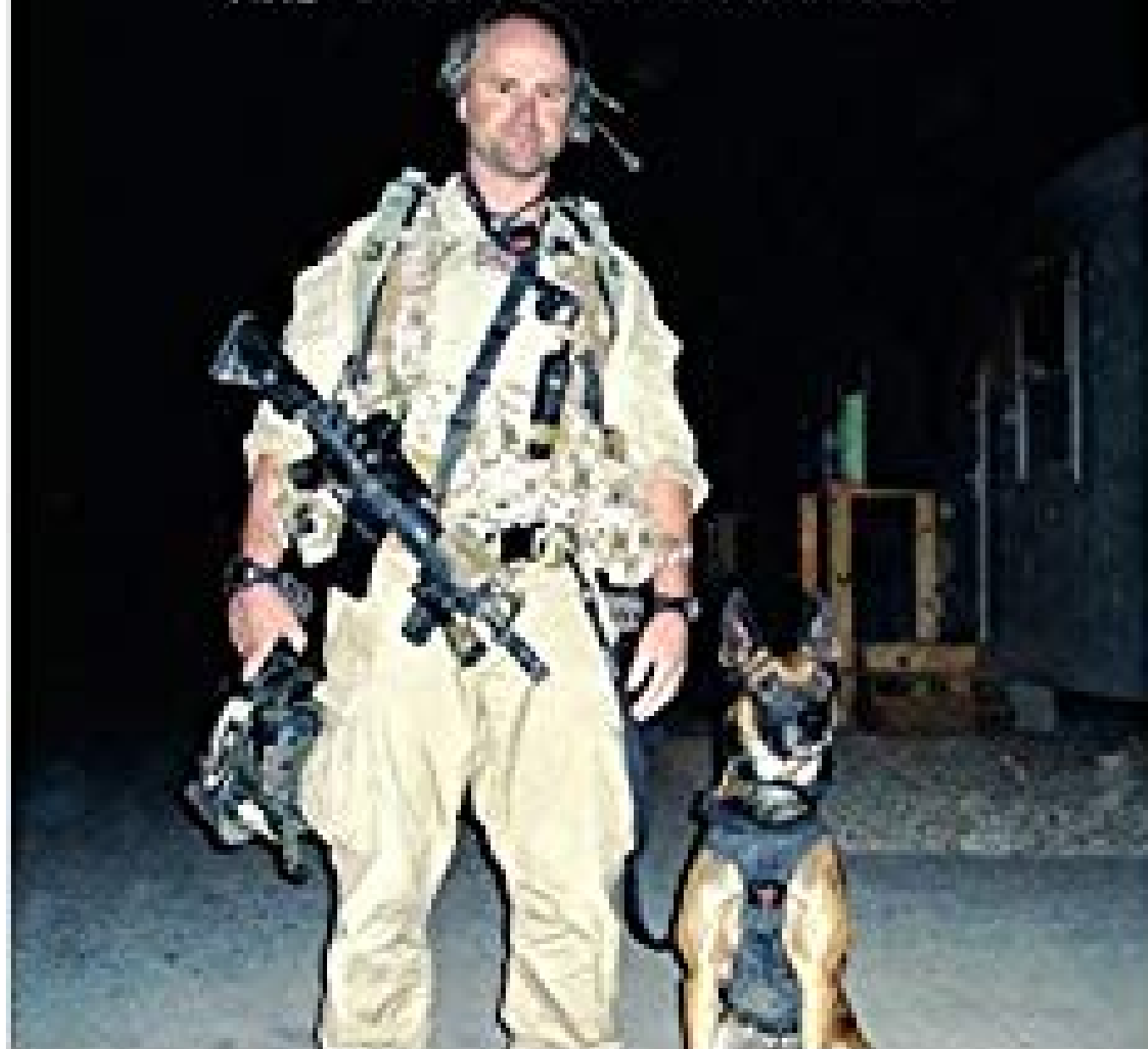


TOUCHING THE DRAGON

AND OTHER TECHNIQUES
FOR SURVIVING LIFE'S WARS

JAMES HATCH
AND CHRISTIAN D'ANDREA



James Hatch

Touching the Dragon: And Other Techniques for Surviving Life's Wars



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From former particular ops Navy SEAL senior chief; ; of the ordeal of getting well actually (eighteen surgeries; expert armed service dog trainer and handler whose SEAL canines were companions and medal winners--a fierce, moving tale of a come back from hell, getting badly wounded on a particular ops mission that ended his two-decades-long military profession, his searing recovery, and the battle to exist off the speeding teach of war. In Touching the Dragon, James Hatch, Naval Special Warfare Operator, professional commando, tactical expert in deadly procedures, twenty-four years operating to his nation (he enlisted in the Army National Safeguard at age seventeen), writes of his years of armed service assistance, from joining the Navy at eighteen, learning to be a SEAL, to his joining the Naval Particular Warfare Development group ("If I died in a gunfight, it would be doing something I loved"). a year of recovery; and of the fateful final mission (Afghanistan), that left him badly shot (a bullet exploding through his femur and out the trunk of his leg) as Hatch and his SEAL team crew were wanting to rescue a rogue soldier--Pvt. of experiencing to find out who he was as a guy apart from the chaotic globe of special procedures missions; Hatch writes of the horrific wound to his leg; of days and months of despair, alcoholism, the pull toward suicide; master naval parachutist (four Bronze Stars with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Medal recipient, etc. of having no choice but to end his military career; of coming home to the country he'd spent his lifestyle defending; fighter in 150 missions (Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Africa); He writes of the harrowing secret missions (Iraq, Bosnia, Africa); learning to walk again); Bowe Bergdahl, who deserted his post, was captured by Al Qaida and Taliban militants, and was set to become smuggled to a part of the globe where Americans could never reach him. and of finally, through love of family, friends, soldiers, and his specially trained military dogs, touching the dragon, of going through the fear of feeling unfit for culture, of finding an objective and a method back to life.



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