

A Refugees Journey From Afghanistan Leaving My Homeland

Returning to Afghanistan Leaving Without Losing A Refugee's Journey from Afghanistan **Directorate S** The Afghanistan Papers The American War in Afghanistan *The Forever War* **One Story, Thirty Stories** **Militants, Criminals, and Warlords** *Pain Is Weakness* *Leaving the Body* **Born Afghan Born American Born Again** **The Punishment of Virtue** **Operation Pineapple Express** **Leave No Man Behind** **Under An Afghan Sky** **I Am Malala** Us vs. Them Games without Rules The Return of the Taliban *The Places in Between* **Promises Betrayed: An Afghan Interpreter at The Fall of Kabul (Deluxe Color Edition)** The Sewing Circles of Herat *The Last Warlord* **American Cipher** Peril **Outlaw Platoon** *Kandak* **September 11, 2011** **Seven-Minute War in Afghanistan** The Cries and Appeals of Afghan **Operation Homecoming** *Tora Bora Revisited* *The Wrong War* Beyond Afghanistan Borders **Little America** After the Blast **The Afghan** Leaving Afghanistan Behind *The Long War* **Horse Soldiers** *Open Skies*

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After the Blast Dec 02 2019 A very Australian story of heroism and healing. In 2004 Garth Callender, a junior cavalry officer, was deployed to Iraq. He quickly found his feet leading convoys of armoured vehicles through the streets of Baghdad and into the desert beyond. But one morning his crew was targeted in a roadside bomb attack. Garth became Australia's first serious casualty in the war. After recovering from his injuries, Garth returned to Iraq in 2006 as second-in-command of the Australian Army's security detachment in Baghdad. He found a city in the grip of a rising insurgency. His unit had to contend with missile attacks, suicide bombers and the death by misadventure of one of their own, Private Jake Kovco. Determined to prevent the kinds of bomb attacks that left him scarred, Garth volunteered once more in 2009 – to lead a weapons intelligence team in Afghanistan. He was helicoptered to blast zones in the aftermath of attacks, and worked to identify the insurgent bomb-makers responsible. Revealing, moving, funny and full of drama, Garth Callender's story is one of a kind.

Born Afghan Born American Born Again Dec 26 2021 Shahe Nahler was born in 1967 in Kabul, Afghanistan. She has an Afghan father and an American mother. She has a "citizen born-abroad: birth certificate. She was spiritually born again in 1995. She has a Heavenly Father and an eternal home. She has a Savior, and His name is Jesus. This book is her story. The "Persian in her" wanted to know where she came from and who she was. The "Unbeliever in her" wanted to know what truth is, so she started looking. She found "Truth" and His name is Jesus. The "Believer in her" wanted to know more about God and who He is. The "Seeker in her" found the Holy Bible full of illumination. She has a relationship with the One True God that is real and authentic. She would like to share her story with you. It is filled with life, loss, love, and laughter.

The Wrong War Mar 05 2020 NATIONAL BESTSELLER In this definitive account of the conflict, acclaimed war correspondent and bestselling author Bing West provides a practical way out of Afghanistan. Drawing on his expertise as both a combat-hardened Marine and a former assistant secretary of defense, West has written a tour de force narrative, rich with vivid characters and gritty combat, which shows the consequences when strategic theory meets tactical reality. Having embedded with dozens of frontline units over the past three years, he takes the reader on a battlefield journey from the mountains in the north to the opium fields in the south. A fighter who understands strategy, West builds the case for changing course. His conclusion is sure to provoke debate: remove most of the troops from Afghanistan, stop spending billions on the dream of a modern democracy, and insist the Afghans fight their own battles. Bing West's book is a page-turner about brave men and cunning enemies that examines our realistic choices as a nation.

Operation Pineapple Express Oct 24 2021 AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER An edge-of-your-seat thriller

about a group of retired Green Berets who come together to save a former comrade—and 500 other Afghans—being targeted by the Taliban in the chaos of America’s withdrawal from Afghanistan. In April, an urgent call was placed from a Special Forces operator serving overseas. The message: Get Nezam out of Afghanistan now. Nezam was part of the Afghan National Army’s first group of American-trained commandos. He passed through Fort Bragg’s legendary Q course and served alongside the US Special Forces for over a decade. But Afghanistan’s government and army are collapsing, and Nezam is getting threatening texts from the Taliban. The message reached Nezam’s former commanding officer, retired Lt. Col. Scott Mann, who can’t face the idea of losing another soldier in the long War on Terror. He sends out an SOS to a group of Afghan vets (Navy SEALs, Green Berets, CIA officers, USAID advisors). They all answer the call for one last mission. Operating out of basements and garages, Task Force Pineapple organizes an escape route for Nezam and gets him into hiding in Taliban-controlled Kabul. After many tense days, he braves the enemy checkpoints and the crowds of thousands blocking the airport gates. He finally makes it through the wire and into the American-held airport thanks to the frantic efforts of the Pineapple express, a relentless Congressional aide, and a US embassy official. Nezam is safe, but calls are coming in from all directions requesting help for other Afghan soldiers, interpreters, and at-risk women and children. Task Force Pineapple begins all over again—and ends up rescuing 500 more Afghans from Kabul in the three chaotic days before the ISIS-K suicide bombing. Operation Pineapple Express is a thrilling, suspenseful tale of service and loyalty amidst the chaos of the US withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Under An Afghan Sky Aug 22 2021 In October 2008, Mellissa Fung, a long-time reporter for CBC’s *The National*, was leaving a refugee camp outside of Kabul. Suddenly, she was grabbed by armed men claiming to be Taliban, stabbed, stuffed into the back of a car and driven off into the desert. When the group finally reached a village in the middle of nowhere, her kidnappers pushed her towards a hole in the ground. For twenty-eight days, Mellissa Fung lived in that hole, which was barely big enough to stand up or lie down in, nursing her injuries, praying, writing in her notebook and, as a veteran journalist, interrogating her own captors. *Under an Afghan Sky* is the gripping tale of Fung’s days in captivity, and a powerful book about survival and the indomitable spirit of one woman in the most perilous of circumstances.

