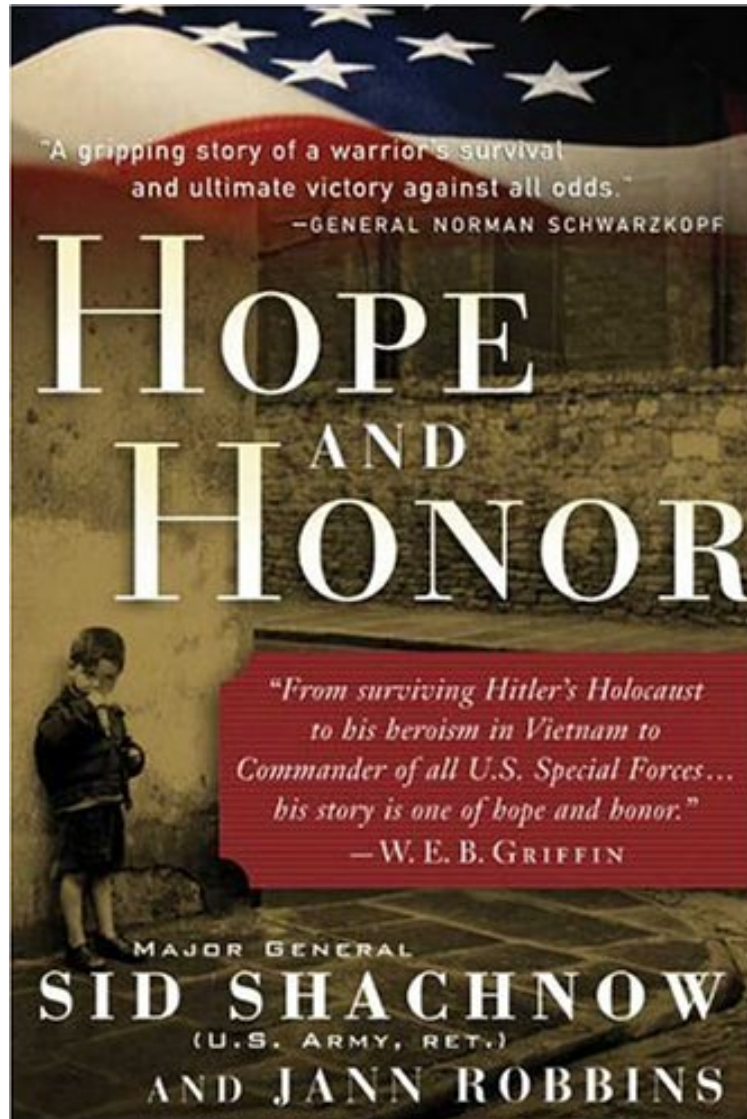


(Free) Hope and Honor

Hope and Honor

Sidney Shachnow, Jann Robbins
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#1353294 in Books Forge Books 2004-10-01 2004-09-23Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.60 x 1.29 x 6.34l, #File Name: 0765307928400 pages | File size: 45.Mb

Sidney Shachnow, Jann Robbins : Hope and Honor before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hope and Honor:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An American HeroBy DougSid Shachnow had an extraordinary life, part of it kind of random,having been born in the wrong place at the wrong time, a young Jewish boy in a Jewish family who ends up going through the hell of the Nazi's entering their town in Lithuania at the beginning of the gradual extermination of millions. To get a quick synopsis of the story, go to his daughter LeeAnne's review on Goodreads:[...]... Here are some of the things that impressed me about his story:1. There were several reasons Sid was

able to navigate himself out of the horrible Nazi situation: he had the courage to live, forage for food in guarded gardens, under the floorboards of party member's homes, to make loyal friends along the way, he had a resourceful Uncle who got intel that helped him get out of impending doom just in time and there were people, not always perfect people, who took him in and hid him. He had the kind of personality that wouldn't give up, a positive way about him that people liked and it served him well all throughout his life. He was a friendly gummy guy and somehow was able to keep a positive attitude. These characteristics served him well his whole life.² He didn't blush about telling the whole story, even a little bit about the sex lives of his parents, that his dad was a bit of a wuss, the way the other prisoners tricked him into compromising situations, that even as a leader, he had reservations about Viet Nam, that when questionable things happened in his career he came up with politically correct answers, that he was lucky in many ways. And although he received many combat awards, many for valor, it never felt like bragging. He did what it took to get through a situation, many times not even knowing or acknowledging that he had been hit, and finished the task. He remained humble and positive at all times.³ Part of the story is of family, family relationships, to some extent, from the perspective of having been born Jewish. There are many philosophical comments about how unfortunate it is that people are raised from the time of childhood to hold bigoted and horrible contempt toward other people. But he's very fair about how this works in reverse, his own parents having held a negative feeling and irritation at Sid's own beautiful and loving positive wife Arlene who happened to be a Catholic. Their treatment of her was heart breaking. Sid was always devoted to his own family and three of the four daughters ended up with military husbands, the fourth married an AOL guy, LOL.⁴ It was interesting to get a feeling for the way the military works with its promotions, discipline, sometimes heavy drinking, training, etc. Sid was an uneducated guy, didn't even graduate from high school, wasn't yet a citizen of the US when he volunteered for the army and yet he rose to the top. Part of the story is the amazing American story, how a guy with guts and integrity with little background can get to the top. I enjoyed his descriptions of the other men he dealt with in the military. It is also the story of the Special Forces and how that started small and with Sid's help, evolved into the important role that it plays today. Sid's background in the ghettos in Europe gave him part of the special training and language skills he needed to become such a major part of this important development.⁵ It sometimes reads like historical fiction. Having read so much fiction, I sometimes had to remind myself that this was a true story. I found it fascinating and interesting from the first page. I know Sid and Arlene almost as well as my own parents and I know more about Sid's parent's than my own grandparents. Thanks Sid for having the guts to tell an honest and open story in the true but humble way you told it. It's leaders like you that make this a great place to live. The title of the book is perfect. You are a good good man and I learned a lot. (less) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I would have very much liked to have listened to Gen Shachnow tell his story ...By Beer, please I was stationed in Berlin under Gen Shachnow, and to be completely honest, I don't think the officer corps understood what he had gone through in his life to be where he was then. I would have very much liked to have listened to Gen Shachnow tell his story over a quiet beer in the officer's club. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What an Honor By Timothy S. Hamilton General Shachnow was commander of the Berlin Brigade while I served there from 1988-1991. I remember shaking his hand and receiving an award in the NCO club across the street from Clay Headquarters. I had heard his story from my chain of command in Building 3, and was in awe. Thank you sir for your kind words of encouragement that day.

