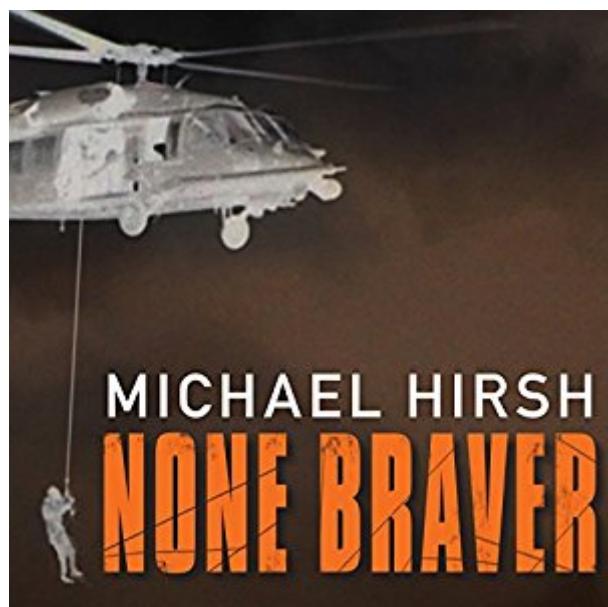


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# **None Braver: U.S. Air Force Pararescuemen In The War On Terrorism**



## **Synopsis**

From award-winning journalist and combat veteran Michael Hirsh comes the thrilling inside story of the Air Force's pararescue operations in Afghanistan. The first journalist to be embedded with an Air Force combat unit in the war on terrorism, Hirsh flew from Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, with the 71st Rescue Squadron to their expeditionary headquarters at a secret location in Central Asia. Unparalleled access to the pararescue jumpers - or PJs - as well as to the courageous men and women who fly them where they have to go, often under enemy fire, allowed Michael Hirsh to uncover incredible stories of courage. Among them: the drama of a plane crash at 10,000 feet in the Hindu Kush mountains, where PJs climb with 100-pound packs through chest-deep snow to rescue the crew; the tension of an unprecedented nighttime combat parachute jump into the middle of an Afghan minefield; and the heartbreak during Operation Anaconda, when seven American fighting men die, including the first PJ killed in combat since Vietnam.

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 12 hours and 8 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Tantor Audio

Audible.com Release Date: June 17, 2013

Language: English

ASIN: B00CTPCKVG

Best Sellers Rank: #68 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Military > Afghan & Iraq Wars > Afghan War #77 in Books > History > Military > Afghan War #142 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Journalists

## **Customer Reviews**

A great book for anyone who has any interest in the United States Air Force Pararescue units. Has a lot of good insight and gives as much of an idea of what it's like to be a pararescueman as possible from a book. Lots of great stories that just suck you in and spit you out with a whole new admiration and opinions about the line of work they do. Highly recommend to anyone who likes a book that keeps you on edge, waiting to turn to the next page.

I think the telling of the tales in this book is extremely well done. There is little in the way of bravado

or exaggeration. The heroism of the people featured needs no additional comment than the facts with some insights from the people themselves as well as others. There does seem to be editorialism to validate the place of the PJs in the world of SpecOps such as drawing comparisons or making derisive comments about other SpecOp groups. This wasn't necessary and is distracting from the main point: PJs and CCs are incredible warriors, receive the best training in their fields, have some of the most physically and mentally demanding training with the highest drop out rate of a SpecOps group, and carry out their missions with precision and professionalism. In theater, when you are in trouble, hurt and/or pinned down, they come to the rescue ... what more needs to be said to understand their place?

It is a sterling book on the PJ's. Lots and lots of detail . . . actually it is so detailed it is almost a text book. I'm struggling to get through it. But, thank you all your brave and heroic people in the military.

Wow what can I say? This book is amazing and tells the stories of the amazing members of pararescue and the craziness they live in order to save lives. It was hard for me to put this book down and you could easily picture the missions as the author described.

Hirsh takes the reader into the belly of the beast. The warriors whose heroism and self-sacrifice he chronicles come from all over the great nation they've sworn to protect. His story treats their lives - and for some, their ultimate sacrifices - with the dignity and honor they have earned. At the same time, Hirsh manages to call a spade a spade, and calls to task some of the rear echelon "leaders" whose actions and/or inactions exacerbated already bad situations and arguably led to the unnecessary deaths of some of America's true heroes. He writes with an unapologetic conviction, and even offers some specific, intelligent suggestions at the end of the book for ways in which corporate America can and should stand beside these fallen heroes and their loved ones. As a 10-year NAVY veteran, I applaud Mr Hirsh for his hard work and effort to chronicle the last, finest hours of some of America's NEXT "greatest generation".

This is a really GREAT book. I love it! Being in the search and rescue profession myself I can relate to many of the stories and find command ground with the people and places here within these pages. The writing is outstanding, at times it sounds and feels more like a first person account rather than a collection of stories told through the authors second hand account debriefings with these men. The author lived with these men, ate with them, slept in the same barracks... He truly

tells their story beautifully.

So, I've been training a while to join the PJs so take this as a fan's review. I loved the way Michael Hirsh wrote this and his unique story telling. He truly captured the PJ spirit and did a great job documenting. A must read for CSAR enthusiasts.

One of the best, if not the best book I've read about any military unit. The author pulled no punches issuing well deserved criticism to career minded, pencil pushing officers which was really refreshing. He does more than just blindly praise PJs (individuals and teams), he describes how they've earned it in dramatic detail. As I neared the end of the book, I wished there was more.

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