The Forever War Apr 29 2022 NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD WINNER • NATIONAL BESTSELLER • The definitive account of America's conflict with Islamic fundamentalism and a searing exploration of its human costs—an instant classic of war reporting from the Pulitzer Prize winning journalist. Through the eyes of Dexter Filkins, a foreign correspondent for the *New York Times*, we witness the rise of the Taliban in the 1990s, the aftermath of the attack on New York on September 11th, and the American wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Filkins is the only American journalist to have reported on all these events, and his experiences are conveyed in a riveting narrative filled with unforgettable characters and astonishing

scenes. Brilliant and fearless, The Forever War is not just about America's wars after 9/11, but about the nature of war itself.

The Cries and Appeals of Afghan Jun 07 2020 After the so-called April 1978 revolution, the killing of President N. M. Taraki by H. Amin and president H. Amin by Russians, and the unjustified open invasion of the Russians in Afghanistan, in 1979, installing Babrak Karmal and Dr. Najib one after the other as their puppets during ten years of atrocities and destruction of Afghanistan, forcing millions of people to leave their motherland to live in Pakistan, Iran, and other parts of the world and more than two million Afghans and 15000 Russians lost their lives the the Russian mission ended and left Afghanistan, via Hairatan, on February 15, 1989, Where president Babrak Karmel was living helplessly in an old container, in deprivation regretting and admitting to a foreign journalist that "relying on foreign powers is a big mistake." Later when he seriously got sick was hospitalized in Russia until he lost his last breath then his body was brought back and buried in honour by family and devoted followers in Hairatan, and then in 1996, before the Taliban took over the power in Kabul from another traitor such as president Burhanuddin Rabani, disrespectfully blew up his grave. When they took over, Kabul executed president Dr. Najeebullah and his brother with no respect for human rights. Later two days before the tragedy of September 11, Ahmed Shah Masoud was also mysteriously assassinated in Khwaja Bahawadin, Afghanistan. The irony was after the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

Unfortunately, the so-called Mujahideen, Taliban, and the defenders of democracy, such as president Hamed Karzai and President Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, the last planned victim of the USA, Britain, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan leaders, didn't learn the lesson from the history. They also became the stooge of foreign powers and did the same things Russia and her puppets had done to our beloved motherland. As a result, the country we are proud of returned to the stone age and lost everything we achieved in the last twenty years. Yes, those bloodsuckers once again did it; I meant on August 15, 2021, they returned the same Taliban from Pakistan who were kicked out as terrorists from Afghanistan in October 2001; shame on them. Thus with my last letter on 21/02/2021, expressing my appeals and warning to the concerned organizations this book is the "END" of the cries and appeals of Engineer Fazel Ahmed Afghan to the world leaders and organizations, started 37 years ago, "BUT NOT ENDED" up to his last breath, on the contrary, will get louder and more vital for unity, peace, justice, and equal rights. Democracy, freedom, and national and territorial sovereignty of his beloved motherland Afghanistan. We should understand that only I and all Afghans can't achieve our Sacred goal because, since the defeat of Communism, the enemies of Islam created a new phenomenon of Islam-o-Phobia to create hatred of Islam throughout the world. Afghanistan is one of the Islamic countries in the south Asian region with lots of underground wealth and a strategic position. Therefore, for all Afghans and Muslim nations, in particular, the Islamic scholars, is necessary to wake up and redefine Islam with a new vision of the social, economic, and political structure of the world as well as the development of new technology and the making of sophisticated arms in the world

which were not available 1400 years ago. I understand, and by heart, I believe that the Holy Quran is the last Holy book, adaptable and flexible in all situations up to the end of the world. Therefore, it is the job of all Muslim scholars to wake up and think scholarly with open eyes to define Islam according to the true definition of Sharia, especially respecting other religions and the equal rights between men and women in all aspects of life, given the situation in the 21st century and after. Therefore, the Islamic Conference needs to give a universal adaptable definition and guideline of Islam in vital issues to the United Nations that all Muslim countries should act the same. Furthermore, the Muslim scholars, along with the other non-Muslim scholars, should establish a definition for terrorism, terrorist and the act of terrorism on the surface of the earth and the air. That also should be submitted to the United Nations and be adopted universally. If these two things are adopted, Islam-o-Phobia globally will be stopped. Then, hopefully, peace will prevail globally, especially in Afghanistan and all Muslim countries. Therefore, I seek God's help to achieve our sacred goals to see peace in the world and an independent, peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan in my life.

The Last Warlord Dec 14 2020 The Last Warlord tells the story of the brotherhood forged in the mountains of Afghanistan between elite American Green Berets and Dostum that is told in the movie 12 Strong: The Declassified True Story of the Horsesoldiers The Last Warlord tells the spellbinding story of the legendary Afghan warlord Abdul Rashid Dostum, a larger-than-life figure who guided US Special Forces to victory over the Taliban after 9/11. Having gained unprecedented access to General Dostum and his family and subcommanders, as well as local chieftains, mullahs, elders, Taliban prisoners, and women's rights activists, scholar Brian Glyn Williams paints a fascinating portrait of this Northern Alliance Uzbek commander who has been shrouded in mystery and contradicting hearsay. In contrast to sensational media accounts that have mythologized the "bear of a man with a gruff laugh" who "some Uzbeks swear, has on occasion frightened people to death," Williams carefully chronicles Dostum's rise from peasant villager to Uzbek leader and skilled strategist who has fought a long and bitter war against the Taliban and Al Qaeda fanatics that have sought to repress his people. Also revealed is Dostum's surprising history as a defender of women's rights and religious moderation. In riveting detail The Last Warlord spotlights the crucial Afghan contribution to Operation Enduring Freedom: how the CIA contacted the mysterious warrior Dostum to help US Special Forces wage a covert war in the mountains of Afghanistan, how respect and even friendship quickly grew between the Afghan and American fighting men, and how Dostum led his nomadic people charging into war the same way his ancestors had—on horseback. The result was one of the most decisive campaigns in the entire war on terror. The Last Warlord shows that, far from serving as an exotic backdrop for American heroics, it was these horse-mounted descendents of the Mongol warrior Genghis Khan that allowed the American military to overthrow the Taliban regime in a matter of weeks. .

