

Booklist

Advanced Review – Uncorrected Proof

Issue: April 1, 2023

★ **The Long March Home: A World War II Novel of the Pacific.**

By Marcus Brotherton and Tosca Lee

May 2023. 400p. Revell, \$26.99 (9780800742751); e-book (9781493441266)

Jimmy, Hank, and Billy were more than just the preacher's son, the outcast, and the tagalong. They are brothers by choice, sharing a bond of loyalty, understanding, and friendship throughout life's ups and downs. When the trio enlists together with the hope of seeing the world, they instead find themselves on the explosive front lines of the Pacific Theater after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Fighting for survival in a violent new world of dizzying unpredictability, uncertain hope, and crippling despair, their brotherhood faces the ultimate test in a journey to the war-torn edges of hell and back home again. Brotherton and Lee are a narrative tour de force in their first novel together. *The Long March Home* is a stunning WWII story of the ferocity with which three friends loved and fought for one another. Taking inspiration from true stories, the novel is an astonishing combination of gritty wartime action tempered with poignant growth and drama. Alternating chapters reveal the stories behind the men's resilient friendship, from the innocence of childhood to the confusion of adolescence to the impossible choices expedited by war. A heartbreaking, resonant story with characters who effortlessly come alive make this a must-read literary triumph.

— *Kate Campos*