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# The Long Walk A Story Of War And Life That Follows Brian Castner

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[Home](#) Graphic Arts Books

Since 1956, The Long Walk has been, for many, the symbol of an immense love of freedom and has become one of the greatest true-life adventure stories of all time. The harrowing story about a group of POWs who escaped a labor camp in Siberia and walked to freedom in India during WWII deeply

affected thousands of its readers, and Linda Willis was one of those moved by the story. But she had questions about its authenticity: Was it all true? What happened after their arrival in India? Were there others involved in the story? Who was Mr. Smith? Though she was not a trained researcher, Willis felt compelled to look at some of the most powerful aspects of the story and to try to dig to the core of the truth behind The Long Walk. Willis's investigation took her down unforeseen byways with many hours spent unraveling facts, truths, half-truths, rumors, and the like. She waded through archives, wrote and spoke to hundreds of people, and continued to seek out and verify the details of the greatest adventure narrative ever written.

The path of Willis's research will be a model for anyone attempting a similar search and who has ever thought about the story behind a book. No one who reads Looking for Mr. Smith will ever think of The Long Walk in the same way.

[The Long Walk Home](#) Virago Press  
Riverdale meets The Haunting of Hill House in the terrifying new thriller from the author of Harrow Lake. "Cinematic, clever, and creepy, with a main character that leaps off the page, Burden Falls ticks off all my moody thriller boxes." —Goldy Moldavsky, New York Times bestselling author of The Mary Shelley Club and Kill the Boy Band The town

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of Burden Falls drips with superstition, from rumors of its cursed waterfall to Dead-Eyed Sadie, the disturbing specter who haunts it. Ava Thorn grew up right beside the falls, and since a horrific accident killed her parents a year ago, she's been plagued by nightmares in which Sadie comes calling—nightmares so chilling, Ava feels as if she 'll never wake up. But when someone close to Ava is brutally murdered and she 's the primary suspect, she begins to wonder if the stories might be more than legends—and if the ghost haunting her dreams might be terrifyingly real.

Whatever secrets Burden Falls is hiding, there's a killer on the loose . . . with a vendetta against the Thorns. "Reads like a horror blockbuster in the best way possible."

—PopSugar "Superb." —BCCB "A great scary story with an even mix of heart and blood." —SLJ "Gritty...Spine-tingling...Twisty." —Kirkus

*The Longest Walk* Vintage

In the tradition of Michael Herr's *Dispatches* and works by such masters of the memoir as Mary Karr and Tobias Wolff, a powerful account of war and homecoming. Brian Castner served three tours of duty in the Middle East, two of them as the commander of an Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit in Iraq. Days and nights he and his team—his

brothers—would venture forth in heavily armed convoys from their Forward Operating Base to engage in the nerve-racking yet strangely exhilarating work of either disarming the deadly improvised explosive devices that had been discovered, or picking up the pieces when the alert came too late. They relied on an army of remote-controlled cameras and robots, but if that technology failed, a technician would have to don the eighty-pound Kevlar suit, take the Long Walk up to the bomb, and disarm it by hand. This lethal game of cat and mouse was, and continues to be, the real war within America's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. But *The Long Walk* is not just about battle itself. It is also an unflinching portrayal of the toll war exacts on the men and women who are fighting it. When Castner returned home to his wife and family, he began a struggle with a no less insidious foe, an unshakable feeling of fear and confusion and survivor's guilt that he terms *The Crazy*. His thrilling, heartbreaking, stunningly honest book immerses the reader in two harrowing and simultaneous realities: the terror and excitement and camaraderie of combat, and the lonely battle against the enemy within—the haunting memories that will not fade, the survival instincts that will not switch off. After enduring what he has endured, can there ever again be such a thing as "normal"? *The Long Walk* will hook you from the very first sentence, and it will stay with you long after its final gripping page has been turned.

