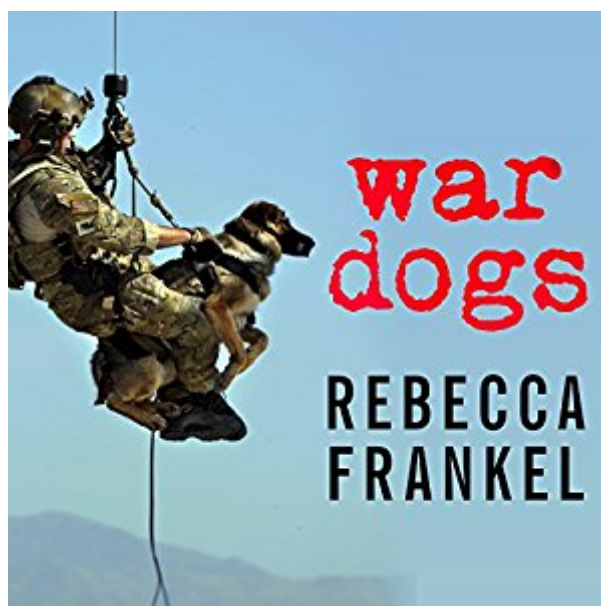


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# War Dogs: Tales Of Canine Heroism, History, And Love



## Synopsis

In *War Dogs*, Rebecca Frankel offers a riveting mix of on-the-ground reporting, her own hands-on experiences in the military working dog world, and a look at the science of dogs' special abilities - from their amazing noses and powerful jaws to their enormous sensitivity to the emotions of their human companions. The history of dogs in the U.S. military is long and rich, from the spirit-lifting mascots of the Civil War to the dogs who lead patrols hunting for IEDs today. Frankel interviewed not only handlers who deployed with dogs in wars from Vietnam to Iraq but also top military commanders, K-9 program managers, combat-trained therapists who brought dogs into war zones as part of a preemptive measure to stave off PTSD, and veterinary technicians stationed in Bagram. She makes a passionate case for maintaining a robust war-dog force. In a post-9/11 world rife with terrorist threats, nothing is more effective than a bomb-sniffing dog and his handler. With a compelling cast of humans and animals, this moving audiobook is a must-listen for all dog lovers-military and otherwise.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 8 hours 56 and 6 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Tantor Audio

Audible.com Release Date: December 31, 2014

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00QXFJRAA

Best Sellers Rank: #121 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Lifestyle & Home > Animal Care & Pets #344 in Books > History > Military > Afghan War #791 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs > Training

## Customer Reviews

"War Dogs" is several things - a book about the history of dogs in wars,, about the current training and practice of dogs in the military, about how the dogs interact with their handlers and with others, and about the rehabilitative effects of dogs. It's clear that a great deal of time, effort, and work went into the book's creation. I found the short vignettes about the interactions between dogs and handlers, and the brief reports of individual actions the dogs had been on, to be the most interesting

parts of the book. When "War Dogs" dealt with history or policy, it sometimes lagged a bit for me, but the personal histories of dogs and handlers made up for that. Among the recent batch of popular books about dogs and their behavior, this is one of the best. Highly recommended.

I think Jonathan Yardley of the Washington Post put it best when he described Frankel's book as "exceptionally interesting and surprisingly moving." I couldn't agree more. A fantastic look at human and animal relationships as they play out and evolve on an individual basis and in the context of warfare. As someone who has difficulty finding time to read, I could not put this down. Frankel combines history, present-day journalism and emotional storytelling to create a tremendously compelling book. I highly recommend this book and will be looking out for more work by Rebecca Frankel in the future!

After listening to Margaret Warner interview Rebecca Frankel on the News Hour, I bought three copies of this book. One for myself, one for the leader of the puppy raising group I belong to (we raise dogs for Guide Dogs for the Blind), and the third for one of the club's members, a lovely woman who recently lost her husband, a Marine corps vet. I'd been looking for something special to help her through this awful time. This book is very special. Well researched, well written and refreshing in the understanding of teamwork, trust, positive reinforcement training and the emotional territory that comes with working dogs.

After reading WAR DOGS I comprehend the role and history of the war dog; something I certainly had no true appreciation for previously. Reading this book allowed me to assess and improve upon my own role as an owner and lover of dogs. My compassion, appreciation, and respect for all that dogs (and their handlers) go through and all that they tolerate has increased immensely. What dogs give to us unconditionally in return for some attention and a chew toy is simply humbling and astounding. That a single canine hero can save thousands upon thousands of lives monumentally enlightening, for our best friend is not used as a weapon, but rather teaches us to avoid violence and above all to know boundless love.

I am a former (Viet Nam-era) Marine. Thanks to Rebecca Frankel, I now appreciate just how critically important war dogs still are in accomplishing the mission. The importance of the dogs' role both in protecting troops in the field and in helping returnees leave the hyper-vigilance and anxiety of combat behind cannot be overestimated. Everyone who cares about those who risked, and are

still risking, their lives in hazardous duty zones should read this book.

This is an outstanding read. I read it as much to find out if Robert Crais' book "Suspect" was based on fact and believable. This book validated both Crais' book and my own experiences with dogs throughout my 63 years. I would advise everyone to read both with War Dogs first and Suspect second. The men in uniform and the dogs they train and the handlers are the greatest. If you don't believe it, find a soldier who's had to go outside the wire with them and without them. Then thank them for what they did and have been through. They all are the best.

This book gives a loving, tender reality to the close attachment our war dogs attain with their handlers. Also, the author gives a much appreciated look at all war dogs, from the Romans to Iraq. To those who have never known the love of a dog, my sympathies, to the millions blessed by their presence in our lives, God bless you....

This was a well researched and well-balanced account of what these amazing dogs and their trainers are asked to do - and DO! That the dogs are now valued to the extent that they are taken for emergency care accompanied by their trainers and by the same token, accompany their trainers should they be wounded is very satisfying. The best part is that they are never left behind, even after their term of service ends. I have given this as a gift to a veteran who I know will love it!

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