The Return of the Taliban Apr 17 2021

Promises Betrayed: An Afghan Interpreter at The Fall of Kabul (Deluxe Color Edition) Feb 13 2021 Few operations in the War on Terror in Afghanistan would have been possible without the help of a vital group-Afghan translators and interpreters. While these individuals served alongside our troops, often at significant risk, many did not make it out during the August 2021 withdrawal and are still awaiting evacuation. One who did manage to escape, however, was Afghan interpreter Jamil Hassan, and this is his story. *Promises Betrayed* provides a first-hand account of the evacuation, along with a historical narrative about the war in Afghanistan, all told from the unique perspective of an Afghan ally. Having served as a translator for General David Petraeus and General John Nicholson in Afghanistan meant that Jamil and his family were, and are, high-value targets for possible Taliban retribution. Like many Afghans, Jamil Hassan believed in what our leaders were selling-the hope for a better life and a better future. He served alongside our troops and worked toward goals anchored on promises made by our country. But in August 2021, those promises were broken. Everything Jamil Hassan-along with countless American and coalition soldiers-worked for, was swept aside during the disastrous August withdrawal. For all intents and purposes, Jamil's home country is now lost, probably forever, and the fate of his friends and family members left behind is tenuous at best. In the pages that follow you'll read Jamil's minute-by-minute account of how he and his family, by the narrowest of margins, eventually made their way onto a plane and out of Kabul, on August 18, 2021. *Promises Betrayed* tells the real story of America's "War on Terror" in Afghanistan, and how the Biden Administration's actions failed America, our allies, and most of all, the freedom-loving Afghans who were left behind. *Promises Betrayed* tells the real story of the War on Terror in Afghanistan, and how the Biden Administration's actions failed America, our allies, and most of all, the freedom-loving Afghans who were left behind.

Kandak Aug 10 2020 When Patrick Hennessey returned home from Afghanistan, he left behind him the surreal intensity and exhilaration of battle. He also left behind lasting bonds of friendship formed with his Afghan comrades Qiam, Syed and Majhib. *Kandak* is the story of how, in the heat of the moment between living and dying, unlikely alliances can be forged. Patrick Hennessey tells of their awkward first meetings, mutual suspicion and incomprehension, and how this eventually turned into brotherhood. 'This beautifully-written sequel to his first book tells us much about the bonds forged by combat in the dust and heat and danger, when there was no 'them and us'.' Mail on Sunday 'A passionate tribute to the Afghan soldiers he fought alongside in Helmand . . . excellent.' Sunday Times 'A moving, humbling and rare account of mutual respect among men who might as well be from different galaxies but have forever bonded through battle.' Independent 'His prose is lean and muscular, characterised by dry wit and acute intelligence. He also has a novelist's eye for the vivid image and the telling detail.' Daily Mail 'This topical book, beautifully written, gives important insights at a crucial time in Afghanistan's transition.' Daily Telegraph

Operation Homecoming May 07 2020 “Here is what you will not find in the news—the personal cost of war written as clear and beautiful as literature worthy of the name is. These stories are the real thing, passionate, imaginative, searing.” –Richard Bausch, author of *Wives & Lovers* The first book of its kind, *Operation Homecoming* is the result of a major initiative launched by the National Endowment for the Arts to bring distinguished writers to military bases and inspire U.S. Marines, soldiers, sailors, and airmen and their families to record their wartime experiences. Encouraged by such authors as Tom Clancy, Mark Bowden, Bobbie Ann Mason, Tobias Wolff, Jeff Shaara, and Marilyn Nelson, American military personnel and their loved ones wrote candidly about what they saw, heard, and felt while in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as on the home front. Taken together, these almost one hundred never-before-published eyewitness accounts, private journals, short stories, letters, and other personal writings become a dramatic narrative that shows the human side of warfare. • the fear and exhilaration of heading into battle; • the interactions between U.S. forces and Afghans and Iraqis, both as enemies and friends; • the boredom, gripes, and humorous incidents of day-to-day life on the front lines; • the anxiety and heartache of worried spouses, parents, and other loved ones on the home front; • the sheer brutality of warfare and the physical and emotional toll it takes on those who fight; • the tearful homecomings for those who returned to the States alive— and the somber ceremonies for those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their nation. From riveting combat accounts to profound reflections on warfare and the pride these troops feel for one another, *Operation Homecoming* offers an unflinching and intensely revealing look into the lives of extraordinary men and women. What they have written is without question some of the greatest wartime literature ever published. “Andrew Carroll has given America a priceless treasure.” –Tom Brokaw, on *War Letters* Proceeds from this book will be used to provide arts and cultural programming to U.S. military communities. For more information, please go to www.OperationHomecoming.gov.

