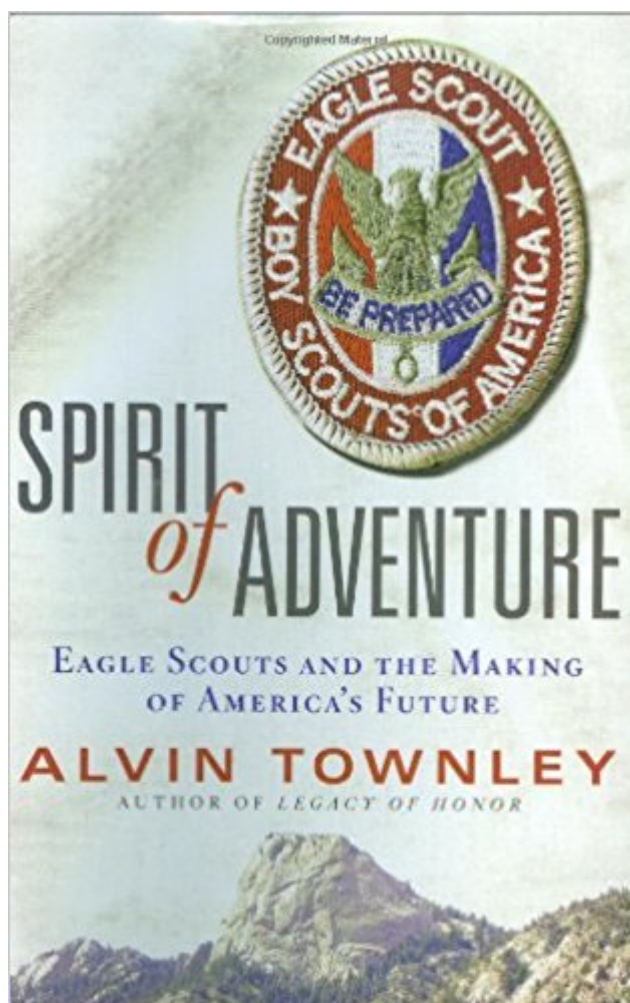


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# Spirit Of Adventure: Eagle Scouts And The Making Of America's Future



## Synopsis

An extraordinary journey alongside America's new generation of Eagle Scouts, who are discovering their purpose and bringing the values of Scouting to the world. Over the past century, Scouts have helped to guide the course of American history. But what does Scouting and the Eagle badge mean to the Scouts of today? How will they shape the future of Scouting and America itself? In *Spirit of Adventure*, Scouting expert and Eagle Scout Alvin Townley finds the answer. Townley traveled across the country and to the far corners of the globe to meet these young Eagle Scouts. He found them everywhere, continuing the life of adventure and service that they had begun in Scouting. He discovered them in Afghanistan providing medical care to villagers, in Australia saving coral reefs, at the Super Bowl and Olympic venues striving for victory, on desert cliffs and at inner-city schools teaching new lessons, in Africa bringing hope to children, and on the windswept deck of the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz preparing for takeoff. Whether doctors, activists, servicemen, entrepreneurs, or teachers, these young men are changing the world through bold actions that capture the essence of the Scouting tradition. In *Spirit of Adventure*, Townley answers important questions about the future of Scouting and America, while revealing stories of service, courage, and pure excitement that introduce our nation to an inspiring new generation of leaders.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Adult/High School  
A hiking trip gone uncomfortably wrong, in violation of the first credo of Scouting to "Be Prepared," caused Townley to revisit the history of Scouting and its principles. It

also provided him with the spark to begin a year of traveling the world collecting anecdotes from adults who have taken these principles of and incorporated them into their everyday lives. These men, all of whom achieved the highest honor attainable, tended to gravitate toward professions that allowed them to exemplify the service attitude and leadership they learned while enjoying the camaraderie of others. From doctor to soldier, teacher, actor, and Olympic competitor, each man had a story to tell about how Scouting led him to make choices that would enrich his life. Written with a distinctly American point of view, Townley's book puts forth the idea that the underlying principles of Scouting help boys to become men who will be compassionate, competitive leaders. An extensive index and full-color photos enhance this solidly written entry about the value of old-fashioned American gumption. —Charli Osborne, Oxford Public Library, MI Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

