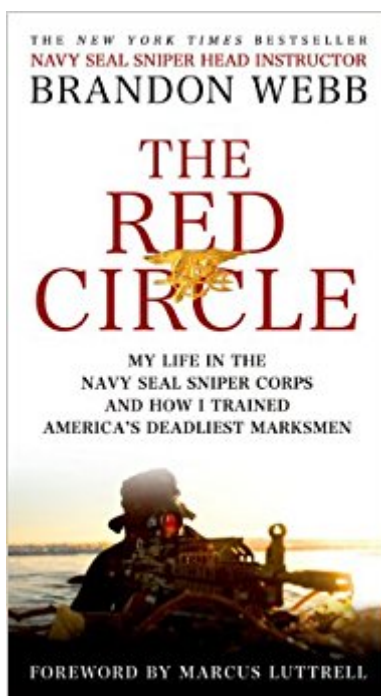


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The Red Circle: My Life In The Navy SEAL Sniper Corps And How I Trained America's Deadliest Marksmen



Synopsis

The Red Circle: My Life in the Navy SEAL Sniper Corps and How I Trained America's Deadliest Marksmen "If you want to know what makes up the DNA of a Navy SEAL and have a behind-the-scenes look at the best sniper program in the world, then 'hold 1 right for wind' and read The Red Circle."-Chris Kyle, SEAL Team Three Chief and bestselling author of American Sniper Brandon Webb's experiences in the world's most elite sniper corps are the stuff of legend. From his grueling years of training in Naval Special Operations to his combat tours in the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan, The Red Circle provides a rare and riveting look at the inner workings of the U.S. military through the eyes of a covert operations specialist."Impressive and well-written...The Red Circle is a great book."-Howard E. Wasdin, Navy SEAL and bestselling author of SEAL Team Six Yet it is Webb's distinguished second career as a lead instructor for the shadowy "sniper cell" and Course Manager of the Navy SEAL Sniper Program that trained some of America's finest and deadliest warriors-including Marcus Luttrell and Chris Kyle-that makes his story so compelling. From his days as a student going through the sniper course to his hair-raising close calls with Taliban and al Qaeda forces in the northern Afghanistan to his vivid account of designing new sniper standards and training some of the most accomplished snipers of the twenty-first century, Webb reveals how the Special Operations warriors at the forefront of today's military are forged."A recounting of the hellish mental and physical tests required to earn a SEAL's trident pin."-San Diego Union-Tribune This edition of the book is the deluxe, tall rack mass market paperback.

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Customer Reviews

“What you’re about to read is not just the making of a Navy SEAL sniper, but the story of one guy who went on to help shape the lives of hundreds of elite Special Operations warriors. Brandon has a great story to tell, and it is living proof that you can achieve anything you put your mind to.” — Marcus Luttrell, Navy SEAL and bestselling author of *Lone Survivor*

“Brandon’s story hits center mass! If you want to know what makes up the DNA of a Navy SEAL and have a behind-the-scenes look at the best sniper program in the world, then hold 1 right for wind’ and read *The Red Circle*.” — Chris Kyle, SEAL Team 3 Chief and bestselling author of *American Sniper*

“An impressive and well-written account of the most elite snipers in the world. Webb recounts with heartfelt and vivid description the training, trials, and heartache that are all costs of choosing this lifestyle. Like all true warriors, he does no chest thumping, but rather gives an honest account that proves that, after all, SEAL snipers are only human. *The Red Circle* is a great book.” — Howard E. Wasdin, Navy SEAL and bestselling author of *SEAL Team Six*

“A recounting of the hellish mental and physical tests required to earn a SEAL’s trident pin.” — San Diego Union-Tribune

“Another forceful statement from the brotherhood of SEALs, Brandon Webb’s *The Red Circle* illustrates why he wanted to be a SEAL, what it takes to be a SEAL, how you survive the life of a SEAL, and the value of mind over matter. A valuable read for anyone aspiring to reach goals that seem unattainable—in any walk of life.” — CDR Richard Marcinko, USN (Ret.), founding father and first commanding officer of SEAL Team Six and bestselling author of *The Rogue Warrior*

“The story of today’s Navy SEALs is Brandon Webb’s to tell, and *The Red Circle* does it masterfully. This definitive work at once proves and explodes the myths behind Navy Special Warfare and the men who meet its challenges. Strap in for a wild ride.” — CDR Ward Carroll, USN (Ret.), editor of *Military.com*

