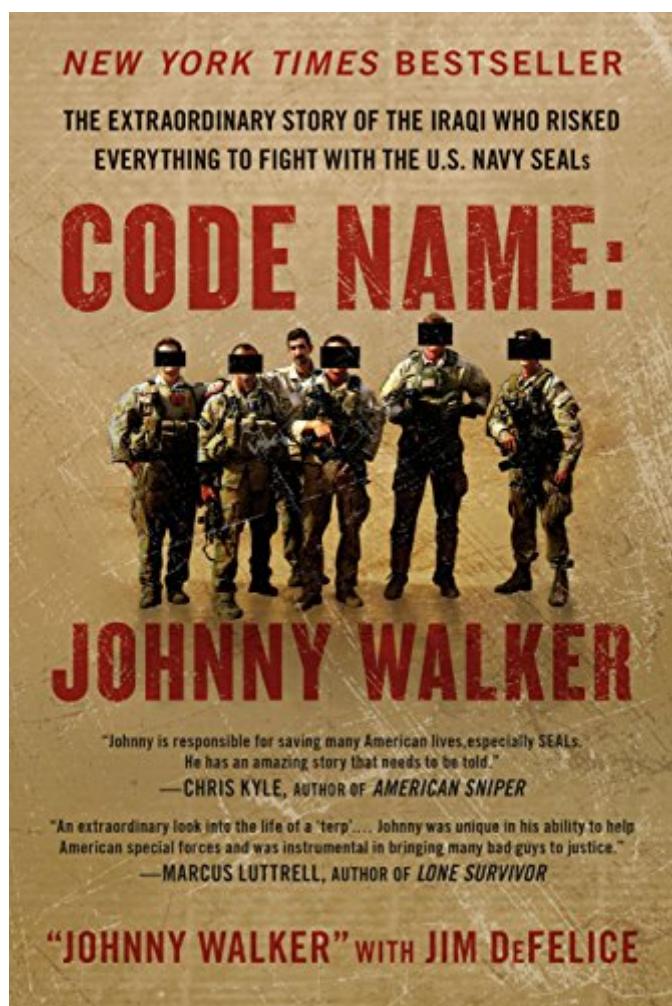


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# Code Name: Johnny Walker: The Extraordinary Story Of The Iraqi Who Risked Everything To Fight With The U.S. Navy SEALs



## **Synopsis**

In this unforgettable memoir, the Navy SEALs' most trusted translator "a man who is credited with saving countless American lives and became a legend in the special-ops community" tells his inspiring story for the first time. As the insurgency in Iraq intensified following the American invasion, U.S. Navy SEALs were called upon to root terrorists from their lairs. Unsure of the local neighborhoods and unable to speak the local languages, they came to rely on one man to guide them and watch their backs. He was a "terp" an interpreter with a job so dangerous they couldn't even use his real name. They named him Johnny Walker. They soon called him brother. Over the course of eight years, the Iraqi native traveled around the country with nearly every SEAL and special operations unit deployed there. He went on thousands of missions, saved dozens of SEAL and other American lives, and risked his own daily. Helped to the U.S. by the SEALs he protected, Johnny Walker's life is so remarkable that his tale reads like fiction. But every word of it is true. For the first time ever, a "terp" tells what it was like in Iraq during the American invasion and the brutal insurgency that followed. With inside details on SEAL operations and a humane understanding of the tragic price paid by ordinary Iraqis, *Code Name: Johnny Walker* reveals a side of the war that has never been told before.

## **Book Information**

File Size: 1897 KB

Print Length: 308 pages

Publisher: William Morrow; Reprint edition (February 11, 2014)

Publication Date: February 11, 2014

Sold by: HarperCollins Publishers

Language: English

ASIN: B00DB3A0CQ

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #183,375 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #59

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Military & Wars > Afghan

## Customer Reviews

Having served in Mosul during the war, this is very accurate account of life during that time. It has even answered questions that had gone unanswered about the culture and life in Iraq

Great book. A little misleading as it was ghost written. It was initially surprising to think that he had learned such detailed English from associating with soldiers, but the afterword explained that he really didn't write it. Regardless, the book really describes the difficult life in Iraq.