*The Long Walk Home* Little, Brown

This award-winning satire shares a day in the life of a nineteen-year-old U.S. soldier home on leave from the Iraq War to take part in an NFL halftime show. A ferocious firefight with Iraqi insurgents at "the battle of Al-Ansakar Canal"—three minutes and forty-three seconds of intense warfare caught on tape by an embedded Fox News crew—has transformed the eight surviving men of Bravo Squad into America's most sought-after heroes. For the past two weeks, the Bush administration has sent them on a media-intensive nationwide Victory Tour to reinvigorate public support for the war. Now, on this chilly and rainy Thanksgiving, the Bravos are guests of America's Team, the Dallas Cowboys, slated to be part of the halftime show alongside the superstar pop group Destiny's Child. Among the Bravos is the Silver Star-winning hero of Al-Ansakar Canal, Specialist William Lynn, a nineteen-year-old Texas native. Amid clamoring patriots sporting flag pins on their lapels and Support Our Troops bumper stickers on their cars, the Bravos are thrust into the company of the Cowboys' hard-nosed businessman/owner and his coterie of wealthy colleagues; a luscious born-again Cowboys cheerleader; a veteran Hollywood producer; and supersized pro players eager for a vicarious taste of war. Among these faces Billy sees those

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of his family—his worried sisters and broken father—and Shroom, the philosophical sergeant who opened Billy ’ s mind and died in his arms at Al-Ansakar. Over the course of this day, Billy will begin to understand difficult truths about himself, his country, his struggling family, and his brothers-in-arms—soldiers both dead and alive. In the final few hours before returning to Iraq, Billy will drink and brawl, yearn for home and mourn those missing, face a heart-wrenching decision, and discover pure love and a bitter wisdom far beyond his years . . . Poignant, riotously funny, and exquisitely heartbreaking, Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk is a devastating portrait of our time, a searing and powerful novel that cements Ben Fountain ’ s reputation as one of the finest writers of his generation. Now a major motion picture directed by Ang Lee Praise for Billy Lynn ’ s Long Halftime Walk Finalist for the National Book Award Winner, National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction Winner, Los Angeles Times Book Award for Fiction

“ Brilliantly done . . . grand, intimate, and joyous. ” —New York Times Book Review

“ The Catch-22 of the Iraq War. ” —Karl Marlantes

[A Long Walk with Mary](#) Random House Trade Paperbacks

When Bina shifts to a school in

Nauti-which is a long way from Koli, her village-she must daily cross the mountain, the river and walk through the jungle to get there. She is accompanied by Prakash, a boisterous twelve year old, and Sonu, her excitable younger brother. Together, they have many adventures-from helping old Mr Mani save his potatoes from porcupines to visiting the town of Tehri; and from escaping a landslide to encountering a leopard in the jungle. A touching and warm story by Ruskin Bond, this beautifully illustrated book showcases life in the hills and the wonders of friendship and bravery.

Forest of Wonders Central Recovery Press

This is the story of how, over a period of one hundred and ninety-two days, I was torn away from the life I knew and loved, and dragged down to the depths of despair; of how I endured enforced isolation and near-starvation at the hands of Somali pirates; and of how I made a

choice to survive by any and all means that I could muster. In September 2011 Judith Tebbutt and her husband David set out on an adventurous holiday to Kenya. A couple for thirty-three years, they had first met in Zambia: Africa had played a major part in their life together. After a joyous week on safari in the Masai Mara, they flew on to a beach resort forty kilometres south of Somalia. And there, in the early hours of 11 September, tragedy struck them. Judith was torn away from David by a band of armed pirates, dragged over sea and land to a village in the arid heart of lawless Somalia, and there held hostage in a squalid room, a ransom on her head. There, too, she learned the terrible truth that the responsibility of securing her release now rested with her son Ollie. But though she was isolated, intimidated and near-starved, Judith resolved to survive - walking endless circuits of her nine-foot prison, trying to make her captors

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see her as a human being, keeping her faith at all times in Ollie. Powerful, moving and at times quite devastating, this is Judith Tebbutt's story in her own words. It is a memoir of the life she shared with her beloved husband, an unflinching account of the ordeal that overturned her world, and a testament to the inner resilience and familial love that sustained her through captivity. There is nothing so bad in life as to have no hope - to believe you have been defeated, to give in to that. Now that I found myself in confinement, four thousand miles from home under a hostile sky, I would not accept that fate for myself.

