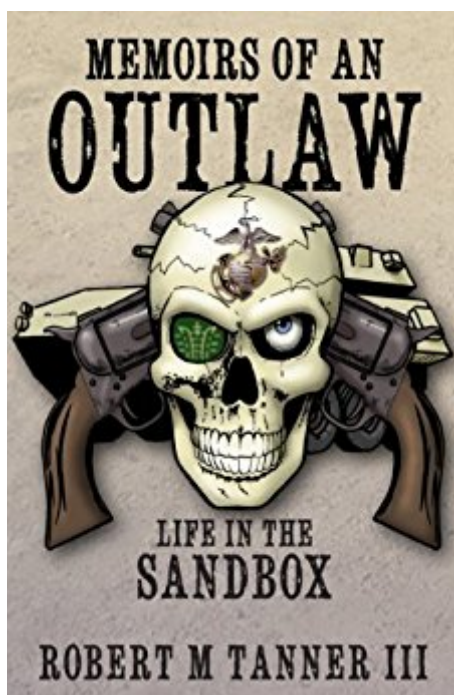


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# Memoirs Of An Outlaw: Life In The Sandbox



## Synopsis

In Fallujah, during a particularly difficult time in the Iraq War, a group of Marines are deployed on a tour that will bring them closer together, while threatening to tear them apart. The Delta Company Outlaws are a group of Light Armored Reconnaissance Marines deployed in 2004 to one of the most hostile war zones in the world. Through the memoirs of one Marine, this touching story encapsulates the drama surrounding everyday life during the Iraq War. With a bond formed through blood, sweat, and tears, a group of unfamiliar Marines will come together stronger than family. *Memoirs of an Outlaw: Life in the Sandbox* is a dramatic new take on the Iraq War that focuses more on the personal aspects of war rather than exclusively on combat. With a touching approach to the camaraderie, daily life, and devastating losses, this enlightening memoir by Robert M. Tanner delves into the brotherhood that's formed throughout a deployment while documenting the combat experiences and daily life of a Marine. Using personal experiences, this engaging story hooks readers with drama, action, and honesty while painting an illuminating picture of both the funny and tragic sides of war. Inspired by a bond that's stronger than blood, *Memoirs of an Outlaw* began as a therapeutic way to document wartime experiences and eventually led to a full-fledged memoir. Deciding to focus on the daily life and camaraderie of war, the story captures the tension, drama, and bonding that comes with combat and living in a hostile environment far away from home. By focusing on the humanistic side of the armed forces, *Memoirs of an Outlaw* perfectly captures a unique moment in time during an extraordinarily challenging part of the war.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I've read a lot of wartime memoirs, from World War I through Afghanistan, and most of them tell a great story, but the quality of the writing is all over the place. That's okay, the story's the thing, but rarely have I read a memoir that captured the author's combat experiences so vividly and was written in such a polished, professional manner. After briefly covering his first months as a Marine in training, author Bob Tanner describes his seven-month deployment to Iraq as an infantryman with the Delta Company "Outlaws," Second Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, Second Marine Division. Based most of those seven months at Camp Baharia, a spartan forward operating base, he endured the desert heat - 120 degrees in July, with 140-degree temperatures in his Light Armored Vehicle (LAV), improvised explosive devices (IEDs), suicide bombers, a hostile populace, and arcane rules of engagement that required the Marines to hold their fire until insurgents had fired first. He survived all this, but some in his company did not, and he shared the emotions he felt when the close-knit company lost one of its own. His platoon's missions to clear the roads around Fallujah of IEDs and to engage enemy insurgents were described in enough detail to be downright scary, with the Marines never knowing when an IED, an RPG or mortar shell, or a bullet had their number. Despite the dangerous missions and the hellish conditions, there were some humorous situations, including one Marine entrepreneur's sideline of selling pills to the other men. And it's not what you think - there were no illegal drugs or alcohol allowed in Camp Baharia. I'm thankful for men like Bob Tanner who go in harm's way for the rest of us, and I'm thankful for his marvelous memoirs.

Read the book by Bob Tanner. I am a little biased because I was there with him, but he told the truth. From the work-up to the very accurate descriptions of the men, I have to say; VERY WELL DONE. His views of the leadership we had was spot on. The account is from his point of view as a grunt. The way he writes it, one can almost smell the diesel. The daily routines, the long walk to the

chow hall, and the lines at the internet center brought back memories. Our losses somehow fueled our strength as a unit. Tanner does an excellent job of bringing the story of a group of "Outlaws" to the people we fought for. It was my honor to serve with these men. Great job Bob! I recommend this to anyone wanting to laugh, cry, and feel proud to be an American all at once.

"Your recruiter is a friggin' genius. He got you to sign an open contract, and now you're gonna do whatever my beloved Marine Corps wants you to do." Book recounts the tale in layman's terms of a Marine recruit's experience from the onset of the Twin Towers falling, thru boot camp, together with a 7-month long stint fighting insurgents in the Iraqi desert and then home again. Book is an eye-opener for us individuals that have little knowledge in this regards, only thing I found lacking was photos which would have gone a long way towards adding more depth to the experience. I'll leave you with one final passage from the book "We wanted our own stories to tell and our own vehicle scars to prove it." Thank you for serving our Country!

Am enjoying reading this book. I still laugh when reading someone else's view of "my" places or using "my" terminology and acros. I know it's been awhile since I've been stationed at Lejeune and Cherry Point but they must have put in a super expressway, drove you at 2am and 90mph to get from Camp Lejeune to Cherry Point in 20 minutes! I spent half of a trip up to PI reading it out loud and Lmao with my husband as he drove. Thanks for the book, for all you went through, and for having good writing skills to record them (since we already know you were a college boy and company botch briefly lol)

Had to have it! Glad I bought it! Very well written and on point Tanner. I like the fact that you stayed True to our Story, and you're right, it was a story that needed to be written and told. Even though there were many of us there, and in different platoons, I have never served with a finer group of Marines either. We all have our individual stories of our time served in Iraq, Obviously we all faced different circumstances on every patrol, and like myself training the ING and ICDC and being set apart from the rest of my Marines weighed heavy on my heart and mind. And as well like you said when we got back to the states, Everything had changed. Some left the Corps on their own, Some had no choice, some moved on to different duty stations. We formed a brotherhood in Iraq, and we lost some damn good Marines, our brothers. I have to say, I read your book and only just got it yesterday. I went from laughing, to hardened faced, to tense and stressed to having a lump in my throat hard to swallow yeah tears in my eyes! Your book brought back a flood of memories and I

remember the incidents all to well. As horrific as they were.. I never want to forget them, I never want to forget my brothers. Your book is a gift for those of us that don't write. You told our story. You made us Proud, Oohrah Marine, Semper Fi! Sgt. Troy L. Bradley - Oh before I close, My wife said that she spent the day reading your book and has finished it and she wanted to thank you as well for writing down our story. I could only share with her my account... You gave her even more. She also wanted to know if you remember who sponsored you while in Iraq?.. She had all of us sponsored by someone to send letters and carepackages.. She had wondered who your sponsor was. Great Job!

I appreciate this book for two reasons. First of all, reading it will give you a better understanding of the service and sacrifices of our military. Second, in contrast to somebody who gave it one star and called it boring, I found it interesting and well written. It isn't a suspense novel, and real life doesn't always provide a thrill a minute, but plenty happened to Tanner and his comrades to keep my interest. Thank you for your service, Outlaws!

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