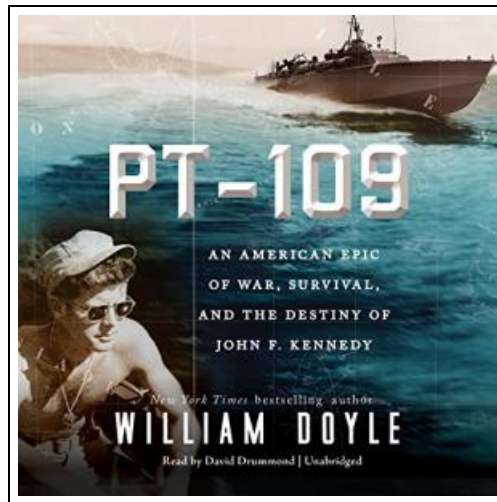


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PT-109: AN AMERICAN EPIC OF WAR, SURVIVAL, AND THE DESTINY OF JOHN F. KENNEDY



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HarperCollins, 2015. CD-Audio. Condition: New. Unabridged. Language: English . Brand New. A thrilling, moment-by-moment account of one of the most famous events of World War II--the sinking of PT-109 and John F. Kennedy's heroic actions that saved his crew--and a fascinating examination of how that extraordinary episode shaped the future president's life. At 2:00 a.m. on the moonless night of August 2, 1943, United States patrol torpedo boat PT-109, captained by Lieutenant John F. Kennedy, was struck by the Japanese destroyer Amagiri near the Solomon Islands. The American ship was cleaved in two and rocked by an explosion. Two crew members died instantly, and the remaining eleven survivors clung to the sinking wreckage, adrift in enemy waters. Despite injuring his back, Kennedy--towing a severely burned sailor by the strap of a life jacket--led his battered and exhausted men on a harrowing three-and-one-half-mile swim to a tiny, uninhabited island. Desperate for food and water, Kennedy set off on a solo reconnaissance mission, scouting two larger islands two-and-one-half miles away. Discovering water and coconuts, he returned for his men. For six days they lived off coconuts and kept out of sight of passing Japanese patrols until they were rescued. Drawing on new information from the American rescuers and recently released archives in both Japan and the United States, PT-109 recounts this event in breathtaking detail and explores the incident's remarkable aftermath on JFK's life and legend. William Doyle reveals that, while the incident transformed JFK into a war hero and helped propel him to the US Senate and the White House, the wounds he suffered during that harrowing week continued to haunt him physically and psychologically.



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