Leave No Man Behind Sep 22 2021 A story of courage, perseverance, and patriotism behind the 75th Ranger Regiment's rescue mission following one of the deadliest Special Ops incidents in Afghanistan—a grueling search for twelve Navy SEAL casualties and eight downed Night Stalkers . . . but just one lone survivor On June 28th, 2005, a four-man Navy SEAL reconnaissance team under Operation Red Wings was ambushed in northeastern Afghanistan—as depicted in the book and film *Lone Survivor*. A quick reaction force was dispatched. Turbine 33, carrying eight Navy SEALs and eight members of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, was struck by a rocket propelled grenade—careening the dual rotor Chinook toward the rugged peak of Sawtalo Sar. The result was the single deadliest incident in Special Operations history at the time. Commanders called on the largest element of US Special Forces, the 75th Ranger Regiment. The rescue mission: Operation Red Wings II. Author Tony Brooks gives a first-hand account of the daring recovery of Turbine 33 and the subsequent search for the remaining compromised Navy SEAL recon team—one of whom was Marcus Luttrell, the lone survivor. The Rangers were up

against lack of intel, treacherous terrain, violent weather, and an enemy that was raised to fight. Tony Brooks lived—and many of his fellow Rangers died—by the axiom, “Leave No Man Behind.” He is the first to tell the story other books and films have omitted, one of overcoming overwhelming odds to accomplish a mission: to bring every American soldier home.

The Afghanistan Papers Jul 01 2022 A Washington Post Best Book of 2021 The #1 New York Times bestselling investigative story of how three successive presidents and their military commanders deceived the public year after year about America’s longest war, foreshadowing the Taliban’s recapture of Afghanistan, by Washington Post reporter and three-time Pulitzer Prize finalist Craig Whitlock. Unlike the wars in Vietnam and Iraq, the US invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 had near-unanimous public support. At first, the goals were straightforward and clear: defeat al-Qaeda and prevent a repeat of 9/11. Yet soon after the United States and its allies removed the Taliban from power, the mission veered off course and US officials lost sight of their original objectives. Distracted by the war in Iraq, the US military become mired in an unwinnable guerrilla conflict in a country it did not understand. But no president wanted to admit failure, especially in a war that began as a just cause. Instead, the Bush, Obama, and Trump administrations sent more and more troops to Afghanistan and repeatedly said they were making progress, even though they knew there was no realistic prospect for an outright victory. Just as the Pentagon Papers changed the public’s understanding of Vietnam, *The Afghanistan Papers* contains “fast-paced and vivid” (The New York Times Book Review) revelation after revelation from people who played a direct role in the war from leaders in the White House and the Pentagon to soldiers and aid workers on the front lines. In unvarnished language, they admit that the US government’s strategies were a mess, that the nation-building project was a colossal failure, and that drugs and corruption gained a stranglehold over their allies in the Afghan government. All told, the account is based on interviews with more than 1,000 people who knew that the US government was presenting a distorted, and sometimes entirely fabricated, version of the facts on the ground. Documents unearthed by The Washington Post reveal that President Bush didn’t know the name of his Afghanistan war commander—and didn’t want to meet with him. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld admitted that he had “no visibility into who the bad guys are.” His successor, Robert Gates, said: “We didn’t know jack shit about al-Qaeda.” *The Afghanistan Papers* is a “searing indictment of the deceit, blunders, and hubris of senior military and civilian officials” (Tom Bowman, NRP Pentagon Correspondent) that will supercharge a long-overdue reckoning over what went wrong and forever change the way the conflict is remembered.

Open Skies Jun 27 2019 "As a young Afghan woman who dreamed of becoming an air force pilot, Niloofar Rahmani confronted far more than technical challenges; she faced the opprobrium of an entire society." —Pamela Constable, author of *Playing with Fire* and former Kabul and Islamabad bureau chief for the Washington Post The true story of Niloofar Rahmani and her

determination to become Afghanistan's first female air force pilot In 2010, for the first time since the Soviets, Afghanistan allowed women to join the armed forces, and Niloofar entered Afghanistan's military academy. Niloofar had to break through social barriers to demonstrate confidence, leadership, and decisiveness—essential qualities for a combat pilot. Niloofar performed the first solo flight of her class—ahead of all her male classmates—and in 2013 became Afghanistan's first female fixed-wing air force pilot. The US State Department honored Niloofar with the International Women of Courage Award and brought her to the United States to meet Michelle Obama and fly with the US Navy's Blue Angels. But when she returned to Kabul, the danger to her and her family had increased significantly. Rahmani and her family are portraits of the resiliency of refugees and the accomplishments they can reach when afforded with opportunities

Peril Oct 12 2020 The transition from President Donald J. Trump to President Joseph R. Biden Jr. stands as one of the most dangerous periods in American history. But as # 1 internationally bestselling author Bob Woodward and acclaimed reporter Robert Costa reveal for the first time, it was far more than just a domestic political crisis. Woodward and Costa interviewed more than 200 people at the center of the turmoil, resulting in more than 6,000 pages of transcripts—and a spellbinding and definitive portrait of a nation on the brink. This classic study of Washington takes readers deep inside the Trump White House, the Biden White House, the 2020 campaign, and the Pentagon and Congress, with vivid, eyewitness accounts of what really happened. *Peril* is supplemented throughout with never-before-seen material from secret orders, transcripts of confidential calls, diaries, emails, meeting notes and other personal and government records, making for an unparalleled history. It is also the first inside look at Biden's presidency as he faces the challenges of a lifetime: the continuing deadly pandemic and millions of Americans facing soul-crushing economic pain, all the while navigating a bitter and disabling partisan divide, a world rife with threats, and the hovering, dark shadow of the former president. “We have much to do in this winter of peril,” Biden declared at his inauguration, an event marked by a nerve-wracking security alert and the threat of domestic terrorism. *Peril* is the extraordinary story of the end of one presidency and the beginning of another, and represents the culmination of Bob Woodward's news-making trilogy on the Trump presidency, along with *Fear and Rage*. And it is the beginning of a collaboration with fellow Washington Post reporter Robert Costa that will remind readers of Woodward's coverage, with Carl Bernstein, of President Richard M. Nixon's final days.

