

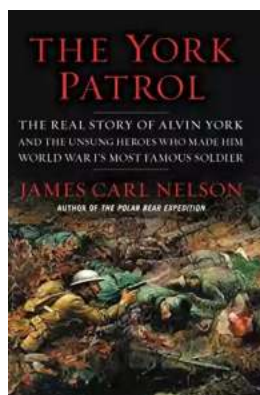
The Real Story Of Alvin York And The Unsung Heroes Who Made Him World War Most

When we think about heroes of war, names like John Rambo or William Wallace often come to mind. However, the true heroes are often the ones whose stories go untold, the unsung heroes who make a significant impact on history but remain in the shadows. One such hero is Alvin York, a simple man from Tennessee who became the most decorated American soldier of World War I. But behind York's courage and determination, there were numerous individuals who played a crucial role in shaping his remarkable journey.

The Early Life Of Alvin York

Alvin Cullum York was born on December 13, 1887, in Pall Mall, Tennessee. He grew up in a humble family of farmers and loggers, facing the hardships of rural life from an early age. His parents, William and Mary York, instilled in him strong values of faith, hard work, and patriotism.

York's education was limited, with only a few years of formal schooling. Yet, he possessed a remarkable ability to read and write, thanks to his mother's dedication to his education. Despite his limited opportunities, York had a thirst for knowledge and read extensively whenever he had the chance.



The York Patrol: The Real Story of Alvin York and the Unsung Heroes Who Made Him World War I's Most Famous Soldier by James Carl Nelson(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 25767 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 283 pages



The World War I Call To Duty

When the United States entered World War I in 1917, York was among the many young American men who answered the call to duty. Although he initially registered as a conscientious objector due to his religious beliefs and pacifism, York eventually underwent a profound transformation.

Witnessing the atrocities committed by Germany and fearing that his pacifist stance could ultimately harm his country, York applied for a conscientious objector exemption waiver. After his request was denied, he reconciled his religious beliefs with the need to defend his nation and decided to serve in the military.

The Battle That Made Alvin York Legendary

On October 8, 1918, during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, York's 82nd Division encountered heavy enemy fire. As the battle raged on, York's commanding officers fell, leaving him in charge of a small group of men. Despite being vastly outnumbered, York displayed incredible marksmanship and strategic acumen, resulting in the capture of 132 German soldiers and the silencing of numerous enemy machine guns.

York's heroic actions that day earned him the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration awarded by the United States. His remarkable feat not only turned the tide of the battle but also elevated him to legendary status. Yet, behind this

seemingly singular achievement, there were numerous unsung heroes who played a crucial role in supporting and enabling York's success.

The Unsung Heroes Supporting Alvin York

While Alvin York's courageous actions on the battlefield were undeniably remarkable, his journey would not have been possible without the support of several individuals who are often overlooked in the annals of history.

1. Sergeant Bernard Early

York's immediate superior during the battle, Sergeant Bernard Early, provided crucial guidance and leadership, enabling the small group of American soldiers to navigate the chaos of the battlefield. Early's calm demeanor and strategic expertise were instrumental in York's success that day.

2. Corporal Murray Savage

Corporal Murray Savage, York's fellow soldier and friend, stood by his side throughout the battle, providing vital support and reinforcement. Savage's unwavering loyalty and courage were instrumental in ensuring York's safety during the intense firefight.

3. Lewis Johnson

Lewis Johnson, an African-American soldier who served alongside York, played a pivotal role in the battle. When York's commanding officers were killed, Johnson took charge and provided important assistance, allowing York to focus on his marksmanship.

4. The Supporting Infantry

The 328th Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Division, which fought alongside York, played a significant role in the battle. Their unwavering commitment, bravery, and

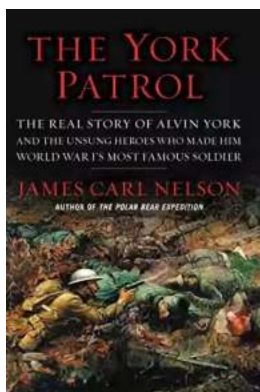
sacrifices provided the foundation upon which York's extraordinary actions could unfold.

The Legacy Of Alvin York And The Unsung Heroes

After the war, Alvin York returned to his humble life in Tennessee and became an advocate for education and veterans' rights. He dedicated his life to improving the living conditions of rural Americans, establishing schools, and helping the less fortunate. York's incredible story inspired the creation of the iconic film, "Sergeant York," starring Gary Cooper.

While York rightfully deserves recognition for his incredible achievements, we must not forget the unsung heroes who supported him throughout his journey. These individuals, through their courage and selflessness, played an essential role in shaping the outcome of one of history's most remarkable military feats.

The real story of Alvin York and the unsung heroes who made him the most decorated American soldier of World War I is a testament to the power of unity, bravery, and sacrifice. It serves as a reminder that behind every great hero, there are countless others who contribute to their success. Let us remember and honor the unsung heroes who played a vital part in shaping the course of history.



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"Exceptional military history worthy of its heroic subject." —Matthew J. Davenport

In the vein of *Band of Brothers* and *American Sniper*, a riveting history of Alvin York, the World War I legend who killed two dozen Germans and captured more than 100, detailing York's heroics yet also restoring the unsung heroes of his patrol to their rightful place in history—from renowned World War I historian James Carl Nelson.

October 8, 1918 was a banner day for heroes of the American Expeditionary Force. Thirteen men performed heroic deeds that would earn them Medals of Honor. Of this group, one man emerged as the single greatest American hero of the Great War: Alvin Cullum York. A poor young farmer from Tennessee, Sergeant York was said to have single-handedly killed two dozen Germans and captured another 132 of the enemy plus thirty-five machine guns before noon on that fateful Day of Valor.

York would become an American legend, celebrated in magazines, books, and a blockbuster biopic starring Gary Cooper. The film, *Sergeant York*, told of a hell-raiser from backwoods Tennessee who had a come-to-Jesus moment, then wrestled with his newfound Christian convictions to become one of the greatest heroes the U.S. Army had ever known. It was a great story—but not the whole story.

In this absorbing history, James Carl Nelson unspools, for the first time, the complete story of Alvin York and the events that occurred in the Argonne Forest

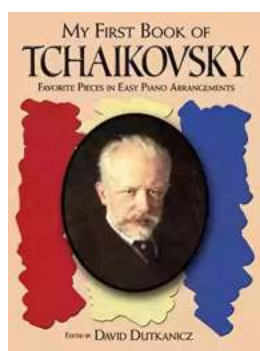
on that day. Nelson gives voice, in particular, to the sixteen “others” who fought beside York. Hailing from big cities and small towns across the U.S. as well as several foreign countries, these soldiers included a patrician Connecticut farmer whose lineage could be traced back to the American Revolution, a poor runaway from Massachusetts who joined the Army under a false name, and a Polish immigrant who enlisted in hopes of expediting his citizenship. The York Patrol shines a long overdue spotlight on these men and York, and pays homage to their bravery and sacrifice.

Illustrated with 25 black-and-white images, The York Patrol is a rousing tale of courage, tragedy, and heroism.



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