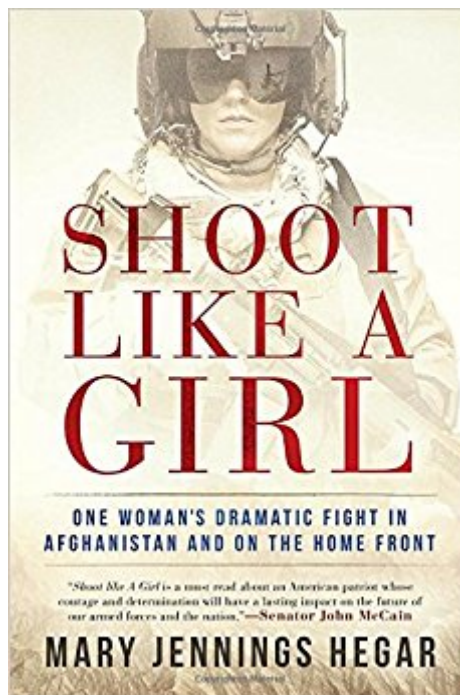




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Shoot Like A Girl: One Woman's Dramatic Fight In Afghanistan And On The Home Front



Synopsis

“A must-read about an American patriot whose courage and determination will have a lasting impact on the future of our Armed Forces and the nation.” •Senator John McCain

On July 29, 2009, Air National Guard major Mary Jennings “MJ” Hegar was shot down while on a Medevac mission on her third tour in Afghanistan. Despite being wounded, she fought the enemy and saved the lives of her crew and their patients. But soon she would face a new battle: to give women who serve on the front lines the credit they deserve... After being commissioned into the U.S. Air Force, MJ Hegar was selected for pilot training by the Air National Guard, finished at the top of her class, then served three tours in Afghanistan, flying combat search-and-rescue missions, culminating in a harrowing rescue attempt that would earn MJ the Purple Heart as well as the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor Device. But it was on American soil that Hegar would embark on her greatest challenge—to eliminate the military’s Ground Combat Exclusion Policy, which kept female armed service members from officially serving in combat roles despite their long-standing record of doing so with honor. In *Shoot Like a Girl*, MJ takes the reader on a dramatic journey through her military career: an inspiring, humorous, and thrilling true story of a brave, high-spirited, and unforgettable woman who has spent much of her life ready to sacrifice everything for her country, her fellow man, and her sense of justice.

SOON TO BE A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE
INCLUDES PHOTOS

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Major Mary Jennings Hegar has established her warrior credentials, joining an elite group of American service members who have bravely served our nation in combat. In *Shoot Like a Girl*, Major Hegar shares her remarkable experience on the front lines both overseas and at home—from exchanging fire with the Taliban and saving her comrades in Afghanistan, to fighting to open all combat positions to women in the military.”

•Senator John McCain

“A stirring story of bravery that also captures our humanity. Major Hegar will move you with her story, her grit, her valor. And her heart. From the battlefield to the courtroom, this is a story of service and determination Americans should know.”

•Gayle Tzemach Lemmon, New York Times bestselling author of *Ashley’s War: The Untold Story of a Team of Women Soldiers on the Special Ops Battlefield*

“From her decorated service in Afghanistan to the courtrooms on the home front, MJ Hegar’s story is one of incredible courage, patriotism, ambition, and resilience. *Shoot Like a Girl* is not only an excellent read, but more important also a book of great historical and academic significance. It is simply a must read for anyone interested in military culture and the integration of women in military organizations.”

•Robert Egnell, Head of the Department of Security, Strategy, and Leadership at the Swedish Defence University

Mary Jennings “MJ” Hegar lives in Austin with her family and works as an Executive Coach and Consultant. She gives back to her alma mater by mentoring cadets and guest-lecturing at the University of Texas. MJ continues writing and speaking about her experiences in the military and her fight for increased military effectiveness through equality.

So I am a retired female Veteran and I typically like to read books like this one. It was great to finally get to read one that was from a woman! Very well written and engaging. A must read for military buffs, "feminists" and anyone who may have an opinion about women in combat roles.

This book made me laugh, cry, fist pump, and be inspired. Not only did these stories show one woman’s courage and ability to just keep pushing after her dream when everything kept telling her to stop, it brought to light one of the biggest mountains we can move as society - that women are capable, strong, and badass and deserve an equal and fair shot at a career path - be that in the military, corporate world, politics, etc. I’ve now started gifting this book to my friends that could use some inspiration!

As a female combat veteran I was cautiously optimistic about this book. As a female vet. it is so difficult to describe your experiences accurately without sounding either whiney or over aggressive. She walks the line extremely well and gives insight on how things actually are when you are deployed. Having to re-affirm your talent and fortitude again and again and again to every new male that you encounter becomes extremely taxing and it becomes very difficult to maintain a positive attitude and power through. Thank you for telling our stories and for standing up for the female soldiers, airman, sailors and marines that will come after us. MJ does an admirable job of telling her story thoroughly and appears to be very self aware of how others may interpret the situations differently. I related to many many experiences that she describes in the book and applaud her service, courage and fortitude. Slowly but surely, the military WILL be fully integrated for all jobs due to people like her and thousands of others who have served their country with honor and integrity. When the \$#!t hits the fan, no one cares what chromosome you have as long as you can get the job done. Oorah Major Hegar. Oorah!

The day I saw you on TV I immediately ordered your book to support you and all women who aspire and succeed against difficult odds. I was not even sure I would read the book. In fact it took me a couple of weeks to do so. I wasn't really fond of you at first until you began to evolve right before my eyes. The transformation was notable. The book is well written, easy to understand, with descriptions good enough to visualize, which is something I look for in every book I read. I read so I can go inside the book and the characters and try to "feel" what they are feeling, "see" what they are seeing to the best of my ability. Never having been to war, it was challenging and of course I could not come close but I was able to see parallels in how I have fought through my lifetime against unfair practices and attitudes being a 60' s teen and adult experiencing the Vietnam War and the fight for Civil Rights. I am recommending your book to everyone I know. Thank you, Mary.

MJ Hager is a warrior. Whoa. Is she ever! She's determined, tenacious, strong and sometimes dumb (as in, if your knee is killing you, don't run). This woman stood up in and to a "man's world" with smarts and courage. She persevered in the face of every kind of obstacle—racists, chauvanists, bureaucracy, rules and regs and enemy bullets. And, she prevailed because she shot like a girl. (You'll get it when you read the book.) I was proud to fly medivac or dust off in the Maine Army National Guard with a Huey strapped to my back. That was then; this is now with MJ flying the HH-60 Pave Hawk, a beast of a machine but a fabulous platform

in the hands of a skilled pilot. MJ Hager was as smooth a stick as there is to be found and she proved it over and over. Tops in all her training as well as a highly respected professional on the battlefield, you'll want to be with her because she has her **** together. By the way, this book is blessedly unlike other military flying books. Yes, she tells about her background, flight school, ups and downs. But, she tells just enough, the really interesting and important stuff rather than every pitch pull and what she had for breakfast. In that way, the book holds together seamlessly and moves along apace. Oh, I should add, she can turn a phrase, too. A very fine writer. Blue side up, hard side down.

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