September 11, 2011 Seven-Minute War in Afghanistan Jul 09 2020 I have been involved in these wars ever since 2005. My first overseas contract was in Iraq. I started working for Kellogg Brown and Root (KBR) November 5, 2005 in Balad, Iraq. I started out as lead mechanic and soon moved up to a supervisor. We worked on a lot of M915 that the army had, and KBR had Mercedes and Volvos that were not up armor. Many drivers had been killed in these trucks with no protection. After putting up

KBR three years, I got a chance to jump on board with Dyncorp. Navistar had just come out with MRAP vehicle that was supposed to take the place of the Humvee. After going through their training in West Point, Mississippi, and Red River-u in New Boston, Texas, I was sent to Mosul, Iraq, and taught the opnet class on the MRAP vehicle. Mosul was considered one of the hot spots in northern Iraq, and of all the places I have been in Iraq, Mosul was the best. After spending a year in Mosul, I took off eighteen months and started working for Navistar/Defense. I was sent to Afghanistan as an FRS, assigned to the Jordanian army. I was told that I would have interpreters and transportation when I got in country. Afghanistan was nothing like Iraq. The leadership wasn't there, and there was no help for the FSRs that were on ground in Shank, no interpreters and no transportation.

Horse Soldiers Jul 29 2019 Describes the secret mission of a small band of U.S. soldiers who battled against Taliban forces on horseback and captured the Afghan city of Mazâr-i Sharâif, a critical location for further campaigns.

Directorate S Aug 02 2022 Winner of the 2018 National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction Longlisted for the 2018 National Book Award for Nonfiction From the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Ghost Wars, the epic and enthralling story of America's intelligence, military, and diplomatic efforts to defeat Al Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan and Pakistan since 9/11 Prior to 9/11, the United States had been carrying out small-scale covert operations in Afghanistan, ostensibly in cooperation, although often in direct opposition, with I.S.I., the Pakistani intelligence agency. While the US was trying to quell extremists, a highly secretive and compartmentalized wing of I.S.I., known as "Directorate S," was covertly training, arming, and seeking to legitimize the Taliban, in order to enlarge Pakistan's sphere of influence. After 9/11, when fifty-nine countries, led by the U. S., deployed troops or provided aid to Afghanistan in an effort to flush out the Taliban and Al Qaeda, the U.S. was set on an invisible slow-motion collision course with Pakistan. Today we know that the war in Afghanistan would falter badly because of military hubris at the highest levels of the Pentagon, the drain on resources and provocation in the Muslim world caused by the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, and corruption. But more than anything, as Coll makes painfully clear, the war in Afghanistan was doomed because of the failure of the United States to apprehend the motivations and intentions of I.S.I.'s "Directorate S". This was a swirling and shadowy struggle of historic proportions, which endured over a decade and across both the Bush and Obama administrations, involving multiple secret intelligence agencies, a litany of incongruous strategies and tactics, and dozens of players, including some of the most prominent military and political figures. A sprawling American tragedy, the war was an open clash of arms but also a covert melee of ideas, secrets, and subterranean violence. Coll excavates this grand battle, which took place away from the gaze of the American public. With unsurpassed expertise, original research, and attention to detail, he brings to life a narrative at once vast and intricate, local and global, propulsive and painstaking. This is

the definitive explanation of how America came to be so badly ensnared in an elaborate, factional, and seemingly interminable conflict in South Asia. Nothing less than a forensic examination of the personal and political forces that shape world history, *Directorate S* is a complete masterpiece of both investigative and narrative journalism.

Tora Bora Revisited Apr 05 2020 In the aftermath of 9/11, President George W. Bush promised a grieving nation that the United States would capture or kill Osama Bin Laden, the mastermind behind the deadliest terrorist attack on American soil. Almost a decade later, the Al Qaeda leader is still alive and free, even after an occupation of Afghanistan by U.S. troops of more than eight years. In November 2009, the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, chaired by John F. Kerry, issued a report on what could be characterized as one of the greatest joint military and intelligence failures of recent American history: Bin Laden's escape from his stronghold in the mountains of Tora Bora, and his subsequent flight to a location that remains unknown. Who was responsible for the decision to put too few troops on the ground, and what justification could there have been for such a decision? What alternative plans were available? What can we learn from the flaws of the Afghan occupation? Anyone interested in current affairs—and especially in the beginning of the Global War on Terror—will find this essential reading.

Pain Is Weakness Leaving the Body Jan 27 2022 An honest reckoning with the war on terror, masculinity, and the violence of American hegemony abroad, at home, and on the psyche, from a veteran whose convictions came undone. When Lyle Jeremy Rubin first arrived at Marine Officer Candidates School, he was convinced that the “war on terror” was necessary to national security. He also subscribed to a strict code of manhood that military service conjured and perpetuated. Then he began to train and his worldview shattered. Honorably discharged five years later, Rubin returned to the United States with none of his beliefs, about himself or his country, intact. In *Pain Is Weakness Leaving the Body*, Rubin narrates his own undoing, the profound disillusionment that took hold of him on bases in the U.S. and Afghanistan. He both examines his own failings as a participant in a prescribed masculinity and the failings of American empire, examining the racialized and class hierarchies and culture of conquest that constitute the machinery of U.S. imperialism. The result is a searing analysis and the story of one man’s personal and political conversion, told in beautiful prose by an essayist, historian, and veteran transformed.

A Refugee's Journey from Afghanistan Sep 03 2022 Sonita was born in a refugee camp in Pakistan after her family fled Afghanistan during the war in the early 2000s. Unwelcome in Pakistan, her family returns to Afghanistan, where Sonita and her family face new challenges. Interspersed with facts about Afghanistan and its people, this narrative tells a story common to many refugees fleeing the country. Readers will learn about the decades of conflict in Afghanistan and how they can help refugees in their communities and around the world who are struggling to find permanent homes.

