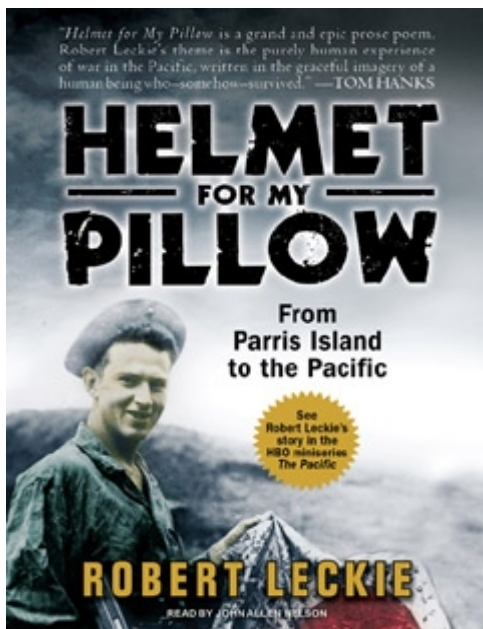


HBO miniseries *THE PACIFIC*
based on *HELMET FOR MY
PILLOW* to air in March 2010



Read by John Allen Nelson

Category: Memoir

Running Time: 10 hrs 30 min - Unabridged

Hardcover: 09/01/1957 (Random House)

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Robert Leckie (1920–2001) served in the 1st Marine Division during World War II. After the war, he worked as a reporter for the Associated Press, the *New York Journal American*, the *New York Daily News*, and other newspapers. During his lifetime, he authored more than forty books on American war history, including *March to Glory*, *The Battle for Iwo Jima*, and *The Wars of America: From 1600 to 1900*.

John Allen Nelson's critically acclaimed roles on television's *24* and *Vanished* are among the recent highlights of his twenty-five plus years as an actor, screenwriter and film producer. His recent audio includes the *New York Times* bestseller *Our Lady of Guadalupe* by Carl Anderson and Eduardo Chávez.

ROBERT LECKIE

HELMET FOR MY PILLOW

From Parris Island to the Pacific

The true, incredible story of the U.S. Marines in World War II—the toughest fighting men the world has ever seen, in their finest hour.

Here is one of the most riveting first-person accounts ever to come out of World War II. Robert Leckie enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in January 1942, shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. In *Helmet for My Pillow*, we follow his odyssey, from basic training on Parris Island, South Carolina, all the way to the raging battles in the Pacific, where some of the war's fiercest fighting took place. Recounting his service with the 1st Marine Division and the brutal action on Guadalcanal, New Britain, and Peleliu, Leckie spares no detail of the horrors and sacrifices of war, painting an unvarnished portrait of how real warriors are made, fight, and often die in the defense of their country.

From the live-for-today rowdiness of marines on leave to the terrors of jungle warfare against an enemy determined to fight to the last man, Leckie describes what war is really like when victory can only be measured inch by bloody inch. Woven throughout are Leckie's hard-won, eloquent, and thoroughly unsentimental meditations on the meaning of war and why we fight. Unparalleled in its immediacy and accuracy, *Helmet for My Pillow* will leave no one untouched. This is a book that brings you as close to the mud, the blood, and the experience of war as it is safe to come.

KEY POINTS/MARKETING

- Producers Tom Hanks, Steven Spielberg, and Gary Goetzman have adapted material from *Helmet for My Pillow* for HBO's epic miniseries *The Pacific*

PRAISE FOR HELMET FOR MY PILLOW

"Nelson adds to the fun with perfect voices for the sergeants, the Australian girls, and Leckie's drunken friends. Nelson adapts to the author's short sentences, delivering them with the directness of a vintage newsreel announcer."

—*AudioFile*

"*Helmet for My Pillow* is a grand and epic prose poem. Robert Leckie's theme is the purely human experience of war in the Pacific, written in the graceful imagery of a human being who—somehow—survived." —**Tom Hanks**

"One hell of a book! The real stuff that proves the U.S. Marines are the greatest fighting men on earth!"

—**Leon Uris**, author of *Battle Cry*

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