

NO ORDINARY JOES

LARRY COLTON

READ BY ROBERT FASS

"A marvelous treatment of a special time in American history, as well as an up-close look at the devastating impact that war can have."

—JOHN T. RAMSAY, former Navy ensign and ESPN basketball analyst

On April 23, 1943, the USS *Grenadier* was sent crashing to the ocean floor by a Japanese aerial torpedo. Miraculously, the crew brought the sub back to the surface, only to be captured by the Japanese. *No Ordinary Joes* tells the story of four of the *Grenadier's* crew, enlistees from families that struggled through the Great Depression. On the day they were captured, all four were still teenagers, compelled to serve more by the promise of a steady paycheck than by a sense of duty.

The men faced unimaginable brutality at the hands of their captors. With no training in how to cope with the relentless interrogations, and with less than a cup of rice per day for sustenance, each man created his own survival strategy. And when liberation came, they went home to a world that had given them up for dead. They were forced to find a new kind of strength as they struggled to resume their lives. Larry Colton brings the lives of these four "ordinary" heroes into brilliant focus in this powerful look at the atrocities of war, the reality of its aftermath, and the restorative power of love.

Larry Colton, a former pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, has written three previous books: *Idol Time*, *Goat Brothers*, and *Counting Coup*, which won the Frankfurt eBook Award for Nonfiction. His work has also appeared in such publications as the *New York Times Magazine*, the *Boston Globe*, and *Sports Illustrated*.

Audie Award nominee **Robert Fass** appeared in the hit off-Broadway production of *The Gathering* and is featured weekly on Reading for Life radio, broadcasting the *New Yorker* magazine to the visually impaired. His recent recordings include *Interstate 69* by Matt Dellinger.



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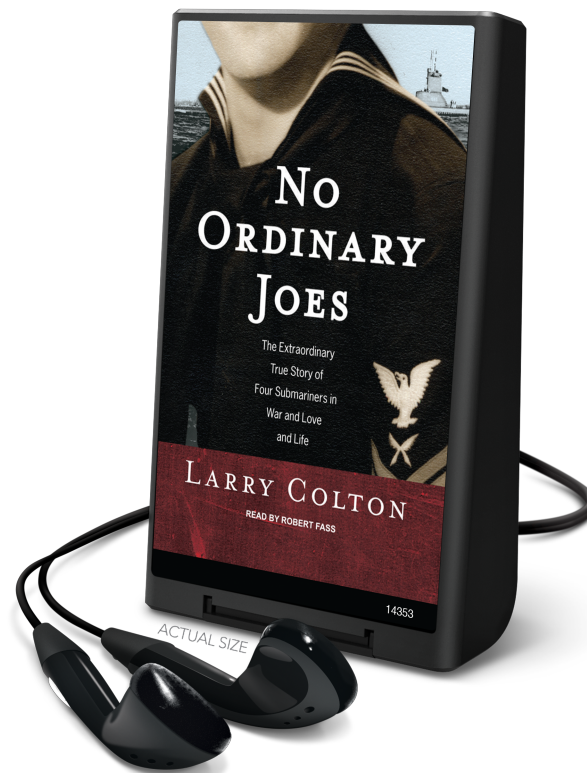


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