



# Be Safe, Love Mom: A Military Mom's Stories of Courage, Comfort, and Surviving Life on the Home Front

*Elaine Lowry Brye, Nan Gatewood Satter (With)*

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When you enlist in the United States military, you don't just sign up for duty; you also commit your loved ones to lives of service all their own.

No one knows this better than Elaine Brye, an "Army brat" turned military wife and the mother of four officers—one each in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. For more than a decade she's endured countless teary goodbyes, empty chairs at Thanksgiving dinners, and sleepless hours waiting for phone calls in the night. She's navigated the complicated tangle of emotions—pride, worry, fear, hope, and deep, enduring love—that are part and parcel of life as a military mother.

In *Be Safe, Love Mom* Elaine braids together her own personal experiences with those of fellow parents she's met along the way. She offers gentle guidance and hard-earned wisdom on topics ranging from that first anxious goodbye to surrendering all control of your child, from finding comfort in the support of the military community and the healing power of faith to coping with the enormous sacrifices life as a military mother requires. Readers looking for encouragement and hard-to-come-by information as they travel the challenging road of having a child in uniform will find Elaine a wise and trusted friend, and *Be Safe, Love Mom* an essential handbook to membership in a strong and special sisterhood.

## **Be Safe, Love Mom: A Military Mom's Stories of Courage, Comfort, and Surviving Life on the Home Front Details**

Date : Published March 31st 2015 by PublicAffairs

ISBN : 9781610395212

Author : Elaine Lowry Brye , Nan Gatewood Satter (With)

Format : Hardcover 272 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, War, Military Fiction, Autobiography, Memoir

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## **From Reader Review Be Safe, Love Mom: A Military Mom's Stories of Courage, Comfort, and Surviving Life on the Home Front for online ebook**

### **Melissa says**

A well-written account by a mom with four children in the military. I cannot imagine. She gave lots of tips for other military parents, but really they could be applied to anyone. Being kind, helping others, listening, etc. A chapter about the US Marine Corps unofficial motto "Semper Gumby" especially stuck out to me. Meaning "always flexible" it's a reminder that things change, and that's Ok. Of course, things changing for military members and families is a MUCH bigger deal than anything in my life changing - so it really put it into perspective. I need to relax.

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### **Pia Langub villalon says**

A must read for Moms with Military children. You will laugh and you will cry. I'm a an Army Combat Veteran spouse, and a MoM - Mother of Marine. Being a military mom is different from being a military spouse. There's a different tug in your heart. I appreciate the stories that were shared in this book. These stories are as real as they can be, and the fact that they are, gave me strength to the journeys ahead.

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### **Karla Winick-Ford says**

Not being from a military family or background, this astounded me. My daughter is currently writing veterans, deployed troops and new recruits- we're beginning to get an understanding of the backbone of our country. As a mother with a son becoming of age and considering enlistment, this book was very real for me. I appreciate the efforts that went into those pages to make a greater contribution and ease the transition families have- I can't imagine saying goodbye for deployment, much less doing it many times.

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### **Karen Cogdill says**

This book is very well done. Written by a mom with 4 kids currently serving in the US Military, she has a "little bit" to say about what life is like for the mom back home. I will definitely be referring back to this book over the next several years for encouragement and guidance.

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### **Tracy says**

Normally I don't give a review of a book I just read, but this book I felt I had to. My daughter is daughter is in the army national guard, and she came home and told me she was thinking about joining the military I

nervous for her. The day she left I cried really hard, and thought what am I going to do without my girl. Thanks to people at where I work I made through and also thanks to online support group I joined while my daughter was away. Elaine Lowry Byre did an awesome job on this book. I hope the author reads these reviews, because I would like to thank her, her husband, and her children for their service.

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### **Lori says**

This is a good book for anyone with a son or daughter in the military. It was very insightful and comforting to know that you aren't alone and the wide range of feelings that you experience are normal. It offers practical advice and coping strategies along with honest information of what you as a military parent can expect. It also made me sad at times. Would be good for non-military readers as well to gain a better understanding of what it is like to have a child who is serving.

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### **Daniel W. Dishart says**

#### **A must read for any military Mom!**

Reading this book feels like being comforted by a warm blanket. I know now that I am not alone in this world of training and deployments—and my fear for my son! I am part of a sisterhood, which Elaine beautifully points out, and I am a “warrior Mom”! I just love that title!

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### **Maria says**

Brye, is a military family member, as a daughter, wife and now as a mother. In fact, her four children serve in each branch of the armed forces. This is her introduction, a guide for other mothers, whose children have just started their military careers. Offering encouragement, understanding and wisdom Brye shares the joys and sorrows of having a family serving.

Why I started this book: I was intregued by the title and blurb.

Why I finished it: I thought that this book was going to be a lot more about her experiences as a military mom. It's not, rather its encouragement for other moms (and dads) that have children in harms' way. I cried thru the whole book for the sacrifices made and the love shown.

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### **Adam (BookSlayers12) Willson says**

A military family must read! Elaine Brye puts all the thoughts, feelings and emotions a military family has into a well executed diary of sorts.

You'll realize that you are not only not alone, but are experiencing, feeling, and thinking what every other family with children in the military are feeling.

This is also a guide of sorts to those supporters, friends and family of a loved one that has a child in the military on how to be supportive.

Must read.

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### **Amy says**

As the mother of a commissioned Marine officer who is currently in flight school to become a naval aviator, I can appreciate the sentiments expressed in this book. As an editor by education and training for the past 25 years, however, I cringed at the amount of repetition throughout the chapters. It seemed as though whole sections and concepts were repeated for no other reason than to increase the page count of the manuscript ... possibly to justify the purchase price? In any case, I was considering a rating of 2.5 stars, but decided to round up in honor of my son's dedication and commitment and calling. Semper fi!

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### **J Sowerby says**

This is a great book of advice and comfort for family members (not just for moms) of servicemen and women. I totally recommend it for anyone with loved ones serving. And it would be an eye opener for others not affiliated with any servicemen or servicewomen.

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### **Jennifer says**

My rating reflects that fact that I listened to this book and I was not fond of the narrator. There were times she sounded robotic, like Siri. I do like the different view point of battle and military we get from a mothers/family point of view. Even if you disagree with wars, you don't have to belittle our warriors.

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### **Teri Ederhoff savage says**

#### **Laughed and Cried**

It was a joy to read a book by someone who has walked in shoes I am just beginning to wear. I am thankful for the wisdom imparted in this book as well as the reality of what life is like as a military mom. I am proud to be a military mom and proud to serve along side all other military moms.

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### **Tara says**

I received this book for free through Goodreads First Reads. I'm not a military mother, but was a military spouse years ago. My son, a freshman in high school, wants to join the military. I felt like this book was a good read for current military families and those contemplating going into military service. It was heartfelt and sad at times to read at some points I found myself crying for those military families. Reading this book

opened my eyes up to some of the issues our military faces when away from home or coming home from deployments. I don't live near a base anymore but I plan on looking into ways I can help support families of our military and hopefully military members also. Great read for all. Thank you to all service members and their families out there for all your service and sacrifices.

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### **Donna says**

This book is nonfiction about a mom who had 4 kids, and each of them went off and joined the military. This book was well done. She seemed very personable. and easy to relate to. A lot of the things she said could also be used to fortify other areas of life, especially that of motherhood and sense of community. Her overall messages were heartfelt and honest.

She came from a military family, married a military man, and then saw each of her kids join. She says she always wrote "be safe" in her letters to them. I had to smile because I do the same with my kids.

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