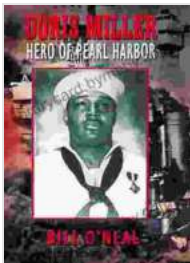


Doris Miller: The Unsung Hero of Pearl Harbor

Early Life and Military Service

Doris Miller was born in Waco, Texas, on October 12, 1919. He was the youngest of four children. His parents were sharecroppers, and Miller grew up working on the family farm. He attended school in a one-room schoolhouse.



Doris Miller-Hero of Pearl Harbor by Bill O'Neal

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3811 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Lending : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 68 pages



Miller dropped out of school at the age of 15 and moved to California to find work. He worked as a stevedore and a waiter. In 1940, he joined the Navy. He was assigned to the USS West Virginia as a mess attendant.

The Attack on Pearl Harbor

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Miller was below deck, serving breakfast to the crew, when the attack began. He rushed to the deck and saw that the ship was under attack by Japanese planes.

Miller was assigned to non-combat duties, but he refused to stand by and watch his shipmates die. He grabbed a machine gun and began firing at the Japanese planes. He shot down several planes, and his actions helped to save the lives of many of his shipmates.

Aftermath

Miller was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions at Pearl Harbor. He was the first African American to receive the Navy Cross. He was also promoted to the rank of Petty Officer Third Class.

Miller continued to serve in the Navy for the rest of World War II. He participated in several major battles, including the Battle of Guadalcanal and the Battle of Okinawa. He was discharged from the Navy in 1945.

Legacy

Doris Miller is remembered as one of the heroes of Pearl Harbor. His actions helped to save the lives of many of his shipmates. He was a brave and courageous man who fought for his country despite the racism and discrimination he faced.

Miller's story is an inspiration to all Americans. It shows that anyone can be a hero, regardless of their race, religion, or background.



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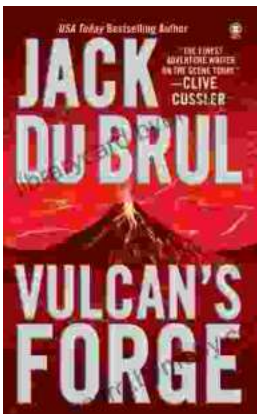
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