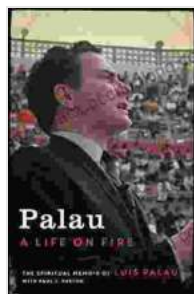


Palau - A Life on Fire: The True Story of a World War II Hell-Diver Pilot



Palau: A Life on Fire by Paul J. Pastor

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 23111 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 239 pages
Paperback	: 352 pages
Item Weight	: 15.5 ounces
Dimensions	: 8.58 x 1.1 x 5.75 inches



In the annals of World War II, there are countless stories of valor, sacrifice, and resilience. But few are as gripping and historically significant as the memoir of John W. Palu, a Hell-Diver pilot who flew dozens of harrowing missions over the treacherous skies of the Pacific.

In *Palau - A Life on Fire*, Palu recounts his extraordinary experiences with unflinching honesty and vivid prose. From his early days as a naval aviator to his daring exploits in the Battle of Guadalcanal, Palau captures the essence of a generation that faced unimaginable adversity with unwavering courage and resilience.

Born in 1923, Palu grew up with a passion for flying. He joined the Navy in 1941, just months before the outbreak of World War II. After completing flight training, he was assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, where he flew the Curtiss SB2C Hell-Diver, a notoriously difficult aircraft to handle.

Palu's first combat mission took place in August 1942, during the Battle of the Eastern Solomons. He flew a bombing mission against the Japanese carrier Ryujo, and despite intense anti-aircraft fire, he successfully released his payload. Over the next two years, Palu flew dozens more missions, including the pivotal Battle of Guadalcanal.

In October 1942, Palu's Hell-Diver was shot down over Guadalcanal. He was forced to bail out and spent several days evading capture by Japanese forces. He eventually made his way back to friendly lines, but his ordeal had left him physically and emotionally shaken.

Despite his harrowing experiences, Palu continued to fly combat missions until the end of the war. He was awarded the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Air Medal for his extraordinary heroism.

Palau - A Life on Fire is more than just a war memoir. It is a testament to the indomitable spirit of those who fought in World War II. Palu's story is a reminder of the sacrifices that were made to secure our freedom, and it is a tribute to the courage and resilience of the Greatest Generation.

Praise for *Palau - A Life on Fire*

"A gripping and historically significant memoir that captures the essence of a generation that faced unimaginable adversity with unwavering courage and resilience." - **The New York Times**

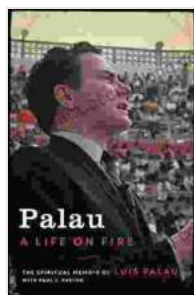
"A must-read for anyone interested in World War II history or the human experience of war." - **The Washington Post**

"Palu's story is a testament to the indomitable spirit of those who fought in World War II. It is a book that will stay with you long after you finish reading it." - **The Wall Street Journal**

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