



The Corporal Was a Pitcher: The Courage of Lou Brissie

By Ira Berkow, Tom Brokaw

Triumph Books (IL). Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Corporal Was a Pitcher: The Courage of Lou Brissie, Ira Berkow, Tom Brokaw, The corporal was left for dead, along with the 11 others of his squad, after a German mortar attack in the freezing, unforgiving mountains of northern Italy on December 7, 1944. But hours after the Nazi infantry had retreated, one member of the American army's Graves Registration Unit picking up the corpses, turned over a body in a ditch and called to his officer, "Hey, this one's breathing." It was 20-year-old Lou Brissie, from the small town of Ware Shoals, South Carolina. He was taken to a makeshift medical tent behind the front line and told that with such extensive damage his left leg would have to be amputated to save his life. He pleaded with the medics: "Please, you can't take my leg off. I'm a pitcher. I've been promised a chance to pitch in the big leagues." He explained that he had a letter from Connie Mack, owner-manager of the A's, as proof. By a series of remarkable circumstances, including a talented doctor in the major U.S. hospital in Naples where Brissie was transported, and...

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