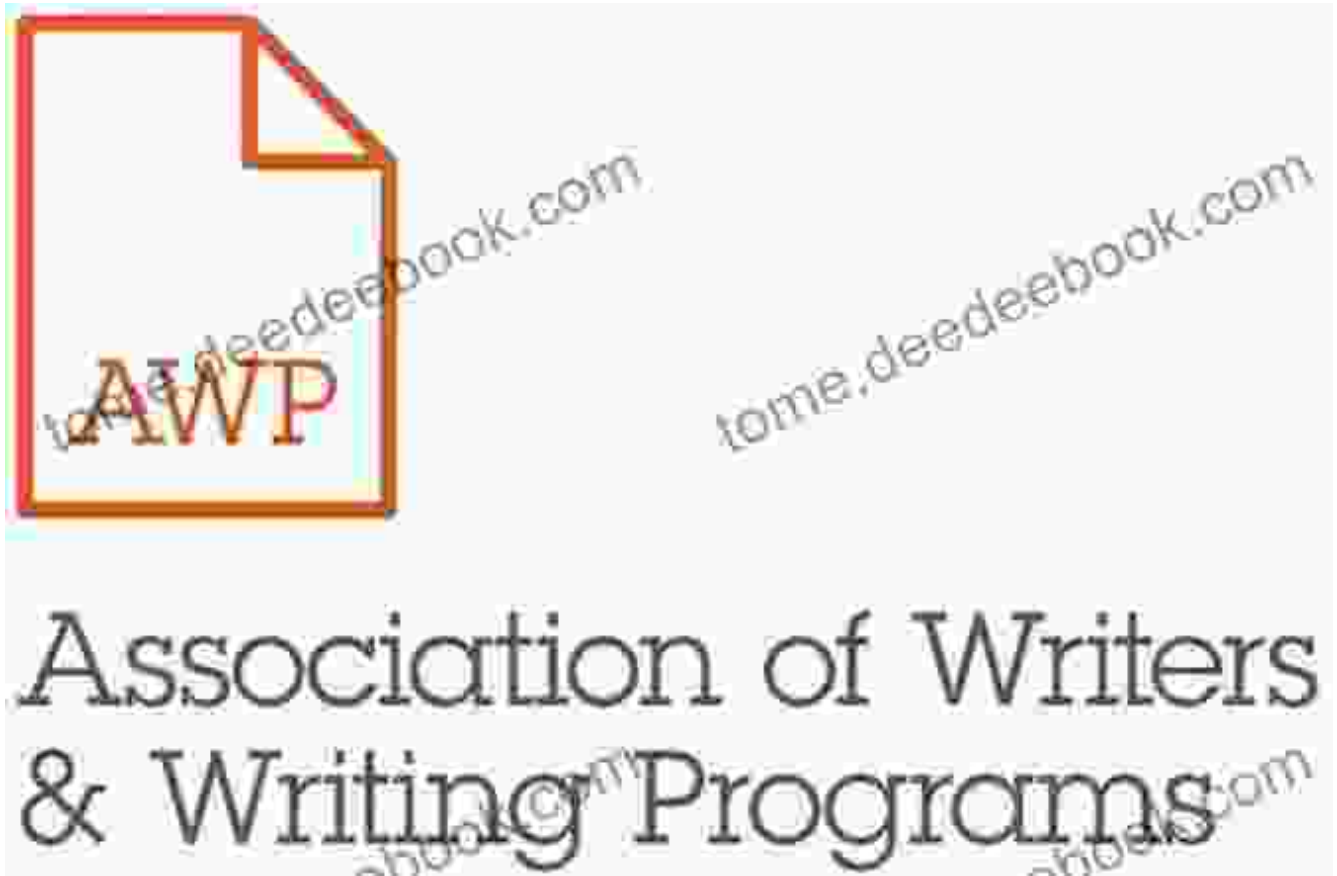


# An Enduring Legacy: Exploring the Memoir of Part-Time Soldier, Association of Writers, and Writing Programs Award



In the realm of literature, memoirs stand as poignant and evocative narratives that offer a deeply personal glimpse into the human experience. They chronicle journeys of triumph, adversity, and the complex emotions that shape our lives. Among these literary gems, the Memoir of Part-Time Soldier, Association of Writers, and Writing Programs (AWP) Award holds a distinguished place, honoring exceptional works that explore themes of war, military service, and its profound impact on the human psyche.

This article delves into the history, significance, and enduring legacy of the Memoir of Part-Time Soldier, AWP Award. Through an in-depth exploration of notable winning works, we uncover the transformative power of literature to shed light on the complexities of human conflict and the indomitable spirit that perseveres in the face of adversity.