This biographical account for Johnny Walker, a translator in Iraq, brings forth a new point of view on Saddam Hussein and his attempts to deal with the declining economy in Iraq after Saddam's failure to gain control of the oil fields he wanted to annex in 1991. Johnny Walker was a pragmatic man who kept an upbeat active stance which enabled him to sense the cultural pulse of both Shia and Sunni Iraqis and their reactions to stressful interactions with Navy Seals. By defusing the trigger-prone shoot first instincts of men under intense pressure to face down criminals in Iraq, he was able to save many soldiers, translators, AND many Iraqis during the conflict that was to geared effect the removal of the Baathist regime. It was a learning experience to read his account, and it was a shame that his home town of Mosul was virtually destroyed after the US pulled out of Iraq according to the Afterword of the book. I think that this book succeeds in shedding more light on the US operations within Iraq.

This is the first review I've ever written: This personal account of life, of family, of dreams, and of war was so impactful, I feel it's necessary to recommend it. The great merit of Johnny's story, I feel, is that through his writing and experience, the reader is able to engage in the humanity of a culture the nature of war precluded us from fully comprehending during its event, and leave with a greater measure of empathy and compassion for the Iraqi people. The reader is also enabled to better appreciate the extraordinary work and service of our own servicemen and women not only through accounts of their actions, but especially through a unique contextualization of the environment they operated in. Even though this is a book that addresses weighty topics, it is personal, accessible, and immensely informative throughout. Johnny's experience allows the reader to examine and

reaffirm the value of life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and peace in their own lives, and remember that being an American is not an event of geography, but a state of heart claimed by values, not politics.

Such a great book! Easy to read, lots of good insights and written by a real hero. Whether you agreed with the Iraq war or not. I see parallels to what is happening to our country right now with Pres Trump. Those are those who want to destroy rather than build. The interpreter in Iraq has it right. I wish him and his family well. Interesting that he worked with Chris Kyle, how this guy & his family survived is an amazing story in itself!

I am a former school Liberian and very picky about what I read. I spent many Yeats evaluating reading material for students. I truly think that this should be required reading for high school students. I can't even imagine all the activities, discussions and lessons I could teach from this book. From history and sociology, to geography and government, this story is about a person we as American should all inspire to be. The book is very well written and holds your interest. But more than that it is a testament to what true Admin spirit should be. Johnny is nothing less than a hero who's story reflects the ideals that founded our country. Honor, integrity,, family, knowing what Good is truly about and most of all freedom and the sacrifice it takes to accrete it. Everyone in this country should read this to get back to what we are supposed to be about. A law should be passed that people should have to read Johnny Walkers story before they can hold a public office to remind them exactly why they should be working towards.

At the end of some stories that claim to be "extraordinary," I end up feeling like I wasted too much time and energy trying to read my way onto the bandwagon. Not so with Johnny Walker. This book tells a great story and offers a still-timely viewpoint that I would have never been able to access otherwise. This is no spoiler when I say at the end Johnny Walker (the name still cracks me up) says the truth of what's happening in Iraq is much worse than what's reported is shamefully true. And it saddens me that both he and I acknowledge that his ideals for his homeland will probably never come to pass. But ultimately this is a story about hope. I learned a lot about a man I'll never meet, and it impressed me greatly - and humbled me when I realized that I can't relate to anything he's been through... but that really just made the lessons and details in this story that much more important for me to read. Without getting political, without grandstanding or preaching (which everyone on FB seems to be doing lately), Johnny Walker opened my eyes to a whole other aspect

of war and from politics, and he did simply by using a great voice for his own life story. I recommend it - and I highly recommend the Audible version. His actual voice adds a whole other layer to his story. Great stuff.

Johnny Walker's service and bravery shine through the simple words of this book to illustrate the conflict in Iraq. I am grateful to him and the servicemen and SEALs he supported for their heroism. This book is written like a conversation, but a deceptively simple one that takes the reader through the start of a war through night missions and horror into the peace of American citizenship. Well done and thank you!

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