

Wynne's War

Aaron Gwyn

For his latest novel, Gwyn (*Dog on the Cross*) spoke with military personnel, including Green Berets and Army Rangers, and his efforts show: the book pulsates with a verisimilitude that places readers in the war-torn mountains of Afghanistan. When Cpl. Elijah Russell unwittingly reveals his expert horsemanship during a firefight in Iraq, he and his best friend are reassigned to an elite Special Forces unit. He soon realizes why he was summoned: the team, led by its beloved and enigmatic captain, needs Russell to get its stable of horses in riding shape for a covert mission. As the squad approaches the Afghan-Pakistani border, Russell begins questioning this stealth operation. Is it really, as the captain says, about rescuing prisoners of war? What about all this treasure they keep finding? And who exactly is this Captain Wynne, a former hedge fund manager, and what are his true motives? The battle scenes are unabashedly graphic, but readers will be too caught up in their vivid realism to mind. VERDICT Many folks have wondered when American authors would begin producing memorable fiction about the Iraq-Afghanistan wars; with this well-researched, heart-pounding novel, Gwyn stakes his claim.

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