Brandon Webb is a former U.S. Navy SEAL; his last assignment with the SEALs was Course Manager for the elite SEAL Sniper Course, where he was instrumental in developing new curricula that trained some of the most accomplished snipers of the twenty-first century. Webb has received numerous distinguished service awards, including the Presidential Unit Citation and the Navy Commendation Medal with a "V" for "Valor," for his platoon’s deployment to Afghanistan following the September 11 attacks. He is editor for *Military.com*’s blog *Kit Up*, *SOFREP*’s Editor in Chief, and a frequent national media commentator on snipers and related Special Operations Forces military issues. John David Mann, who collaborated with Webb in writing *The Red Circle*, is an

award-winning author whose titles include the New York Times bestseller *Flash Foresight* and the international bestseller *The Go-Giver*.

When you start a new book, you can tell pretty quickly if its gonna be a great read. Being a military history buff, with a penchant for reading anything Spec Ops related, I have read over 100 Biographies, memoirs, and historical accounts from SEALs, Delta, and all the other elite units. I have a very small stack (less than 10) of books that are 'READAGAIN' and 'RECOMMEND' to friends and family. This will be added to the stack. The last one I added was *Lone Survivor* by Marcus Luttrell, who the author speaks about in his book. When you think you have read them all or you won't learn anything new, pick this up and be humbled. A fantastic read! And for the uninitiated, check out his sitesofrep.com

The author has not spared the reader any information about his formative years growing up around water and his troubles with his father. The author is a survivor and tells his story, as he knows it. A high point of the book are the details surrounding buds training and the training that follows it, culminating in the earning of the Trident emblem. It is a reality that there is good and bad leadership in all branches of the armed forces today and the author did not sugar coat this issue, especially, where people's lives were at stake. Great book, I highly recommend. Starts a little slow, but, it gets better and is worth the ride.

My son just completed Navy SEAL training and he used to tell me a little about what he was up to (the things he was allowed to tell me about). I read a lot about SEAL training because I wanted to know more about what he was experiencing. The descriptions of BUD/S, SQT, and SEAL advanced training in *RED CIRCLE* are the most accurate of all descriptions I have read to date. In contrast, while definitely worth the read, Couch's books are dated: they refer to 9-week BUD/S phases instead of the current 7-week duration, for example. Nevertheless, Couch's books are still VERY useful reads to understand SEAL training and just as useful as *RED CIRCLE*. Together these books provide a good, relatively detailed overview of SEAL training. *RED CIRCLE* is well-written, interesting, relatively recent, and worthy to be read. I highly recommend it to you. *RED CIRCLE* not only describes the training but the life and motivation of a SEAL as well. The SEALs I have met live that life because they want to be the very best at what they do, are very competitive and mission-driven, like to work out, are blessed with great physical assets and abilities to withstand the cold, the wet, and the painful, are driven to persevere until they achieve what most consider

unrealistic goals, enjoy danger, and are patriotic. And those are basically the reasons Brandon Webb gives for wanting to become a SEAL. Thank God for them because we really need them: they are the human alternative to drone aircraft and more. SEAL training is constantly evolving so details in any publication might be a little inaccurate, for example Old Misery has been retired and there is no longer a formal graduation ceremony after BUD/S, it's now after SQT when they are awarded their Tridents, but these books are nevertheless relatively accurate overviews of the nature of SEAL Training and life as a SEAL. At least based on what my son told me. RED CIRCLE is one of the best books that I have read in this genre. Mann and Webb hit a home run with this one!

"The Red Circle" by Brandon Webb. I read several of the 2-star and 3-star reviews, many of which thought that this book was too long, and/or covered too much of the author's teenage angst years with his father -- who didn't seem to have very great parenting skills in communicating-fathering with this son. I thought that the author's recounting of his youth years was just about right; they were relevant in understanding his growing up along the California coast and diving -- all of which contributed in preparing him for his Navy SEAL career. Others thought that there would be more shoot-'em-up stories about the Afghan/Iraq wars; he recounted primarily his own battles -- and some involving his buddies or students. This was the first SEAL book that I have read -- so I found almost every paragraph of interest. Some reviewers thought that the author spent too much time in explaining his training, the training methods, and the reforms that he had at the Navy SEAL Sniper Corps -- I found all of this very informative. The author recounts some of the sad antics of his instructors or superiors whose goal seemed to be in trying to purposely flunk training candidates, rather than trying to make them better. I highly recommend this book to all!

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