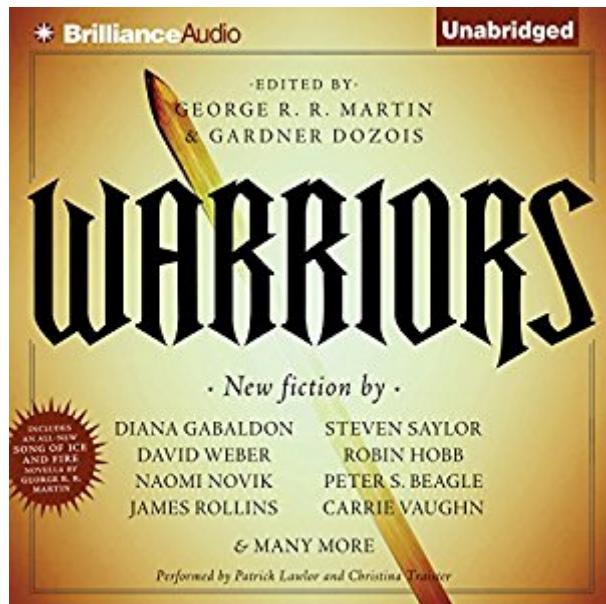


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# Warriors



## Synopsis

People have been telling stories about warriors for as long as they have been telling stories. Since Homer first sang of the wrath of Achilles and the ancient Sumerians set down their tales of Gilgamesh, warriors, soldiers, and fighters have fascinated us; they are a part of every culture, every literary tradition, every genre. All Quiet on the Western Front, From Here to Eternity, and The Red Badge of Courage have become part of our literary canon, taught in classrooms all around the country and the world. Our contributors make up an all-star lineup of award-winning and best-selling writers, representing a dozen different publishers and as many genres. We asked each of them for the same thing: a story about a warrior. Some chose to write in the genre they're best known for. Some decided to try something different. You will find warriors of every shape, size, and color here, warriors from every epoch of human history, from yesterday and today and tomorrow, and from worlds that never were. Some of the stories will make you sad, some will make you laugh, and many will keep you on the edge of your seat. Every story in this volume appears here for the first time. Included are: a long novella from the world of his Song of Ice and Fire series by George R. R. Martin, a new tale of "Lord John" by Diana Gabaldon, an "Emberverse" story by S. M. Stirling, a "Forever Peace" story by Joe Haldeman, and a long tale of humanity at bay by David Weber. Also present are original stories by David Ball, Peter S. Beagle, Lawrence Block, Gardner Dozois, Robin Hobb, Cecelia Holland, Joe R. Lansdale, David Morrell, Naomi Novik, James Rollins, Steven Saylor, Robert Silverberg, Carrie Vaughn, Howard Waldrop, and Tad Williams. Many of these writers are best sellers. All of them are storytellers of the highest quality. Together they make a volume of unforgettable listening.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

It's not often you read a book that truly qualifies for a 5-star rating, but this one certainly does. Told both from the U.S. and Japanese sides of this horrible, bloody battle, the book is brimming with characters ranging from newly-minted Navy and Marine Corps fighter pilots to the admirals and generals who crafted the American strategy for the 95-day campaign. We also meet Japanese kamikaze pilots and their commanding officers, fighting a last-ditch battle they know they will never win, and crew members aboard the mighty Yamato, perhaps the greatest warship ever built -- and which met its fate as what was left of the once-formidable Imperial Japanese Navy engaged in its own effort to stave off an American invasion of their homeland. Mr. Gandy's writing is crisp and straightforward, and puts the reader in the action -- from cockpits of Navy Corsair fighters engaged in dogfights with Japanese Zeros, to the decks of American ships as they bear the brunt of the kamikaze attacks, to the headquarters of Japanese admirals as they send their dedicated, loyal pilots to their doom. Well researched in addition to being well written, *THE TWILIGHT WARRIORS* makes no judgements and casts no aspersions; it simply tells the story of men at total war in the waning days of our globe's most devastating conflict.