—“In his new book, Alvin Townley showcases the spirit of our young generation. Like so many of us, these Eagle Scouts are out there pushing limits, exploring new possibilities, and serving other people. Spirit of Adventure tells a compelling story about a new generation and America's future. —NFL quarterback Peyton Manning—“The stories captured in Legacy of Honor hold valuable lessons for our country as we face new challenges at home and abroad. These Eagle Scouts will inspire readers to become leaders in serving others. —President Jimmy Carter on Legacy of Honor—“Whether you choose to become a teacher, a police officer, a doctor, or even the mayor of the greatest city in the world, your experiences as an Eagle Scout will prove invaluable. Alvin Townley's Legacy of Honor does justice to the proud history and bright future of the Eagle Scouts. —Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Legacy of Honor—“Alvin Townley's book describes how the Eagle Scout program can shape a life. He demonstrates this by providing examples of many former Eagles who have succeeded in life in no small part because of their experience in scouting. Once an Eagle, always an Eagle. —Senator Bill Bradley on Legacy of Honor—“In Legacy of Honor, we not only learn who many of these Eagle Scouts were, but the kind of leaders they have become and the enormous contributions they have made to their country and the world. In compiling these life stories, Alvin Townley has completed a picture of an extraordinary program and how its training has helped shape equally extraordinary lives. —Hon. Christine Todd Whitman, former governor of New Jersey and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator on Legacy of Honor—“Alvin Townley's book reveals the legacy of the Boy Scouts. He relates the adventures and deeds of Eagle Scouts living by the Scout Oath | while contributing to the

success of America. An excellent story that will inspire all of us. Captain James A. Lovell, commander of Apollo 13 on Legacy of Honor

Once again Mr. Townley has produced an amazing motivating book featuring the highlights of Eagle Scouts around the world. Like he did for Legacy of Honor, Mr. Townley left behind his day to day life to continue his adventure meeting Eagle Scouts from around the world. This time he focused on Eagle Scouts from his generation to see if they were still living with the same passion and purpose that they had once applied to Scouting. The book itself is an easy read. Each Eagle Scout is represented in a chapter while Mr. Townley keeps the book flowing by tying all of the stories together with an overall theme and smooth transitions. The reader almost feels like he is on the journey with the author, sitting down and meeting with the Eagle Scouts that are showcased. At the same time, you'll find yourself thinking back to your days at summer camp, the leaders who made a difference in your life, and the fun times you had as a Scout. Spirit of Adventure is definitely a motivational book that shows that Scouting does make a difference in this world. Those of us that are still with the program will be able to relate to the success that Scouting can bring to a young man's life. It's a reminder that we are shaping the future. I highly recommend this book to anyone who works with youth or is associated with Scouting. It inspired me to reflect on my journey through life and who I've become today. Spirit of Adventure would make a great gift for an Eagle Scout, or a little motivation for a young man working towards the goal of becoming an Eagle Scout.

I love this book, my grandson will be getting his Eagle Scout award this year or next and I had to buy this for him for that event....a small token and I am sure a great book to read about the highest rank in Scouting...hoping it has a lot of the history of the award. I have not had time to read it yet.

Alvin Townley's second book "Spirit of Adventure" equals his first effort and should be read by all Eagle Scouts. I ordered 10 copies to distribute among friends or to those I had the opportunity to participate in their Eagle Award presentation. The opening with a group of Eagles that worked or attended Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico is an apt starting point to chronicle the good works performed by several 30 year old plus Eagles. I hope Mr. Townley is contemplating future books.

Very good book on the culture of the eagle scouts and the how their values fit into society today. It's said often how few kids enrolled in scouting make it to eagle (~4%) and this book conveys how that

4% tends to make the transition from childhood to adult hood and how the influence of scouting has helped scouts become a force for good.

Great reading for Eagles to be and those already awarded.

Purchased for my Eagle Scout sons. They liked it.

This was a gift, so I haven't read it myself, but it was very well received. I think it was a good choice for an Eagle Scout ceremony.

Giving this to a grandson who is completing his Eagle Scout and feel this will inspire him more!

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