The Long War Aug 29 2019 As troops pull out of Afghanistan at the end of America’s longest war, David Loyn's *The Long War*

uncovers the failures at the start that set the scene for this prolonged conflict. Three American presidents tried to defeat the Taliban – sending 150,000 international troops at the peak and spending a trillion dollars. But early policy mistakes that allowed Osama bin Laden to escape made the task far more difficult. Deceived by easy victories, they backed ruthless corrupt local allies and misspent aid. The story of The Long War is told by the generals who led it through the hardest years of combat as surges of international troops tried to turn the tide. Generals, which include David Petraeus, Stanley McChrystal, Joe Dunford and John Allen, were tested in battle as never before. With the reputation of a “warrior monk,” McChrystal was considered one of the most gifted military leaders of his generation. He was one of two generals to be fired in this most public of commands. Holding together the coalition of countries who joined America’s fight in Afghanistan was just one part of the multi-dimensional puzzle faced by the generals, as they fought an elusive and determined enemy while responsible for thousands of young American and allied lives. The Long War goes behind the scenes of their command and of the Afghan government. The fourth president to take on the war, Joe Biden, pulled troops out in 2021, twenty years after 9/11, while the conflict still raged, a decision with unforeseeable consequences.

American Cipher Nov 12 2020 The explosive narrative of the life, captivity, and trial of Bowe Bergdahl, the soldier who was abducted by the Taliban and whose story has served as a symbol for America's foundering war in Afghanistan ”An unsettling and riveting book filled with the mysteries of human nature.” —Kirkus Private First Class Bowe Bergdahl left his platoon's base in eastern Afghanistan in the early hours of June 30, 2009. Since that day, easy answers to the many questions surrounding his case—why did he leave his post? What kinds of efforts were made to recover him from the Taliban? And why, facing a court martial, did he plead guilty to the serious charges against him?—have proved elusive. Taut in its pacing but sweeping in its scope, *American Cipher* is the riveting and deeply sourced account of the nearly decade-old Bergdahl quagmire—which, as journalists Matt Farwell and Michael Ames persuasively argue, is as illuminating an episode as we have as we seek the larger truths of how the United States lost its way in Afghanistan. The book tells the parallel stories of a young man's halting coming of age and a nation stalled in an unwinnable war, revealing the fallout that ensued when the two collided: a fumbling recovery effort that suppressed intelligence on Bergdahl's true location and bungled multiple opportunities to bring him back sooner; a homecoming that served to deepen the nation's already-vast political fissure; a trial that cast judgment on not only the defendant, but most everyone involved. The book's beating heart is Bergdahl himself—an idealistic, misguided soldier onto whom a nation projected the political and emotional complications of service. Based on years of exclusive reporting drawing on dozens of sources throughout the military, government, and Bergdahl's family, friends, and fellow soldiers, *American Cipher* is at once a meticulous investigation of government dysfunction and political posturing, a blistering commentary on America's presence in

Afghanistan, and a heartbreaking story of a naïve young man who thought he could fix the world and wound up the tool of forces far beyond his understanding.

Militants, Criminals, and Warlords Feb 25 2022 Conventional political theory holds that the sovereign state is the legitimate source of order and provider of public services in any society, whether democratic or not. But Hezbollah and ISIS in the Middle East, pirate clans in Africa, criminal gangs in South America, and militias in Southeast Asia are examples of nonstate actors that control local territory and render public services that the nation-state cannot or will not provide. This fascinating book takes the reader around the world to areas where national governance has broken down—or never really existed. In these places, the vacuum has been filled by local gangs, militias, and warlords, some with ideological or political agendas and others focused primarily on economic gain. Many of these actors have substantial popularity and support among local populations and have developed their own enduring institutions, often undermining the legitimacy of the national state. The authors show that the rest of the world has more than a passing interest in these situations, in part because transborder crime and terrorism often emerge but also because failed states threaten international interests from trade to security. This book also poses, and offers answers for, the question: How should the international community respond to local orders dominated by armed nonstate actors? In many cases outsiders have taken the short-term route—accepting unsavory local actors out of expediency—but at the price of long-term instability or damage to human rights and other considerations. From Africa and the Middle East to Asia and Latin America, the local situations highlighted in this book are, and will remain, high on today's international agenda. The book makes a unique contribution to global understanding of how those situations developed and what can be done about them. This title is part of the Geopolitics in the 21st Century series.

The Places in Between Mar 17 2021 Traces the author's 2002 journey by foot across Afghanistan, during which he survived the harsh elements through the kindness of tribal elders, teen soldiers, Taliban commanders, and foreign-aid workers whose stories he collected along his way. By the author of *The Prince of the Marshes*. Original. 20,000 first printing.

Leaving Afghanistan Behind Sep 30 2019 Amelia Gittens, a black female, has the distinct honor of being the first female to be admitted to the US Army's elite group of snipers, fighting in Afghanistan. It doesn't come without its price, though, as she comes back as so many veterans do with post-traumatic stress syndrome complete with major flashbacks. Working as a New York City police officer, she is involved with a suspect shooting. Unfortunately for her, it is the cousin of a major international drug dealer who seeks revenge on her and her partner, as well as the departmental psychiatrist. Amelia responds the only way she knows how, falling back upon her military training to keep her ward safe while the situation is being resolved. The whole while, she is battling her own inner demons, fighting with herself to keep them at bay, nearly tearing herself apart.