Okay first off I need to say this, why the hell are there reviews for some Anthology about Game of Thrones all over this book? !?!?!? Surely, all those honest reviewers talking about a completely different book with what I am sure is a different cover than this one about fighter pilots and the last battle of WW2 in the Pacific. Okay that rant done. This book is about the battle for Okinawa. The author uses as a framing device the fighter pilots of VF-10 and VBF-10 on the USS Intrepid CV-11 to talk about this last battle. As well as talk about the fight the Allied Nation fleet had with the Kamikazes during the Battle for Okinawa. The title of the book relates to both these fighter pilots, some of whom are just now reaching operational units after being in training command for a couple of years and are the last warriors, twilight warriors, to go into battle; as well as the Japanese senior command who are fighting the last battles of their lives, again a twilight warrior situation. Most of the men that are featured in this book either fought some of the opening battles of the war, one of them was a PBY pilot that was in the Philippines at the start of the war, or they are brand new. So they don't have much combat experience and are just getting used to the fighting involved with this near the end of the war situation. On the flip side of this there are the Japanese and the desperation they

have to try and stop the Allied nations. To which they have turned to the use of Kamikazes in both the air and the sea. While the land campaign the Japanese are shown to do a defense in depth and fight to the last man for every inch of the terrain. So this should be an awesome book right, daring-do and heroic actions and amazing battle scenes right? Except at times the author gets lost in the description of people and the constant flipping back and forth from scenes that at times are occurring at the same time. For example the author talks of the sortie by the IJN's Yamato battleship and escorting ships. They are attacked by the carrier aircraft from the US Fleet. He spends two chapters talking about the various attack runs by the pilots and it isn't really in a timeline situation, rather he will talk all about the aircraft from one group. Then jump back in time to talk about another group making the same attack from a different angle. Then a little bit later he will jump around with the some of the stories from the Japanese survivors who talk about their experiences during the battle. Then although this is set up to be a book about the pilots and their kamikaze adversaries, this book also spends a good amount of time talking about the survival of the destroyers and other ships at the picket lines near the island as well as the land battle itself. In my mind it seemed as if the author couldn't get enough story to pad out this book so he turned around and added some additional information about the battle and the other ships involved in the area on or around Okinawa. I have read some of these same stories in other book on the battle or on specific units or ships, so in that sense for me this was a retread of older stories. This was a good book, but not really an outstanding book in my mind. Probably a good place to start for those interested in the US Navy "Fleet that Came to Stay" and the battle for Okinawa.

I enjoyed this anthology a lot, even though I am not in general a fan of military fiction per se. The selection of authors and stories was eclectic and interesting, and the stories ranged from pure adventure to very psychological indeed. While most of the "warriors" were men, as I expected, women did appear, and even one dog in a story that made me cry. The range of styles went from very realistic (historically based or not), through alt-history, into sf and fantasy. One of the sf ones had a twist in it which was unexpected, but also seemed rather a deus-ex-machina ending; in my opinion, the twist was not foreshadowed enough previously, though it was pretty clever in its way. I did enjoy almost all of them to some extent- almost no duds! This hardcover book, though, was physically hard to read because of its sheer size and weight.

I really, really, really enjoyed this book. Easy to read. Flows well. This is a very good presentation of the Japanese Kamikaze operations, against American forces around Okinawa. What really sets it

aside, from other books I have read, on this subject, are the personal stories, drawn from individuals on both sides of the game.. Most histories downgrade the impact of the concept. One need only read the part on the very first assault to understand the potential, and the threat to American forces, over the long-term. The STAR system for rating these books has become meaningless as people, out of charity, give 5 STARS to garbage. I am a writer and this is a great book. Anyone interested in the Pacific War should read it. Anyone interested in military history should read it. Anyone interested in a good book should read it.

Some naval airmen thought that they were getting into the war a little too late to have much of a part in its ending. But these men who earned their wings toward the end of World War II were entering the conflict just as the Japanese were becoming most determined to protect their homeland, even at the cost of their lives through komikazi attacks. The U.S. Navy suffered tremendous losses in men and ships as the Japanese tried to defend the island of Okinawa. This book does a tremendous job in telling the story of the great efforts necessary in capturing this island in the final days before the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan. The losses in men and ships helps to explain why the dropping of the atomic bombs was felt necessary at the time.

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