

Born On The Fourth Of July: A Profound and Moving Memoir of the Vietnam War

Born On The Fourth Of July is a powerful and unforgettable memoir by Ron Kovic, a Vietnam War veteran who was paralyzed from the waist down. Kovic's story is one of hope, resilience, and the search for meaning in the face of adversity.



Born on the Fourth of July: 40th Anniversary Edition

by Ron Kovic

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2271 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 242 pages



Kovic was born on July 4, 1946, in Ladysmith, Wisconsin. He was raised in a patriotic family and was eager to serve his country. In 1964, he enlisted in the Marine Corps and was sent to Vietnam in 1967. Kovic was a machine gunner and saw combat in some of the war's most intense battles.

On January 20, 1968, Kovic was shot in the back and paralyzed from the waist down. He was evacuated to a hospital in Japan, where he spent the next three years recovering from his injuries. During his time in the hospital,

Kovic began to question the war. He realized that the war was not about freedom or democracy, but about power and greed.

After his recovery, Kovic returned to the United States and became an anti-war activist. He spoke out against the war at rallies and protests, and he wrote a book about his experiences, *Born On The Fourth Of July*.

Born On The Fourth Of July was published in 1976 and became a bestseller. The book was praised for its honesty, its insights into the war, and its powerful message of peace.

In 1989, *Born On The Fourth Of July* was made into a film directed by Oliver Stone. The film starred Tom Cruise as Kovic and was nominated for eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Actor for Cruise.

Born On The Fourth Of July is a powerful and moving memoir that has inspired millions of people around the world. Kovic's story is a reminder of the horrors of war and the importance of peace.

Themes

Born On The Fourth Of July explores a number of important themes, including:

- The horrors of war
- The search for meaning in the face of adversity
- The importance of peace
- The power of hope
- The resilience of the human spirit

Characters

Born On The Fourth Of July features a number of memorable characters, including:

- Ron Kovic: The narrator of the story and a Vietnam War veteran who is paralyzed from the waist down.
- Lt. Jimmy Cross: Kovic's platoon leader in Vietnam.
- Doc: A medic who helps Kovic after he is shot.
- Mary Anne Bell: A nurse who falls in love with Kovic.
- Ron's parents: Kovic's loving and supportive parents.

Setting

Born On The Fourth Of July takes place in a number of different settings, including:

- Vietnam: Where Kovic fights in the war.
- Japan: Where Kovic recovers from his injuries.
- The United States: Where Kovic returns home after the war.

Style

Born On The Fourth Of July is written in a clear and direct style. Kovic uses simple language to convey complex emotions and experiences.

Critical Reception

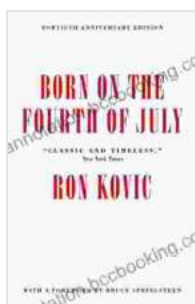
Born On The Fourth Of July has received widespread critical acclaim. Critics have praised the book for its honesty, its insights into the war, and its

powerful message of peace.

The New York Times called the book "a powerful and moving memoir" and "a classic of war literature."

Time magazine said that the book "is a powerful indictment of the Vietnam War and a moving story of one man's struggle to find meaning in the face of adversity."

Born On The Fourth Of July is a must-read for anyone interested in the Vietnam War, American history, or the human condition.



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