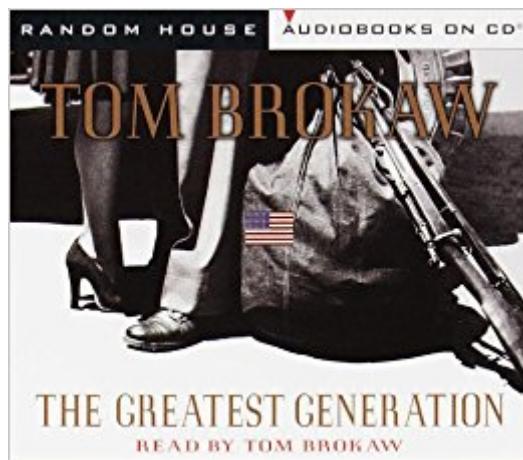


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# The Greatest Generation (Tom Brokaw)



## Synopsis

3 CDs / 4 hours Read by the Author, Tom Brokaw Also available on cassette In this superb audiobook, Tom Brokaw goes out into America to tell - through the stories of individual men and women - the story of a generation, America's citizen heroes and heroines who came of age during the Great Depression and the Second World War and went on to build modern America. "They won the war; they saved the world. They can return to joyous and short-lived celebrations and immediately began the task of rebuilding their lives and the world they wanted. They married in record numbers and gave birth to another distinctive generation, The Baby Boomers. A grateful nation made it possible for more of them to attend college than any society had ever educated anywhere. They have the world's new science, literature, art, industry, and economic strength unparalleled in the long curve of history. This generation was united not only by a common purpose, but also by common values - duty, honor, economy, courage, service, love of family and country, and, above all, responsibility for oneself. "I am in awe of them, these men and women who have given us the world we have today. I feel privileged to have been witness to their stories. A I came to know many of them I became more and more moved by their everyday excellence - and more and more convinced that this is the greatest generation in our country's history." - Tom Brokaw

## Book Information

Series: Tom Brokaw

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## Customer Reviews

Tom Brokaw was born in 1940, but it wasn't until he was a famous newscaster that he began to

contemplate what his parents' generation--those born between 1910 and the mid-1920s--had accomplished. Narrating his own book, he discusses the sacrifices those men and women made: the bodily harm they suffered in war, the diligence with which they built families and businesses, the courage they displayed in rehabilitating their war wounds, the integrity and values that infused their lives. "They never whined or whimpered," Brokaw notes. The stories these men and women tell Brokaw are consistently startling--triumphant, tragic, courageous, sad, miraculous. Although Brokaw never gets maudlin or sappy, most people will find it impossible to listen to this audiobook with dry eyes. (Running time: 4 hours, 3 cassettes) --Lou Schuler

YA-Brokaw defines "the greatest generation" as American citizens who came of age during the Great Depression and the Second World War and went on to build modern America. The vehicle used to define the generation further is the stories told by a cross section of men and women throughout the country. The approximately 50 stories are listed in the table of contents under eight topics: Ordinary People; Homefront; Heroes; Women in Uniform and Out; Shame; Love, Marriage and Commitment; Famous People; and the Arena. The individuals are brought to life by photographs within each chapter. YAs will find this book to be a good resource for decade and World War II research. Unlike any era YAs have known, the 1940s are characterized by a people united by a common cause and values. Carol Clark, formerly at Fairfax County Public Schools, VA  
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A very humbling experience to read the exploits of several WW2 generation people and all of their accomplishments. Mr. Brokaw's summarizations of why he calls this the greatest generation is right on. Good read, well written

Mr. Brokaw's news connections notwithstanding, he compiles a terrific group of stories. The style of the prose is clear cut and straight ahead. I am grateful to learn about the excellent people who are profiled. Well done.

The author chose people that you might not recognize and were not aware of what they accomplished because of the WWII. Some people were so poor that because of the War they were able to make a good life for themselves after the War.

I cannot truly imagine the hardships and sacrifice of my parent's generation, so this window into

what they lived through and what they accomplished, told through personal stories, is much appreciated.

This book is a series of real life stories about many men and women who either served in the U.S. Military during World War II or helped the war effort from home. While the author makes his point about the dedication, patriotism, bravery, and love of country that motivated all of these people to succeed during the war and in life afterward, I found the book to be somewhat repetitive when I was about half way through. It seemed many of the stories were quite similar as were the admirable character qualities of the subjects. This book is definitely not a waste of time and does reveal a good deal of history about the prejudice that existed toward African Americans, Japanese Americans, and American Indians even when they were serving their country on the battlefields. It's a reminder of a dark period in American History even though the outcome of the war was victorious for our country and was followed by a tremendous economic boom. People who have not read a great deal about World War II would probably be the most interested readers.

This is Brokaw's account of the lives of those he has met who lived during the Depression and WW2. It is a compilation of stories to remind us what our grandparent's generation endured and overcame. Many survived, built families and businesses, and became successful despite, or perhaps due to their difficult experiences. These are the people who fought for god and country without giving it a second thought; the last generation that contributed to making our country the greatest ever, before its decline to what it is today. This should be required reading for baby boomers through millennials; as there is a lesson to be had for today's generation who doesn't know or care about the sacrifices that have been made for their freedom.

An amazing journal and history of the time period and people of the WWII. This reminds us of the individual sacrifices of the people during that time that provide us the individual freedoms we sometimes take for granted. Highly recommend-I couldn't put it down.

This book has been around for so long, most of the people highlighted in it are dead. That made it quite interesting as it shows the passage of time. I decided to read this because of the recent D-Day Anniversary celebration in France. It is a little sentimental and soft in the depictions of the lives of the men and women who fought for their country, but in a way that reinforced one of the underlying themes Brokaw illustrates: these people weren't complainers. They just went on with their lives. It

was also interesting that this book precedes the Iraq and Afganistan war with the thousands of soldiers suffering from PTSD. Brokaw mentions the opinions of at least two veterans who said that veterans were getting TOO many benefits for having served their country. Makes me wonder if people today are just basically softer and weaker than those of the Greatest Generation.

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