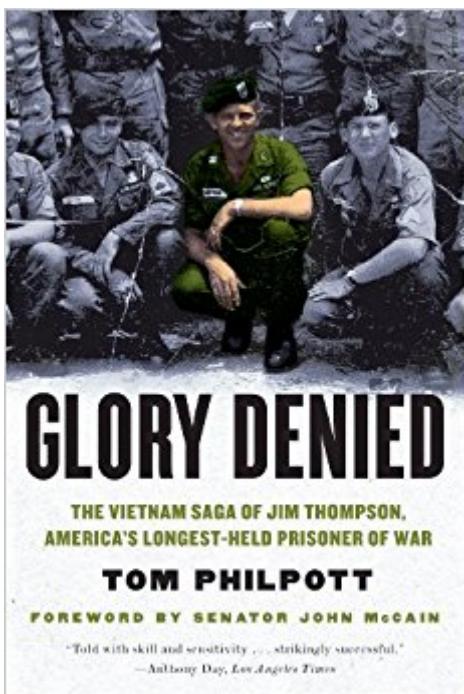


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Glory Denied: The Vietnam Saga Of Jim Thompson, America's Longest-Held Prisoner Of War: The Vietnam Saga Of Jim Thompson, America's Longest-Held Prisoner Of War



Synopsis

Now hailed as a classic, one of the most unforgettable and heartbreaking books ever written about the Vietnam War. *Glory Denied* is the harrowing and heroic story of Floyd "Jim" Thompson, captured in March 1964, who became the longest-held prisoner of war in American history. Tom Philpott juxtaposes Thompson's capture, torture, and multiple escape attempts with the trials of his young wife, Alyce, who, feeling trapped, made choices that forever tied her fate to the war she despised. "One of the most honest books ever written about Vietnam" (Oliver Stone), *Glory Denied* demands that we rethink the definition of a true American hero.

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Customer Reviews

I was so deeply saddened by what consequences the men captured during the Vietnam War suffered. This book takes you deeply into the life of the longest held prisoner of war. I can't say I enjoyed it but I'm proud to have read about a man who gave so much for this country and didn't get what he should have come home to. I shouldn't judge his wife Alyce but I feel she had so much to

do with the failure of her family, some may find that harsh but it's what I felt reading the story of a life that never recovered from the war and never received the recognition he deserved.

This is an extraordinary true story. I cried at several places while reading it. My heart goes out to this family.

My husband loves to read!

This novel is a must-read for those who want a first-hand account of the atrocities of the Vietnam War.

well done,, but sad story.. a cursed family...

I spent two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot, and two years with the 10th Special Forces Group at Fort Devens, MA at the same time that Alyce was there. The story is both a testament to the incredible individual survival skills, bravery, and indomitable spirit of a man who endured unspeakable torture and deprivation in captivity, and, at the same time a tragedy about the frailty and vulnerability of a man who came home and didn't understand or how to cope with being abandoned and betrayed by the two things he loved - his Army and his family - ironically the two anchors in his life that given him the strength to survive his captivity. You watch Jim Thompson slowly disintegrate, hoping that on the next page he'll finally be rescued and redeemed from his new prison, but you already know that he cannot help himself. This is the saddest book about the Vietnam War that I have ever read, and I could not put it down.

Enjoyed the book but would prefer larger print.

If you're looking for an inspirational "feel-good" book, this is not it. Things go from bad to worse and then get worse still. There's no happy ending. That being said, it's one of the best books on Vietnam that I have read, and the way the story of this man and his family played out might be the best metaphor that I've ever seen for the war itself. Hindsight is 20/20, and knowing how Thompson's life and the war would end up makes this story tough to read. You can see how each decision, no matter how well-intentioned or innocent, builds upon the last until the complete tragedy is manifested. This is true not only for the decisions made by Thompson and his family before, during,

and after his imprisonment, but it is also true for the U.S. and all of the other players involved in Vietnam, starting with the first tentative steps in advising the South Vietnamese, all the way through to the ultimate disaster that eventually defined our experience in Vietnam. One tragedy after another, each building on the last, played out at the individual and family level and also at the national level. It's very, very sad, especially if you already know how it will end. The oral history narrative employed by the author is exceptionally well-executed. It's what makes the developing tragedy so poignant. It's a powerful way to convey history, and the author's execution of the method is flawless and perfectly tied together. This was undoubtedly no simple task. Highest commendations, Mr. Philpott, for bringing this family's story to life.

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