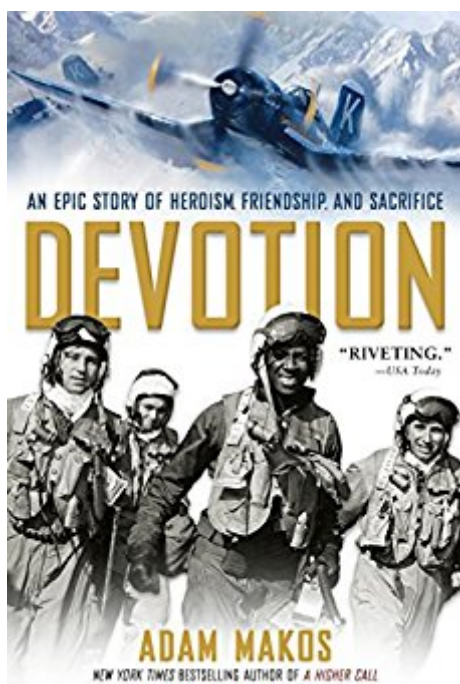


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# Devotion: An Epic Story Of Heroism, Friendship, And Sacrifice



## Synopsis

For readers of *Unbroken* comes an unforgettable tale of courage from America's forgotten war in Korea, by the New York Times bestselling author of *A Higher Call*. *Devotion* tells the inspirational story of the U.S. Navy's most famous aviator duo, Lieutenant Tom Hudner and Ensign Jesse Brown, and the Marines they fought to defend. A white New Englander from the country-club scene, Tom passed up Harvard to fly fighters for his country. An African American sharecropper's son from Mississippi, Jesse became the navy's first black carrier pilot, defending a nation that wouldn't even serve him in a bar. While much of America remained divided by segregation, Jesse and Tom joined forces as wingmen in Fighter Squadron 32. Adam Makos takes us into the cockpit as these bold young aviators cut their teeth at the world's most dangerous job—landing on the deck of an aircraft carrier—a line of work that Jesse's young wife, Daisy, struggles to accept. Deployed to the Mediterranean, Tom and Jesse meet the Fleet Marines, boys like PFC Red Parkinson, a farm kid from the Catskills. In between war games in the sun, the young men revel on the Riviera, partying with millionaires and even befriending the Hollywood starlet Elizabeth Taylor. Then comes the war no one expected, in faraway Korea. *Devotion* takes us soaring overhead with Tom and Jesse, and into the foxholes with Red and the Marines as they battle a North Korean invasion. As the fury of the fighting escalates and the Marines are cornered at the Chosin Reservoir, Tom and Jesse fly, guns blazing, to try and save them. When one of the duo is shot down behind enemy lines and pinned in his burning plane, the other faces an unthinkable choice: watch his friend die or attempt history's most audacious one-man rescue mission. A tug-at-the-heartstrings tale of bravery and selflessness, *Devotion* asks: How far would you go to save a friend? Praise for *Devotion*—“Riveting . . . a meticulously researched and moving account.”—USA Today “An inspiring tale . . . portrayed by Makos in sharp, fact-filled prose and with strong reporting.”—Los Angeles Times “[A] must-read.”—New York Post “Stirring.”—Parade “A masterful storyteller . . . [Makos brings] *Devotion* to life with amazing vividness. . . . [It] reads like a dream. The perfectly paced story cruises along in the fast lane when you're finished, you'll want to start all over again.”—Associated Press “A delight to read . . . *Devotion* is a story you will not forget.”—The Washington Times “My great respect for Tom Hudner knows no bounds. He is a true hero; and in reading this book, you will understand why I feel that way.”—President George H. W. Bush “This is aerial drama at its

