insider account of the lurid world of international drug smuggling and a super-charged drama of one man's meteoric rise and desperate fall, Bruce Porter chronicles Jung's life using unprecedented eyewitness sources in this critically acclaimed true crime classic.

I decided to write this book because I believe that there are people out there who are in the same situation now that I found myself in years ago. Change, risk, excitement, disappointment is all part of life. You have to accept it, learn from it, and keep moving forward. If you are not satisfied with your situation, change it. Over the past twenty years, I've learned a thing or two about how ambition plays out in the real world, and what it really means to chase your passion. I've also met some pretty cool people, and gained some valuable lessons on the road to success. I hope you'll benefit from what I have to share.

“Uplifting story about the triumph of human decency . . . Sure to be enjoyed by those who fondly recall another David vs. Goliath roundball yarn—Hoosiers” (Publishers

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Weekly). Sam Pickett never expected to settle in this dried-up shell of a town on the western edge of the world. He's come here to hide from the violence and madness that have shattered his life, but what he finds is what he least expects. There's a spirit that endures in Willow Creek, Montana. It seems that every inhabitant of this forgotten outpost has a story, a reason for taking a detour to this place—or a reason for staying. As the coach of the hapless high school basketball team (zero wins, ninety-three losses), Sam can't help but be moved by the bravery he witnesses in the everyday lives of people—including his own young players—bearing their sorrows and broken dreams. How do they carry on, believing in a future that seems to be based on the flimsiest of promises? Drawing on the strength of the boys on the team, sharing the hope they display despite insurmountable odds, Sam finally begins to see a future worth living. Author Stanley Gordon West has filled the town of Willow Creek with characters so vividly cast that they become real as relatives, and their stories—so full of humor and passion, loss and determination—illuminate a path into the human heart. “Elegiac but hopeful novel, originally self-published, about the redemptive power of people—and, of course, roundball . . . Worthy of a place in Montaniana alongside Ivan Doig and Deirdre McNamer, this is a modest tale, elegantly written.” —Kirkus Reviews *Midnight Sons and Daughters* by Debbie Macomber There's something special about Alaska—and about the town of Hard Luck. Scott O'Halloran grew up there; he's been away for years, but now he's back. To stay? Everybody's wondering—especially Chrissie

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Harris. The girl he left behind... The Glory Girl by Judith Bowen Glory, Alberta. A cowboy town in cowboy country. Hannah Parrish loves it here. "Once from a small town, always from a small town," says Jack Gamble, ex-pro prospector, a man who's ready to come home. He wants to find a "nice, quiet Glory girl. " And that's exactly what Hannah is—even if Jack doesn't know it yet! Promise Me Picket Fences by Janice Kay Johnson Melanie Parker never wants to leave Elk Springs, Oregon. After a lifetime of moving, she finally has a big house with a picket fence. To Kevin McNeil, that sounds like prison. They could walk away from each other right now—if they weren't falling in love... You know, being friends with two cute boys does have its benefits. There's Danny. Danny is a golden boy in every way. He has dreamy blue eyes and blonde hair that always looks perfect, even when it's windblown or been stuck under a football helmet. He's the boy every girl crushes on. The boy I get into trouble with, the boy I fight with, the hot quarterback no girl can resist. Being with Danny is like being on an adventure. He has a bright, contagious smile and abs to die for. Equally crush worthy is Phillip. Adorable, sweet Phillip, who I have known since birth. Phillip has dark hair, a perfect smile, brown eyes, and the sexiest voice I have ever heard. He's the boy I talk to every night before I go to sleep. The boy who rescues me, the boy who can read my mind, the boy who is always there for me, the boy who tries to keep me out of trouble, the boy who irritatingly keeps getting hotter, and whose strong arms always seem to find their way around me. And when he gives me that grin, I can never say no. One boy will give

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me my very first kiss. One boy will teach me to make out. One boy will take me to prom. And finally, one boy will ask me to marry him. They will both be my best friends. But only one of them will be the boy I fall in love with. Only one of them is That Boy.

