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Be Safe, Love Mom: A Military Mom's Stories Of Courage, Comfort, And Surviving Life On The Home Front



Synopsis

When you enlist in the United States military, you don't just sign up for duty; you also commit your loved ones to lives of service all their own. No one knows this better than Elaine Brye, an "Army brat" turned military wife and the mother of four officers—one each in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. For more than a decade she's endured countless teary goodbyes, empty chairs at Thanksgiving dinners, and sleepless hours waiting for phone calls in the night. She's navigated the complicated tangle of emotions—pride, worry, fear, hope, and deep, enduring love—that are part and parcel of life as a military mother. In *Be Safe, Love Mom* Elaine braids together her own personal experiences with those of fellow parents she's met along the way. She offers gentle guidance and hard-earned wisdom on topics ranging from that first anxious goodbye to surrendering all control of your child, from finding comfort in the support of the military community and the healing power of faith to coping with the enormous sacrifices life as a military mother requires. Readers looking for encouragement and hard-to-come-by information as they travel the challenging road of having a child in uniform will find Elaine a wise and trusted friend, and *Be Safe, Love Mom* an essential handbook to membership in a strong and special sisterhood.

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Customer Reviews

Wonderfully written, inspiring, and informative. I read this in two days (I laughed, I cried) and am starting to read it again, this time slowly to savor all the love and advise! If you have a child in the military this is a must read. Thank you Elaine Brye!!!!

Delivered to my iPad at midnight and finished with coffee. Funny, heartfelt and weepy at times, Elaine Brye has beautifully captured the ups and downs and immense pride of military parents in this book. A must read.

As a Army Mom currently on deployment #2 I totally agree this is a must read. I wish this book came out 4 years ago at the beginning of my roller coaster ride. There is nothing that prepares you all the twists and turns, but knowing what to expect helps.

As a mother of a Marine Officer and a Naval Flight Officer in training, I loved this book...Mrs. Brye captures not only the pride we parents feel for our sons and daughters who make the sacrifice for our country as well as the sacrifice we parents make when we unabashedly support their decisions to serve. From the many aspects of her life as a military "brat", a member of the military herself, a military wife and as a military mother she brings a unique view of the stresses, the worry, the pride, and mostly the love of country and our children that we military mothers and fathers share, those of us who are in this "sisterhood" and "fatherhood". It should be required reading by anyone who has a loved one thinking about joining our military service. Elaine captures my feelings and the feelings of many others just like me, who will watch our children take their beginning steps towards protecting our country through her first hand experience in a touching, matter of fact, loving, supportive manner that is easy to read, easier to understand and a perfect gift for any mother on the day her son or daughter takes their oath to serve. I cried and laughed as I read of her childhood, marriage, the subsequent raising of her children and her first hand experiences in this big world, especially in the Middle East. She is the "battle buddy" every mother needs as her "baby" goes away on a deployment as she has been there, done that and has many (9) T shirts to prove it. I have purchased extra copies of the book to have on hand to pass on to other mothers who need a battle buddy of their own. I highly recommend *Be Brave, Love, Mom!*

I have a child in the military and this has opened my eyes to realize that I am not alone. We are a sisterhood of moms and wives that have loved ones serving *Semper Parati*.

If you are a parent of a military service member (mom OR dad) this book will inspire and encourage as well as validate the roller coaster of emotions we experience when our children choose to serve. The community of military parents is just that-- a community. People who do not have family in the

military may not understand the challenge with learning to cope with your child in harm's way. Elaine has written a heartfelt guidebook of advice and anecdotes to provide comfort and support and help you understand you are not alone. Her stripes were earned in the trenches- she grew up as a military dependent and has four children of her own who currently serve and have multiple deployments under their belts. As an Army Mom, I appreciated hearing the stories from parents about their own experiences and how they are coping. This is a great read that makes you feel you are truly part of the Sisterhood.

A must for every military mom and dad. This book reminds you that even though your kindly neighbors may not really understand what it means to have family serving in the military, there is a vast network of people who do. This is most decidedly not a "how-to-survive" book -- can such a tome even exist? It is instead a collection of anecdotes. It is unabashedly personal; filled with stories that make you smile, cry and think. I read it in two sittings -- some stories I could relate to easily, others made me thank God it wasn't me, and still others just made me stop and stare at pictures of my son. When I finished, I felt that Ms. Brye captured my own emotions beautifully. But even more, I thought the book should be required reading for every American who fails to gasp what it truly means to volunteer to put your life on the line in service to your country.

I laughed, I cried, and then did it again. I am a MoM of a Marine and the roller coaster ride is depicted perfectly. It is a great read for someone going through the military journey and a great read if someone wants to try to understand why we "embrace the suck".

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