A Long Walk Home HarperCollins

Shedding fresh light on a tragic chapter of American history, this book documents a shameful episode in the 1860s, when U.S. soldiers forced thousands of Navajo to march 400 miles from their homeland to a desolate reservation. Full color.

The Bachman Books Faber & Faber  
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER  
They met over their dogs. Gail

Caldwell and Caroline Knapp (author of Drinking: A Love Story) became best friends, talking about everything from their love of books and their shared history of a struggle with alcohol to their relationships with men. Walking the woods of New England and rowing on the Charles River, these two private, self-reliant women created an attachment more profound than either of them could ever have foreseen.

Then, several years into this remarkable connection, Knapp was diagnosed with cancer. With her signature exquisite prose, Caldwell mines the deepest levels of devotion, and courage in this gorgeous memoir about treasuring a best friend, and coming of age in midlife. Let 's Take the Long Way Home is a celebration of the profound transformations that come from intimate connection—and it affirms, once again, why Gail Caldwell is recognized as one of our bravest and most honest literary voices.

Navajo Stories of the Long Walk Period  
Anchor

The world is changing. While the very earth trembles with the threat of war, Gilaon, a young man from the small

village of Adanac, together with his best friend Kenair must unravel a terrible plot his mother set in motion. When Gilaon loses everything, he soon realizes it's going to be up to him to discover the depth of his mother's past and its disturbing connection to the empire's illustrious capital. What they uncover is beyond reckoning. Thrown into a world more vast and perilous than he could have imagined, Gilaon finds that he may be the key piece of it all.

A Long Walk for Bina Harper  
Collins

When her little sister, Akeer, becomes sick when they are returning home from the water hole, Nya must carry her and the water back to their village, one step at a time.

The Long Walk The Creative Company

The author recounts his experiences walking from Tierra del Fuego to Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, the entire length of the Western hemisphere

Navajo Long Walk LP, Lyons Press  
Describes the experiences of a newcomer to the Yukon when he attempts to hike through the snow

to reach a mining claim.  
Burden Falls National Geographic Kids  
The Long Walk Home – will most likely  
be the last book I write – I am eighty-  
three years old – this book is important to  
me – it goes over to a degree what has  
been said in my previous books – The  
End Was A Beginning – the first – the  
second The Silent Voice – in much more  
detail – it is threaded with the never-  
ending presence of loneliness – but more  
significantly it brings forth the Four  
Absolutes – Honesty – Purity –  
Unselfishness – Love – which were given  
to me in 1986 – I have talked about these  
principles in my previous books – I made  
clear that if these principles were  
incorporated in society at hand – the  
world would change in an instant – this I  
believe is the power of these four words  
– the society that exists at present – the  
persistence of – selfishness – self-  
centeredness – permeated with  
dishonesty – beyond reproach – the  
distortion of purity – the use of the word  
– love – as a panacea – to cover the vile  
of discontent that exists in the world as  
is lived in – every crime – every murder  
every twisted thought – every lie – every  
selfish act – every thought of hate -  
would be reduced to the pleasantries of  
memory – I cannot – predict where

society will rest seventy years from now  
2016 – I do know that in 1927 the world  
population was two billion – 1960 three  
billion – 2011 seven billion – projection  
2083 ten billion – will make up our society  
– if the culture is not changed – the  
present will be a reality for the future –  
this may be a morbid statement – it is a  
true statement – for sure – society is  
doing nothing to change the silhouette as  
is known – the simple life is but a dream  
of realities – taken from the books well-  
read – by masters – of the past – what is  
our destiny –  
Sarah's Long Walk Houghton Mifflin  
Harcourt  
The Orthodox Church's reverence for  
Mary the Mother of God can be a  
stumbling block for converts, and a  
fulfilling relationship with her can  
prove elusive for converts and lifelong  
Orthodox Christians alike. In this  
deeply personal but beautifully  
universal memoir, Brandi Willis  
Schreiber relates her own quest to  
know and love the Virgin Mary and to  
incorporate her as a vital participant in  
her spiritual life. Brandi's sparkling,  
vulnerable account invites the reader  
to join her in this quest.  
Nowhere Wild Beacon Press