A small-town cop seeks vengeance on twelve escaped inmates in this novel of “jaw-dropping twists . . . crisp in execution and thrilling until the very end” (The Wall Street Journal). When twelve inmates pull off an audacious prison break, it liberates more than a thousand convicts into the nearby small town. The newly freed prisoners rape, murder, and destroy the quiet community—burning down homes and businesses. An immense search ensues, but the twelve who plotted it all get away. After two years, the local and federal police agencies have yet to find them. Then, the mayor calls in Leah Hawkins, a local cop who lost a loved one that terrible night. She’s placed on sabbatical to travel across the country learning advanced police procedures. But the sabbatical is merely a ruse. Her real job is to track down the infamous twelve—and kill them. Leah’s mission takes her from Florida to New York and from the beaches of California to an anti-government settlement deep in the Ozarks. But when the surviving fugitives realize what she’s up to, a race to kill or be killed ensues in this nonstop tale of vengeance from the Edgar Award–winning author of *The Butcher’s Boy*. “Leah proves to be both a brilliant detective and a cunning predator.” —Associated Press

“Perry is an expert storyteller . . . *A Small Town* unfolds like a 1950s film noir.” —Wall Street Journal

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He thinks he's too big for me. I like a challenge. On my 25th birthday, I received a letter. My mother had left me a piece of land in her will-- the farm I grew up on as a child. Her last request was that I restore it... and how could I say no? So I returned to my little town full of big memories. Nothing has changed here. Except for Grant Werther. When we were kids, I barely saw him. Now I can't miss him. The guy is HUGE; all muscle and beard, like some hardened mountain man. He's intimidating... and definitely sexy, in an alpha-male-cowboy kind of way. Turns out his dad owns part of my farm and he's got the papers to prove it. That means I can't do anything without Grant's approval. On top of that, this jerk says I'm too "city girl" to be here. And the way he openly stares at my ass in my cut-off jeans makes it clear what he thinks I'd be good at. He's the biggest man I've ever seen and I admit, I'm curious what he's hiding in his boxers. I didn't know he'd catch me peeking. Now he won't stop teasing me. He keeps saying I could never handle him, that he'd break me in two. I know I don't have to prove him wrong... But I want to.

One last thing, if you do fall in love with him, please go slowly. Be careful. Trust your gut and know not all things are easy. Damaged things can become beautiful if they're placed in the right hands. -Love, Gran

A small town where pickup trucks rule, the farmer's market is bigger than the grocery store, and just about everyone goes to church on Sunday is the last place Henley Warren expects to find herself three months after her grandmother's death. But Gran left a list of things she needed Henley to do

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after she died, and fulfilling those wishes means spending a summer in the same place her mom fled from when she was only seventeen years old. With each task that is ticked off the list, events are set in motion that uncover secrets surrounding Henley's life. Although Henley may have arrived on the shores of Alabama's Gulf Coast feeling alone and lost in a world without her Gran, things soon change. The small town holds more than she realized- including a broody, gorgeous, potentially dangerous guy who is always showing up when she needs him the most. Henley fears her heart isn't ready to trust someone so unpredictable but he makes her feel things deeper than she thought possible. So, when Henley discovers the twisted, dark world he is living in, will it be too late to save her heart? Or has her heart been beyond saving from the moment he stepped out of his truck on that very first day?

There is no available information at this time.

Milbank and Mitchell, dissimilar in size and separated by more than two hundred miles, have more in common than might appear at first glance. Elsewhere in the country, they would be considered small towns, but in South Dakota, they are urban population centers. In the first half of the twentieth century, when many more South Dakotans lived on farms and ranches than do today, towns such as Milbank and Mitchell formed hubs for commerce, social activities, and culture. Eric Fowler and Sheila Delaney looked at their communities from different viewpoints, but their childhood and young adult memories of South Dakota share common themes of life away from the farm. Fowler dealt with the hardships of a low-income, single-parent family in Milbank. Delaney experienced the wealth and occasional grandeur of Mitchell's social elite.

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Both found respite and youthful joy in mid-century South Dakota urban life. Despite the differences in Fowler and Delaney's circumstances, these two contrasting memoirs bring forth commonalities in the authors' early experiences of small-town life, even while they followed differing paths to adulthood.

SMALL TOWN BOY is the story of growing up in the small towns of Bayfield, WI and Ovid, Michigan in the 1930s and 1940s, told through a series of stories about the towns and their people, as lived by Robert, and told to Anna Mae.

An inspiring portrait of the extraordinary high-school football team whose quest for perfection sustains its hometown in the heartland. The football team in Smith Center, Kansas, has won sixty-seven games in a row, the nation's longest high-school winning streak. They have done so by embracing a philosophy of life taught by their legendary coach, Roger Barta: "Respect each other, then learn to love each other and together we are champions." But as they embarked on a quest for a fifth consecutive title in the fall of 2008, they faced a potentially destabilizing transition: the greatest senior class in school history had graduated, and Barta was contemplating retirement after three decades on the sidelines. In Smith Center--population: 1,931--this changing of the guard was seismic. Hours removed from the nearest city, the town revolves around "our boys" in a way that goes to the heart of what America's heartland is today. Joe Drape, a Kansas City native and an award-winning sportswriter for The New York Times, moved his family to Smith Center to discover what makes the team and the town an inspiration even to those who live hundreds of miles away. His stories of the coaches, players, and parents reveal a community fighting to hold on to a way of life that is rich in value, even as its economic fortunes decline. Drape's moving portrait

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of Coach Barta and the impressive young men of Smith Center is sure to take its place among the more memorable American sports stories of recent years.

