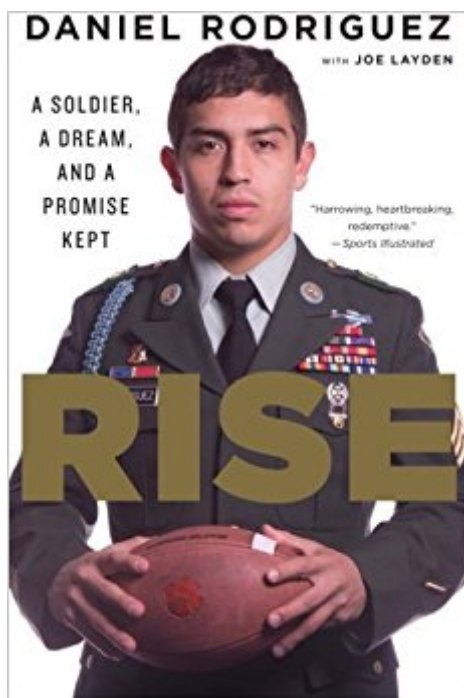


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Rise: A Soldier, A Dream, And A Promise Kept



Synopsis

“Harrowing, heartbreaking, redemptive.” • Sports Illustrated “An inspiring story of a resilient warrior who knows what it means to keep a promise.” • Eric Greitens, Navy SEAL and best-selling author of *The Heart and the Fist* Daniel Rodriguez joined the army just weeks after graduating from high school. Almost immediately, he was deployed to Iraq and then to Afghanistan. While there, he made a promise to his best friend: “When I get out of this shithole, I’m going to play college football.” Daniel made it out; his friend didn’t. After returning home, Daniel was unemployed and stuck in the clutches of PTSD, but he remembered the promise he had made and resolved to make good on it. When he posted a video online of his grueling training efforts, it went viral overnight. Through a mixture of hope, determination, and the power of the Internet, Daniel earned a spot on the Clemson University football team as a wide receiver. In *Rise*, Rodriguez tells his powerful story—a story that will inspire anyone fighting to make their dream a reality. “A compelling story of one man’s quest to overcome the horrors of war through fortitude and determination.” If you’re seeking a book to inspire you, this one deserves a look. • San Antonio Express News “Life is designed to beat you down. Daniel shows you how to kick its ass.” • Major Rusty Bradley, U.S. Army (ret.), best-selling author of *Lions of Kandahar*

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Daniel Rodriguez is a decorated combat veteran who doesn't sugarcoat the hard parts of his life. A warrior who fought on the battlefield, wrestled with PTSD, and now wins victories on the gridiron, his story reminds us that with grit and determination we can move through suffering to strength. Rise is an inspiring story of a resilient warrior who knows what it means to keep a promise." —Eric Greitens, Navy SEAL and author of New York Times bestseller, *The Heart and the Fist* "RISE is a surreal look at what today's youth should aspire to accomplish. From Virginia to Iraq, from Afghanistan to South Carolina, Daniel Rodriguez shows the grit and determination it takes to rise above the hardships life throws at you. Life is designed to beat you down. Daniel shows you how to kick its ass." —Major Rusty Bradley, U.S. Army (ret.), bestselling author of *Lions of Kandahar* "Daniel's service to his country and his ability to follow his dreams is what is truly right with America. His story, as movingly told in *Rise*, is a great example of where hard work, determination, and a never-quit attitude can get you." —Sal Giunta, Medal of Honor recipient and author of the New York Times bestseller, *Living with Honor*

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Just have to say, OH...MY...GOSH...! When I pick out sports-themed books for my husband each Christmas, I try to avoid choosing only books about his well-known favorite teams or players (unless something extra-appealing has been recently published) in favor of inspirational biographies. While reading the description of this one, I thought I'd found a gem, but...It was practically impossible for me to pry this book out of his hands each night! As much of a sports-enthusiast as he is, he was as shocked as I was that he'd never even heard of Mr. Rodriguez (ESPN must be slipping on their coverage of interesting stories, or else my husband missed a segment!), because this is just an incredibly fascinating, intense and special book about an amazing gentleman. I've overheard my husband recounting portions of the book (none of which I'll give away... the basic book description is all you need, because you'll truly want to savor the revelations of each page for yourself) to countless friends and relatives over the past few weeks (and perhaps rung up quite a few "sales" in doing so!) This would be such an excellent book to give to anyone, but particularly to any young people in your life who need a little encouragement (or a kick in the pants) to create goals for themselves and continue striving for them despite adversity. Mr. Rodriguez certainly had more than his fair share, and his story is truly one of human triumph over despair. We salute you, Mr. Rodriguez... the soldier you were, the dream you had, the promise you kept, and the inspiration you are. If we could give this book "6 stars", we would.

"Rise" is an excellent book that details events in the life of Daniel Rodriguez. From his high school days to eye opening descriptions of his Army duties in Iraq and Afghanistan to his fulfilling his dream of playing college football, Daniel is a real life hero. I have read other books about battles and conditions at Keating in the Kunar Province, in NE Afghanistan, on the Pakistan border and "Rise" gives another first-hand look at what occurred there. My main reason for wanting to read this book was to learn more about Daniel's path to the Clemson University football team, but I was also enthralled by his description of his Army experience. Mr. Rodriguez gives credit to many people who helped mold him into a respected man. From Sergeant John Breeding and his military brothers to Coach Dabo Swinney and his Clemson football brothers, Daniel gives both serious and humorous accounts that bring the book alive for the reader. Daniel doesn't beat around the bush when describing the hard times and the language and situations are for an adult audience, but the dreams and promises kept are an inspiration to all. His story has already been picked for a future movie and I cannot wait to see it!

Delivered quickly and a good value.

I loved the book especially because I am a Clemson Alum. A great story about war, football and the drive to succeed.

A very interesting true story of how a young person's service in the military prepared him not only for division 1 football, but for life afterwards.

Incredible story of courage, strength and the will to never give up and keeping a promise. Daniel is truly a Hero in my heart and I would encourage any one that loves our soldiers and loves college football to read this book. It is a must !!!

I enjoyed the background of military service and the details of what really happens in war. The recount of obtaining a position on the football team was very interesting. I enjoyed the book very much.

Could not put this book down. Incredibly honest sharing of painful and horrific experience to triumphant and heartwarming success. An amazing young man and his story. Makes me very proud

to be part of the Clemson family.

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