Major General Sid Shachnow is more than a highly decorated Vietnam War veteran with two Silver and three Bronze Stars with V for Valor. He survived a crucible far crueler than the jungles of Vietnam: Nazi-occupied Eastern Europe, spending three years in the notorious Kovno concentration camp as a child. At age ten, with nothing but rags on his back, he was finally able to flee that hellhole. Most of those he left behind died. After returning to his home in Lithuania, now occupied by the Soviets, and finding it unbearable, Shachnow and his family decided to head west, often on foot, across Europe to the U.S. zone in Germany, where they found refuge. To earn a living in the grim aftermath of war, he smuggled black market contraband for American GIs. His next journey was to America, where he worked his way through school and enlisted in the U.S. Army, volunteering for U.S. Special Forces, where he served for thirty-two years. His primary goal was to save others from the indignities he had endured and the deadly fate he so narrowly escaped. From Vietnam to the Middle East to the Berlin Wall, Sydney Shachnow served in Special Operations. He grew as Special Forces grew, receiving both a master's and a doctoral degree. He traveled the world, rising to major general, responsible for American Special Forces everywhere, but the lessons of Kovno stayed with him wherever he turned, wherever he soldiered. *Hope and Honor* is a powerful and dramatic memoir that shows how the will to live---so painfully refined in the fires of that long-ago death camp---was forged, at last, into truth of soul and wisdom of the heart.

From Publishers Weekly Part Holocaust memoir and part U.S. Army career narrative, this tale of an extraordinary life begins with young Schaja Shachnowski, a Lithuanian Jew, watching the Nazis march into his town. Taken with his family to a concentration camp, they survived by bribery, quick wits, the help of the Jewish camp police and the occasional assistance of local Lithuanians. Schaja was impressed by American GIs and remembered them after he and

his family were eventually admitted to the U.S.: wanting to marry a Christian girl whom his family loathed and also unable to find a decent job, he enlisted in the army in 1955. This began a 40-year career, covered in the book's second half, that ended with him a much decorated major general, having spent most of his career in Special Forces, eventually becoming its commanding general. He served two tours in Vietnam, commanded the Berlin Brigade and fought for an enlarged role for Special Forces. He is also still married to his boyhood love, a remarkably enduring person in her own right. Schachnow's life certainly demonstrates the title qualities, as well as high professional integrity and a ferocious will to survive. His telling of it is not always graceful, but his story comes through clearly and with conviction. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "A gripping story of a warrior's survival and ultimate victory against all odds."--General Norman Schwarzkopf on Hope and Honor "Very few soldiers achieve the rank of Major General in the U.S. Army Special Forces. That a survivor of the Kovno concentration camp could do so says great things about the U.S. Army. . . . Major General Shachnow is a great American who serves as an example to every American that freedom does not come free."--Paul Wolfowitz on Hope and Honor "Absolutely harrowing, as vivid and frightening as any Holocaust account I've read. His Special Forces experiences in Vietnam are also astonishing. General Schachnow had a vital role in shaping America's Special Forces into the tool it is today, at the precise time it is needed."--Larry Bond, author of the New York Times bestseller Red Phoenix on Hope and Honor "An inspiring story wonderfully told, General Shachnow's memoir is as deeply moving as it is fascinating. His journey from a childhood amid the Holocaust to become one of the U.S. Army's most effective and visionary generals is at once a testament to his personal courage, to human resilience and to America's greatness."--Ralph Peters, author of Beyond Baghdad and Fighting For The Future on Hope and Honor "What a book! Must reading! More riveting than any novel!"---Thomas Fleming on Hope and Honor "Sid Shachnow's life is an inspiring story for us all. . . . His powerful narrative is a riveting read, moving and informative."---Fred Franks, General U.S. Army (ret.), co-author with Tom Clancy of the New York Times #1 bestseller Into the Storm: A Study in Command on Hope and Honor