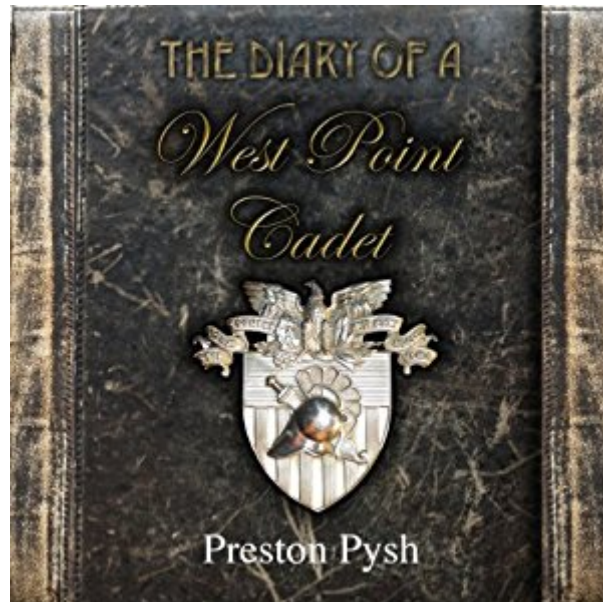


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The Diary Of A West Point Cadet: Captivating And Hilarious Stories For Developing The Leader Within You



Synopsis

Let's be honest. A lot of books about West Point or leadership can be very dry. Learning doesn't have to be that way. In *The Diary of a West Point Cadet*, by Captain Preston Pysh, the author teaches essential West Point leadership through the most fun and unique reading of any book in its class. Each intriguing firsthand account of Preston's top 12 enthralling and hilarious stories from attending West Point, will capture your interest and imagination. The stories walk the reader down a personal journey many outsiders never see behind the thick stoney walls. As an added bonus, Preston efficiently summarizes how each gripping story taught him a vital leadership lesson that prepared him to be a combat commander with the renown 101st Airborne Division. If you are an aspiring cadet, a small-group leader, or even an emerging leader in corporate America, this book is for you. If you like twists and turns while reading and learning, you are in for a treat. Learning about leadership and the United States Military Academy has never been this fun. Prepare to be glued to your seat and the text as you experience unforgettable stories and lessons from "The Point."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This has to be the best book I have read in a long time and by far the best book about West Point. The author is a recent graduate, thus giving a modern and candid account of his experiences there. The author, Captain Pysh, tells some of his favorite stories encapsulating his four years at the academy. Some are gut-busting funny while others touch the heart, and yes others leave the reader asking "why would anyone subject themselves to that". One thing is for sure, however. This book

will make you laugh and leave you confident in the methods of the US Military Academy, regardless of how silly they may sound. The author also applies leadership lessons to the end of the chapters that tell the reader what he learned from specific events and how some of the outrageous stories served a critical role in his development as a leader. Anyone, military or not, will fall in love with this book. I could not put it down and couldn't wait to see what story would come next. Captain Pysh does a superb job at making the reader feel like he/she is walking in the same shoes. Anyone, especially those thinking of attending West Point will find this book fascinating. It is informative, educational, and most importantly an absolute pleasure to read.

Diary of a West Point Cadet was such a wonderful insight of what it is really like for a young man to go through the military education process. Every story that is told in this book is so sincerely and honestly told that I was captivated from the very beginning. This story was truly inspiring for all young men and I plan to share it with the young men in my life. Also many of the stories tend to have a comedic and light-hearted side which I think all boys would love. I highly recommend this for any young person looking to go into the military or really any boy who is looking for a great entertaining, but informative read.

Do not read this book thinking it is a "year in the life" type book about West Point. BUT . . . it is still worth buying/reading, particularly for potential attendees of West Point or other service academies. This ISN'T a diary, but the lengthy title, after the "diary" reference, gives you some more accurate information about the content of the book: A relatively recent West Point grad (class of 2002 or so?) has put together a collection of stories from his time at West Point to shed light on his philosophies of leadership. The stories are indeed funny (one referencing a stubbornly stinky room is a favorite), and help you get a snapshot both of life at that institution and of the type of individual that is likely to succeed at West Point -- smart; determined; and with a good sense of humor and perspective. The leadership lessons are good, although relatively generic. I'd say this book will be most valuable and memorable to future cadets/midshipmen at the nation's service academies, as Captain Pysh does a great job of showing how some seemingly illogical traditions and/or training practices do indeed have a deeper purpose than just making the younger cadets miserable. Captain Pysh has also done a nice job by following up some of the heroes of his West Point-era anecdotes and reporting on their later, very successful army careers; again, a good way to show would-be service academy attendees why it all will matter later. One minor downside is that Captain Pysh, who sounds like a really gifted engineer (he invents something tested by NASA, which is pretty cool) writes like one too

-- there are some vocabulary and grammar mistakes that better copy editing would have/should have caught. But it does seem like this is authentically his voice, which is ultimately the most important thing.

Wow!!! What an inspiring and informative look into the life of a West Point Cadet. I loved that each chapter had a Bottom Line Up-Front the BLUF. My favorite message from the book was to write down your five long term goals and five short term goals. I recommend that people of all ages will enjoy and receive the leadership messages that are pouring out of "The Diary of a West Point Cadet" and it is so easy to reading. I especially recommend this book to students to read during their 7th and 8th grades of school.

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