My college rival. My ex-husband's best friend. My new roommate? Oh, boy. The last thing I want is to rent my spare bedroom to my ex-husband's best friend. His six-foot-three, dimple-faced, alpha-hole best friend. His injured-professional-football-player best friend. But desperate times, desperate measures, y'know? I can't afford to hold grudges. These heaping bills of mine won't pay themselves. Keeping my distance from my new roommate should be simple enough. I mean, I can't stand Jude Kingston. Plus, as my ex's friend, he's so off-limits he's virtually radioactive. In any case, Jude promises to stay out of my way. He's just a broken football hero in need of a quiet place to focus on healing his injured knee and saving his lifelong dream. Harmless, right? Um, not so much... The man is infuriating. He spends his days parading that shirtless, muscle-bound body all around my house. He insists on involving himself in my private business. He has zero concept of personal space. But he also has this boyish, unintentional charm. And this inconvenient way of repeatedly coming to my rescue. Suddenly, lust is throbbing in every room of this house. Lingering gazes over the dinner table... Sweaty workout sessions on the living room floor... Stolen kisses in the moonlit hallways... I can't fight these soft feelings growing roots in my belly. Jude is a vine, slowly wrapping himself around my heart. But when a piece of my past threatens his entire future, will our love even stand a chance? Mister Baller is a steamy, laugh-out-loud, enemy roommates-to-lovers small town romance featuring a stubborn footballer with a sinful eight-pack, an insufferable ego and the food preferences of a toddler. It is set in small town Illinois and is book 2 in the Bad Boys in Love series. A full-length (85 000-word) standalone. No cliffhanger. HEA guaranteed.

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For a third generation Italian-American boy life takes on a number of twists and turns as he matures from a child into a teenager. He must cope with the pressures imposed by a strict dad and a younger brother whose antics are intolerable. In his journey into adulthood Nicholas D'Napoli encounters a number of bizarre people and episodes that will leave you laughing or crying. The characters are hilarious. In this walk down memory lane you'll witness the escapades and pranks of people that defy normalcy, like the transvestite who dresses like Greta Garbo, or the voyeur who plays peek-a-boo while hiding in the neighbor's bushes. Through Nick we're reminded of our first kiss or the embarrassment of blowing that special moment with the love of our dreams. D'Napoli guides us through our own youths; old friends, the bully in the schoolyard, first loves and broken hearts.

The story of a small town boy who went out into world, and where he ended up for Maren Fresh out of high school, Babe Vogel should be thrilled to have the whole summer at her fingertips. She loves living in her lighthouse home in the sleepy Maine beach town of Oar's Rest and being a barista at the Busy Bean, but she's totally freaking out about how her life will change when her two best friends go to college in the fall. And when a reckless kiss causes all three of them to break up, she may lose them a lot sooner. On top of that, her ex-girlfriend is back in town, bringing with her a slew of memories, both good and bad. And then there's Levi Keller, the cute artist who's spending all his free time at the coffee shop where she works. Levi's from out of town, and even though Babe knows better than to fall for a tourist who will leave when summer ends, she can't stop herself from wanting to know him. Can Babe keep her distance, or will she break the one rule she's always had - to never fall for a summer boy? Crank is a standalone romance in a new small town, blue-collar series from USA Today

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bestselling author Adriana Locke. Join readers everywhere as they fall in love with the delicious Gibson Boys. This is one mistake Sienna Landry can't buy her way out of. As Walker Gibson looks at her, then at the damage to his precious truck (that she may or may not have accidentally inflicted), she knows she's in trouble. It's not the busted headlight and dented grill that's sunk her though. It's the downright sinful man in front of her that's the problem. The small town mechanic is broody. Rough. Smells like engine grease and gasoline and Sienna isn't sure why that's so sexy, but it is. It so is. She's ready to peel off her panties at the drop of his wrench. He wants her too. She can feel it when he brushes against her. Experience it as he presses her against the wall of the shop. It's thinly veiled in his deep, brown eyes when he looks at her like she's everything he's ever wanted. So why won't he give in? The damage to Walker's truck is the first of many mistakes between the two of them, ending with truths that rock Sienna's world. Nothing can fix her broken heart except the love of a man that won't, maybe even can't, love her back.