## The Longer We Were There: A Memoir of a Part-Time Soldier (Association of Writers and Writing Programs Award for Creative Nonfiction Ser. Book 32) by Steven Moore

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1604 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Print length	: 208 pages
Paperback	: 128 pages
Item Weight	: 13 ounces
Dimensions	: 6.73 x 0.39 x 9.45 inches



### The Genesis of the Memoir of Part-Time Soldier Award

The Memoir of Part-Time Soldier Award was established in 2002 by the AWP, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and fostering excellence in writing. Recognizing the need for a platform that specifically honored works exploring the experiences of veterans and those affected by war, the award was envisioned as a means of acknowledging the literary contributions of individuals who had witnessed and chronicled the realities of military service.

The award's name draws inspiration from the renowned memoir of William H. Gass, "The Tunnel," which recounts his experiences as a radio operator during World War II. The phrase "part-time soldier" encapsulates the duality of a soldier's existence, balancing civilian life with the demands and sacrifices of military duty.

### **Criteria for Award Eligibility**

The Memoir of Part-Time Soldier Award is open to unpublished memoirs or memoir-in-progress that explore themes of war, military service, or its lasting effects on individuals, families, and communities. Submissions are judged based on their literary merit, originality, and the author's ability to craft a compelling and resonant narrative.



### **The Award Selection Process**

Each year, a distinguished panel of judges, composed of renowned writers, editors, and literary professionals, reviews and evaluates the submitted works. The judges seek manuscripts that demonstrate exceptional storytelling skills, a profound understanding of the subject matter, and a unique and compelling voice.

The selection process is highly competitive, with only a select few manuscripts ultimately receiving the honor of being named finalists or winners of the award. The announcement of the award winners is made during the annual AWP Conference, a prestigious gathering of writers and writing professionals.

### **Notable Winning Works**

Over the years, the Memoir of Part-Time Soldier Award has recognized a diverse array of exceptional works that have left an indelible mark on the literary landscape. These include:

- "Black Faces, White Spaces: Rethinking Race in American Culture" by Carolyn Finney (2004)
- "The Yellow House" by Sarah M. Broom (2019)
- "On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous" by Ocean Vuong (2019)
- "The Body Liberation Project: How Understanding Racism and Diet Culture Helps Cultivate Joy and Build Collective Freedom" by Chrissy King (2021)

These award-winning memoirs explore a wide range of themes, from the experiences of African Americans in the United States to the aftermath of

the Vietnam War, and the complexities of identity, trauma, and resilience. They offer powerful and deeply personal accounts of the human condition, shedding light on the often-overlooked experiences of those who have served in the military and the profound impact of war on individuals and society.

## **The Enduring Legacy of the Award**

The Memoir of Part-Time Soldier, AWP Award has established itself as a prestigious recognition for literary excellence in the genre of war and military memoirs. By highlighting the work of talented writers from diverse backgrounds, the award has helped to amplify marginalized voices and foster a greater understanding of the complexities of war and its enduring legacy.

Moreover, the award has inspired and encouraged countless writers to pursue their passion for storytelling and to share their unique perspectives on the human experience. It has played a pivotal role in shaping the literary landscape and contributing to a broader dialogue about the impact of war on individuals and society.

The Memoir of Part-Time Soldier, Association of Writers, and Writing Programs Award stands as a testament to the enduring power of literature to illuminate the complexities of human conflict and the resilience of the human spirit. Through its recognition of exceptional works, the award has fostered a deeper understanding of the experiences of veterans and those affected by war, while also celebrating the transformative potential of storytelling.

As we continue to navigate the challenges and complexities of our world, the Memoir of Part-Time Soldier Award serves as an enduring reminder of the importance of empathy, compassion, and the enduring power of the written word. It inspires us to listen to the voices of those who have witnessed firsthand the horrors of war and to strive for a more just and peaceful world for all.

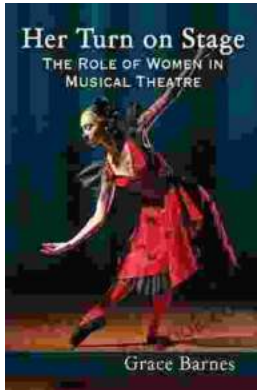


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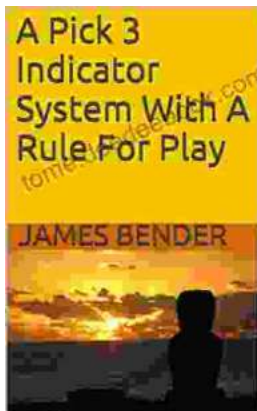
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