best— fast, powerful, and moving.— Erik Larson, New York Times bestselling author of *Dead Wake*—“Though it concerns a famously cold battle in the Korean War, make no mistake: Devotion will warm your heart.— Hampton Sides, New York Times bestselling author of *Ghost Soldiers* and *In the Kingdom of Ice*—“At last, the Korean War has its epic, a story that will stay with you long after you close this book.— Eric Blehm, New York Times bestselling author of *Fearless* and *Legend*From the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book reminds me of why I read books. This is a well-written and completely engrossing story about friendship and adversity. The book is a reminder of the struggles and sacrifices that previous generations endured for the benefit of those who enjoy our freedoms today. I wouldn't be surprised if this deservedly becomes a hit movie; regardless, if you enjoy amazing history, then give this amazing book a try. This outstanding work comes highly recommended!UPDATE: This is the first time I have ever come back to update a review on book. Why on earth would I do that? Well, the book has stuck with me. I think of it daily; that seems crazy, but that is the case. I think of the sacrifices that these guys in the book made (especially what the Marines went through in those

beyond horrible conditions in Korea), and I think of the men and women throughout our military that continue to make sacrifices in many ways that allows the US to still be the best country in the world. There are sections in the book that literally drove me to tears, which is fairly unusual for my personality. A great book really imparts a sense of learning and understanding, and this book accomplished that many times over. I also happen to be a writer (with zero association of the writer of this book or the publisher), but I can honestly state that if you only buy and read ONE book this year, make it this one. It is that good, it is that amazing, and it is that important, at least in my opinion.

I had the opportunity to go to the Today's Stars and Stripes Book Club review of "Devotion" by Adam Makos which provided a memorable two hours for a number of Veterans and friends and family of Veterans of the Korean War this morning. Highlighted with the Skyped in author, we were in for a real treat. The audience got some "inside" information, not in book, as Adam, a great storyteller, kept us intrigued as we listened to the "reasons" for the book, and his heartfelt "devotion" to the project he undertook. He sparked many memories in the veterans there, my father, one of them. How proud I am of my dad, and all the men who served with him. This well written, intriguing book, is fit for the movie screen! I can't wait to see it. A story of friendship and devotion, not just of the two men highlighted in this book, but of a generation devoted to a noble cause, is well worth the read. Great job Adam. It was a pleasure to read, and am looking forward to the next one!

I've been following Adam Makos books since "A Higher Call" which was a pleasure to read. The author knows how to build up tension and to "hook" the reader. His latest book "Devotion" is no exception. This lively narrative slowly introduces you to the main characters of the book and you almost feel like being right with them - may it be in the war torn skies over Korea, or down on the frozen ground with the struggling Marines. The book focuses on the fate of the two pilots and friends Tom Hudner and Jesse Brown. But we'll also get to know more faces of that conflict without drafting too much attention from the main theme. This book offers stunning insights about an almost forgotten war that still haunts its veterans and the area alike. Definitely a recommendation, not only for die-hard war history buffs!

Loved It This is a wonderful , suspenseful, and heart warming book. It is hard to put down. While the

background is the war in Korea it is not just a war book. It centers on a few carrier pilots but also includes the marine grunts from the carrier who became surrounded by the enemy and saved by the pilots who knew them. There is also a great story about their first deployment to the middle east where they were when the war started. The best part of the book is about race relations in the 50,s, which were not so good then. One of the carrier pilots just happened to be one of the few black officers in the Navy, and the first and only black Navy pilot at the time. He was a great ,first class guy and became not only one of the best pilots, but the most popular and liked pilot on the carrier. The "devotion" comes about when the black pilot crashes his plane behind enemy lines and his wingman goes to extraordinary means to help his best friend. It is very moving and shows such devotion and courage.

This is an easy to read book about Navy pilots and Marines serving in the Korean War. It covers some of the battles that were fought on the ground and from the sky. The key thread that runs through it and ties it all together is the story of two pilots who become friends while serving together. One crash lands involuntarily and the other crash lands voluntarily to help his fellow pilot who was stuck in the cockpit and was unable to free himself. This all occurred miles into enemy territory. There are a lot of pictures of the various characters in the book. I enjoyed the book very much.

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