–"Essential reading for anyone who wants  
to understand history – and then go out  
and change it." –President Barack Obama  
Nelson Mandela was one of the great  
moral and political leaders of his time: an  
international hero whose lifelong  
dedication to the fight against racial  
oppression in South Africa won him the  
Nobel Peace Prize and the presidency of  
his country. After his triumphant release  
in 1990 from more than a quarter-century  
of imprisonment, Mandela was at the  
center of the most compelling and  
inspiring political drama in the world. As  
president of the African National  
Congress and head of South Africa's  
antiapartheid movement, he was  
instrumental in moving the nation toward  
multiracial government and majority rule.  
He is still revered everywhere as a vital  
force in the fight for human rights and  
racial equality. Long Walk to Freedom is  
his moving and exhilarating  
autobiography, destined to take its place  
among the finest memoirs of history's  
greatest figures. Here for the first time,  
Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela told the  
extraordinary story of his life -- an epic  
of struggle, setback, renewed hope, and  
ultimate triumph. The book that inspired  
the major motion picture Mandela: Long  
Walk to Freedom.

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The Long Walk Home Dine College Press

A dark and riveting survival story set against a rugged northern landscape . . . Izzy is just thirteen when a flu pandemic turns the world upside down. After her sister is attacked by a roving gang of looters in what remains of their town, Izzy flees to the wilderness with a man who claims he will protect her. Sixteen-year-old Jake is stranded and alone in the unforgiving northern Manitoba backcountry. His mother and grandfather have died and his father has gone missing while searching for help. Desperate to find a way home, Jake begins a trek over some of the most forbidding landscape in the country. Both Jake and Izzy are forced to make decisions and take on responsibilities they could never have imagined. They must draw on every shred of resourcefulness and courage as they try to save themselves and, ultimately, each other. Praise for NOWHERE WILD “ A gripping story of survival and self-discovery, Nowhere Wild is a contemporary adventure novel that reads like a classic. ”

—National Book Award Finalist Deb Caletti, author of Stay

The Dark Pilgrim Dodd Mead  
Navajo Long Walk is the story of Kee, a young boy who traveled this long, arduous route with his mother, grandmother, sister and what few domestic animals they could bring. Over the four-year period, Kee learns to adapt to his inhospitable surroundings. Ultimately, Kee realizes the frailty of his people in the presence of the white soldiers and that to survive, they must find a way to get along with the white man. Ages 9-12

THE LONG WALK - A Gamble for Life. Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

When Ron Zaleski returned home from his service to the Marine Corps in 1972, he was plagued by feelings of anger and guilt. As an act of penance, in 2006 he walked barefoot across the Appalachian Trail, where he learned self-forgiveness, empathy, and found a purpose greater than himself. In 2010, he upped the stakes and walked barefoot from Concord, MA to Santa Monica, CA. He traversed over 3,400 miles without shoes, all the while carrying a sign that read "18 Vets a

Day Commit Suicide!" and a petition for military personnel to receive mandatory counseling. Along the way, he made connections and experienced things that would change him forever. "The Long Walk Home" recounts Ron's remarkable transformation from disgruntled Veteran to trailblazing advocate for hope and change.

Nowhere Home HarperCollins

Presents an overview of the history of the Navajo Indians, with a detailed account of how the United States Government, represented by Kit Carson, forced them on a 300-mile walk from their homeland in the Southwest to a prison camp at Bosque Redondo, New Mexico, in 1864, and their eventual return home after the United States-Navajo Treaty of 1868.

Lulu and the Long Walk NavPress  
When Pam met Ellie, she was sure she had found a new friend. But Pam wanted more than just a friend; she wanted a companion to hike the world-famous Appalachian Trail. Does Ellie have what it takes to make this journey? In Ellie ' s Long Walk, Pam and Ellie set out to hike the more-than-2,000-mile-long

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Trail. In this adventure-packed true story, they ford rivers, survive storms, and scramble up rugged cliffs. Near the end of their journey an icy storm almost forces them to quit. Find out how these two friends keep each other going and if Ellie really is ready for the Appalachian Trail.