In the mid-1990s, a band of baseball loving boys from the small town of Chester, Illinois, on the banks of the Mississippi River, pursue their dreams of state and national championships.

Personal tales of growing up in a small town in rural America during the 20th century.

A moving portrait of gay life with all its highs and lows. Evan and Rick have been friends since childhood and as they grow up, their friendship turns into love. They move to the city where they meet Billy and Charlie and the four friends are soon inseparable. Drawn in a sure style, Mioki's comic is both sexy and moving. A charming comic for the young and the young at heart.

Side by Side is the story of Evan and Rick, whose close childhood friendship in a small town

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setting evolves into the love of their lives. They move to the big city where they meet Billy and Charlie, and these four friends are soon inseparable. Mioki presents a moving portrait of gay life with all its highs and lows. Drawn in a sure style and masterfully incisive, Mioki's comic is a joy to read, moving - and the sex isn't given short shrift either! A charming comic for the young and the young at heart.

As Mat progresses through his teens, he explores the bustling city, develops friendships, nurtures a growing interest in art and music, and goes on a date with "the hottest girl in Ipoh." When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn's alternating viewpoints.

Growing up in a small town, Sarah Wright knew city boy Jake Ryland was going to be trouble the minute she saw him. In order to help a friend, Jake moved from his home in the city - with its vast amounts of entertainment options and women - to a small town in the middle of nowhere. Accustomed to the fast paced life he loved, life now seemed to move as slow as the molasses the South was known for. Until he met Sarah. Sarah knew Jake's stay in town was temporary, and did her best not to be drawn in by his charm and good looks. And after a disastrous first date, she thought she was safe. Little did she know... As their relationship builds, so does their chemistry...and their feelings for one another. Do they try to find a way to make it work, even though they come from different worlds? Or do they walk away now and wonder what might have been?

Have you ever thought about starting your own business? Or, is building a company something "other people" do? In *The Poster Boy*, Chad Scott tells the story of a midwestern kid from

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Missouri who worked up the nerve to move to Chicago and chase his dream of becoming an entrepreneur. He didn't have a pile of cash or a bunch of connections—just a great idea and the willpower to see it through to the bitter end. This book is half-memoir and half-guide. Chapters alternate between Chad's story and practical business lessons designed to take you all the way from a bare concept to a lucrative business. In these pages, you'll find... - Real talk about the everyday problems entrepreneurs face. - Advice for overcoming and growing through adversity. - The inspiration to make something out of nothing. - Practical tools and tactics for starting your own business. - Wisdom for working with partners and investors. - How to hire friends and influence people. - Guidance for finding investors and raising money. - Tips for building an organization that gives as good as it gets. - A plethora of stupid mistakes, ridiculous problems, and innovative solutions. - All the motivation you need to set your business in motion today. Don't let your fears keep you from getting into the game. Young, old, rich, poor, success, or failure—if you've ever wanted to start your own business, this book is for you.

BLOW is the unlikely story of George Jung's roller coaster ride from middle-class high school football hero to the heart of Pablo Escobar's Medellin cartel-- the largest importer of the United States cocaine supply in the 1980s. Jung's early business of flying marijuana into the United States from the mountains of Mexico took a dramatic turn when he met Carlos Lehder, a young Colombian car thief with connections to the then newly born cocaine operation in his native land. Together they created a new model for selling cocaine, turning a drug used primarily by the entertainment elite into a massive and unimaginably lucrative enterprise-- one whose earnings, if legal, would

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In a thoroughly engaging style John Miller introduces us to the small-town Midwestern boys who dreamed the America we know today and who made it real; from Frederick Jackson Turner and George Washington Carver to Henry Ford and Sam Walton. This first-person account describes the vivid and compelling World War II experiences of Jack Goetz, who flew twenty-five missions with the 544th Squadron, 384th Bomb Group based at Grafton Underwood, England, in the early stages of the air war over Europe from mid-1943 to early 1944. During his combat tour, he flew on B-17 bombers over German-occupied Europe as a gunner. These were hazardous missions that resulted in high casualty rates among B-17 flight crews. Jack had his share of close calls, including a crash landing in a crippled bomber and a ditching in the English Channel, which resulted in the death of a close friend and crewmate. After completing his combat tour, he volunteered to be a member of the flight crew that took a group of

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combat correspondents to the Pacific to cover the end of the war in that theater. His B-17 was the second American aircraft to land in Japan just as the war ended, and he was among the first Americans to visit the atomic bomb-blasted city of Hiroshima. A tale of life, love, and growing up as part of The Greatest Generation, *Unlikely Warrior* is one memoir you'll never forget.

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