Returning to Afghanistan Nov 05 2022 Sonita has been a refugee for her entire life. Born in a refugee camp in Pakistan, Sonita had never seen her family's homeland of Afghanistan until, faced with discrimination in Pakistan and possible deportation, her parents decided to return. But despite the end of the war, Afghanistan is not the home Sonita's parents and sister remember. Sonita must adjust to life in a homeland she has never known, and work hard to survive and thrive in a country still full of conflict and insecurity. Interwoven with facts about the conflict in Afghanistan, Sonita's story gives a look at the experiences of Afghan refugees forced to return to a home that no longer exists.

Us vs. Them Jun 19 2021 New York Times bestseller "A cogent analysis of the concurrent Trump/Brexit phenomena and a dire warning about what lies ahead...a lucid, provocative book." --Kirkus Reviews Those who championed globalization once promised a world of winners, one in which free trade would lift all the world's boats, and extremes of left and right would give way to universally embraced liberal values. The past few years have shattered this fantasy, as those who've paid the price for globalism's gains have turned to populist and nationalist politicians to express fury at the political, media, and corporate elites they blame for their losses. The United States elected an anti-immigration, protectionist president who promised to "put America first" and turned a cold eye on alliances and treaties. Across Europe, anti-establishment political parties made gains not seen in decades. The United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union. And as Ian Bremmer shows in this eye-opening book, populism is still spreading. Globalism creates plenty of both winners and losers, and those who've missed out want to set things right. They've seen their futures made obsolete. They hear new voices and see new faces all about them. They feel their cultures shift. They don't trust what they read. They've begun to understand the world as a battle for the future that pits "us" vs. "them." Bremmer points to the next wave of global populism, one that hits emerging nations before they have fully emerged. As in Europe and America, citizens want security and prosperity, and they're becoming increasingly frustrated with governments that aren't capable of providing them. To protect themselves, many governments will build walls, both digital and physical. For instance... * In Brazil and other fast-developing countries, civilians riot when higher expectations for better government aren't being met--the downside of their own success in lifting millions from poverty. * In Mexico, South Africa, Turkey, Indonesia, Egypt and other emerging states, frustration with government is on the rise and political battle lines are being drawn. * In China, where awareness of inequality is on the rise, the state is building a system to use the data that citizens generate to contain future demand for change * In India, the tools now used to provide essential services for people who've never had them can one day be used to tighten the ruling party's grip on power. When human beings feel threatened, we identify the danger and look for allies. We use the enemy, real or imagined, to rally friends to our side. This book is about the ways in which people will define these threats as fights for survival. It's about the walls governments will build to protect insiders from outsiders and the state from its

people. And it's about what we can do about it.

The Sewing Circles of Herat Jan 15 2021 Twenty-one-year-old Christina Lamb left suburban England for Peshawar on the frontier of the Afghan war. Captivated, she spent two years tracking the final stages of the mujaheddin victory over the Soviets, as Afghan friends smuggled her in and out of their country in a variety of guises. Returning to Afghanistan after the attacks on the World Trade Center to report for Britain's Sunday Telegraph, Lamb discovered the people no one else had written about: the abandoned victims of almost a quarter century of war. Among them, the brave women writers of Herat who risked their lives to carry on a literary tradition under the guise of sewing circles; the princess whose palace was surrounded by tanks on the eve of her wedding; the artist who painted out all the people in his works to prevent them from being destroyed by the Taliban; and Khalil Ahmed Hassani, a former Taliban torturer who admitted to breaking the spines of men and then making them stand on their heads. Christina Lamb's evocative reporting brings to life these stories. Her unique perspective on Afghanistan and deep passion for the people she writes about make this the definitive account of the tragic plight of a proud nation.

Leaving Without Losing Oct 04 2022 Assesses what went wrong in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and outlines how the U.S. can restructure its foreign policy by following lessons learned in the Cold War.

Beyond Afghanistan Borders Feb 02 2020 After two decades, the Taliban once again dominated Afghanistan. This control was not due to the strength and cohesion of the Taliban, rather it was caused by the breaking of the promise of the Afghan allies, since Afghanistan was now less important to them. The emergence of new priorities for NATO and the heavy costs of the war made them leave Afghanistan. In a state of confusion and anxiety, they fled from Afghanistan, and left 35 million Afghan civilians without support, and therefore the political groundworks, the economic system, and scientific infrastructures of Afghanistan all collapsed at once. After taking control, the Taliban continued to kill and imprison the country's citizens. They closed the doors of universities to girls, and also made a fundamental change in the university's curriculum based on their own understanding of Islam. The transfer of power to the Taliban was carried out in coordination with the beneficiary countries in the region. Those countries believe, that a fragile Afghanistan in the long term is providing them interest and that Afghanistan is supposedly the best market for their consumer goods. Although Afghanistan is already one of the countries possessing the highest number of immigrants in the world, with the Taliban coming to power, the new wave of Afghan migration to foreign countries intensified. When an Afghan immigrant arrives in a new country to start their life there, they face many difficult challenges. To solve these new-found problems, they will need new intelligence and a new way of life. The modern world requires different perceptions and solutions. Therefore, every immigrant must make a fundamental change in their thoughts if they want to thrive in the new world. The foundation of all changes is the acceptance of new concepts and positive thinking.

Positive thinking makes a person able to relate and fit in with the host society with ease. The decisive majority of the people of Afghanistan are Muslim and there is high amount of emphasis on positive thinking in the manuscript of Islam. In such a complex situation, I have decided to publish the dissertation that I had wrote for my master's degree at Middlesex University. Although the topic of research was the positive effect of thinking on the life of an afghan immigrant in London, it can be generalized to all countries that accept refugees. This book is useful for those who want to attract the host community and it also may open a door for those who want to investigate the affairs of Afghan immigrants. Zakariya Tovfigh

Little America Jan 03 2020 The author of *Imperial Life in the Emerald City* (winner of the 2007 Samuel Johnson Prize) now gives us the startling, behind-the-scenes story of the struggle between President Obama and the US military to remake Afghanistan.

