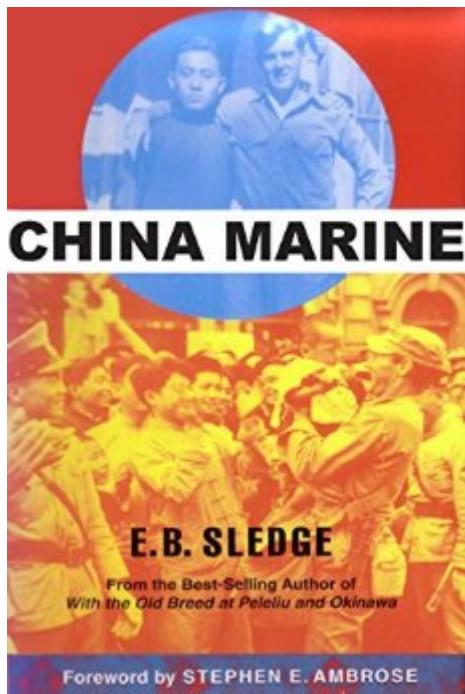


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# China Marine



## **Synopsis**

From the respected author of one of the best books on World War II combat, comes an equally captivating saga of battle recovery, healing, and homecoming. *China Marine* is the long-awaited sequel to E. B. Sledgeâ™s critically acclaimed memoir, *With the Old Breed at Peleliu and Okinawa*. Picking up where his previous memoir leaves off, Sledge, a young marine in the First Division, traces his companyâ™s movements and charts his own difficult passage to peace following his horrific experiences in the Pacific. He reflects on his duty in the ancient city of Peiping (now Beijing) and recounts the difficulty of returning to his hometown of Mobile, Alabama, and resuming civilian life haunted by the shadows of close combat. Distinguished historians have praised Sledgeâ™s first book as the definitive riflemanâ™s account of World War II, ranking it with the Civil Warâ™s *Red Badge of Courage* and World War Iâ™s *All Quiet on the Western Front*. Although *With the Old Breed* ends with the surrender of Japan, marines in the Pacific were still faced with the mission of disarming the immense Japanese forces on the Asian mainland and reestablishing order. For infantrymen so long engaged in the savage and surreal world of close combat, there remained the personal tasks of regaining normalcy and dealing with suppressed memories, fears, and guilt. In *China Marine*, E. B. Sledge completes his story and provides emotional closure to the searing events detailed in his first memoir. He speaks frankly about the real costs of war, emotional and psychological as well as physical, and explains the lifetime loyalties that develop between men who face fear, loss, and horror together. That bond becomes one of the newfound treasures of life after battle. With his hallmark style of simplicity, directness, and lack of sentimentality, "Sledgehammer" has given us yet another great document of war literature.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The book was an excellent finale to Sledgehammer's previous book "With the Old Breed: Peleliu and Okinawa" He finally was able to put the demons of war to rest. Dr. Sledge was my biology/ornithology/philosophy professor at the U. of Montevallo. I knew Jeanne & his family. A true gentleman, patriot and human being. It seems that his father was as well. Thanks Dr. Sledge

E.B. Sledge writes a good account about his time in Peking. I enjoyed reading "With the Old Breed", followed by this book because it gives me his story, but also, the story of, and experiences of so many of the young men who fought for the U.S. during WWII. In this case, despite the battles these men experienced in the war, their work was not done, and they were transported to Peking during a tumultuous period in China.

Nothing beats first person experiences

Dr. Sledge was a fine American. His books help me to appreciate what my uncles Bill and Arnold sacrificed for us in Okinawa serving in the Corp. They both survived and made it to old age. Semper Fi Bill and Arnie.

I'm glad "Sledgehammer" wrote this book. I read *With the Old Breed* which was awesome but it felt like it just dropped off. This conclusion was needed, and appreciated. I'm sorry the author has passed away. He's someone I would love to have met. Regardless I recommend this book.

An honest, moving extension to his first book, *With the Old Breed*, it describes a soldier's slow recovery from war. Hopeful, humorous and as with all of Sledge's writing, simply but effectively written.

Essential companion to *With The Old Guard at Peleliu*. As many of his cadre said, Eugene Sledge was spared during horrendous action as a Marine rifleman in order to write these remarkable books. Humbling to read

This book provides the rest of us a glimpse of a combat veteran's struggle towards normalcy after surviving the horrors of the pacific campaign

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