One Story, Thirty Stories Mar 29 2022 "From a society shredded by violence and a generation caught between Afghanistan and America, Saed and Muradi have sewn together a vibrant patchwork of memory and imagination. At turns raw and affecting, *One Story, Thirty Stories* is a chronicle of loss and reunion, offering a firsthand look at how communities are fractured and remade, with all the frustration and tenderness that exile evokes."---Tara Bahrapour, *To See and See Again: A Life in Iran and America* "*One Story, Thirty Stories* is exquisite documentary, a kaleidoscope of fragmented lives, losses, and attempts at remaking. The editors have assembled a collection that manages to be both literature and history, heartbreaking and hopeful, educational and lyrical. From the daughter of a cab driver to the daughter of an imam, from a crack dealer to a standup comic to an ambassador, the writers in this book offer not only poignant testimony but also form a who's who of Afghans in the United States. An invaluable, accessible resource for anyone who cares about what America is doing in, and to, Afghanistan."---Minal Hajratwala, author of *Leaving India: My Family's Journey from Five Villages to Five Continents* Since 9/11 there has been a cultural and political blossoming in the Afghan diaspora, especially in the United States, revealing a vibrant, active, and intellectual Afghan American community. And the success of Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, the first work of fiction written by an Afghan American to become a bestseller, has created interest in the works of other Afghan American writers. *One Story, Thirty Stories* (or *Afsanab*, *Seesaneh*, the Afghan equivalent of "one upon a time") collects poetry, fiction, essays, and selections from two blogs from thirty-three men and women---poets, fiction writers, journalists, filmmakers and video artists, photographers, community leaders and organizers, and diplomats. The fifty pieces in this rich anthology show people trying to come to grips with a life in exile, or they trace the migration maps of parents. They navigate the jagged landscape of the Soviet invasion, the civil war of the 1990s and the rise of the Taliban, and the ongoing American occupation.

I Am Malala Jul 21 2021 A MEMOIR BY THE YOUNGEST RECIPIENT OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE As seen on

Netflix with David Letterman "I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday." When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize. I AM MALALA is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons. I AM MALALA will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world.

Outlaw Platoon Sep 10 2020 A riveting story of American fighting men, Outlaw Platoon is Lieutenant Sean Parnell's stunning personal account of the legendary U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division's heroic stand in the mountains of Afghanistan. Acclaimed for its vivid, poignant, and honest recreation of sixteen brutal months of nearly continuous battle in the deadly Hindu Kush, Outlaw Platoon is a Band of Brothers or We Were Soldiers Once and Young for the early 21st century—an action-packed, highly emotional true story of enormous sacrifice and bravery. A magnificent account of heroes, renegades, infidels, and brothers, it stands with Sebastian Junger's War as one of the most important books to yet emerge from the heat, smoke, and fire of America's War in Afghanistan.

The Afghan Oct 31 2019 When British and American intelligence uncover rumors of a major Al Qaeda operation, they enlist the assistance of Colonel Mike Martin to assume the identity of Afghan terrorist Izmat Khan in order to infiltrate the terrorist organization.

The Punishment of Virtue Nov 24 2021

The American War in Afghanistan May 31 2022 A New York Times Notable Book Winner of 2022 Lionel Gelber Prize The first authoritative history of American's longest war by one of the world's leading scholar-practitioners. The American war in Afghanistan, which began in 2001, is now the longest armed conflict in the nation's history. It is currently winding down, and American troops are likely to leave soon but only after a stay of nearly two decades. In *The American War in Afghanistan*, Carter Malkasian provides the first comprehensive history of the entire conflict. Malkasian is both a leading academic authority on the subject and an experienced practitioner, having spent nearly two years working in the Afghan countryside and going on to serve as the senior advisor to General Joseph Dunford, the US military commander in Afghanistan and later the chairman of the

joint chiefs of staff. Drawing from a deep well of local knowledge, understanding of Pashto, and review of primary source documents, Malkasian moves through the war's multiple phases: the 2001 invasion and after; the light American footprint during the 2003 Iraq invasion; the resurgence of the Taliban in 2006, the Obama-era surge, and the various resets in strategy and force allocations that occurred from 2011 onward, culminating in the 2018-2020 peace talks. Malkasian lived through much of it, and draws from his own experiences to provide a unique vantage point on the war. Today, the Taliban is the most powerful faction, and sees victory as probable. The ultimate outcome after America leaves is inherently unpredictable given the multitude of actors there, but one thing is sure: the war did not go as America had hoped. Although the al-Qa'eda leader Osama bin Laden was killed and no major attack on the American homeland was carried out after 2001, the United States was unable to end the violence or hand off the war to the Afghan authorities, which could not survive without US military backing. The American War in Afghanistan explains why the war had such a disappointing outcome. Wise and all-encompassing, The American War in Afghanistan provides a truly vivid portrait of the conflict in all of its phases that will remain the authoritative account for years to come.

Games without Rules May 19 2021 Today, most Westerners still see the war in Afghanistan as a contest between democracy and Islamist fanaticism. That war is real; but it sits atop an older struggle, between Kabul and the countryside, between order and chaos, between a modernist impulse to join the world and the pull of an older Afghanistan: a tribal universe of village republics permeated by Islam. Now, Tamim Ansary draws on his Afghan background, Muslim roots, and Western and Afghan sources to explain history from the inside out, and to illuminate the long, internal struggle that the outside world has never fully understood. It is the story of a nation struggling to take form, a nation undermined by its own demons while, every 40 to 60 years, a great power crashes in and disrupts whatever progress has been made. Told in conversational, storytelling style, and focusing on key events and personalities, Games without Rules provides revelatory insight into a country at the center of political debate.