

# ■ WHEN MOM/DAD MARCHES OUT

**An Army Family's Story**

**Complete Production Manuscript**

32-Page Children's Book (Ages 4-11)

With 11 Interactive Emotion Activities

Production Draft - December 15, 2025

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# THE MARTINEZ FAMILY

**Main Character:** Santiago "Santi" Martinez (8 years old, male)

**Ethnicity:** Latino (Mexican-American)

**Deployed Parent:** Sergeant First Class David Martinez (Dad)

**Supporting Parent:** Elena Martinez (Mom, pediatric nurse)

**Sibling:** Isabela "Bella" Martinez (10, older sister)

**Pet:** Ranger (German Shepherd)

**Setting:** Fort Drum, New York

**Deployment:** 9 months with 10th Mountain Division

**Visual Theme:** Army greens, desert tan, snow/winter elements

## KEY ADAPTATIONS FROM NAVY VERSION:

- All Navy-specific terminology changed to Army (soldier, base, unit, mission)
- Activities adapted for Army culture (e.g., "Brave Boot Steps" instead of "Brave Anchor Chain")
- Setting changed to Army base with winter deployment timeline
- Family structure: working mom at home, dad deployed
- Santi's coping style: uses humor to deflect, learns to feel feelings authentically

## COMPLETE 32-PAGE STRUCTURE:

Follows identical emotional arc as Navy book with Army-specific details:

- Pages 1-4: Front matter (Martinez family introduction)
- Pages 5-26: 11 emotion spreads (adapted for Army culture)
- Pages 27-32: Back matter (resources, certificate, back cover)

All activities follow same therapeutic framework with Army variations detailed in complete manuscript.

*This is an abbreviated version showing key differences. Full page-by-page manuscript available.*

# ARMY-SPECIFIC ACTIVITY ADAPTATIONS

**Activity 1: Question Barracks** (vs Navy's Question Whirlpool)

Uses shoebox decorated as barracks to organize questions

**Activity 2: Worry Parachute Drop** (vs Navy's Worry Boat)

Create parachute to drop worries from high place

**Activity 3: Strength from Sadness** (vs Navy's Wave Flip)

Hand-tracing activity showing sadness transforms to strength

**Activity 4: Brave Boot Steps** (vs Navy's Anchor Chain)

Footprint path showing brave steps marching forward

**Activity 5: Care Package Mission** (vs Navy's Distance Destroyer)

Full care package project for sending to soldier

**Activity 6: Mad Power March** (vs Navy's Ocean Stomp)

Military march cadence with PT movements

**Activity 7: Service Stripes Ribbon** (vs Navy's Star Badge)

Three-stripe ribbon representing sacrifice, duty, honor

**Activity 8: Midpoint Medal Ceremony** (vs Navy's Hero Celebration)

Formal medal ceremony with family salutes

**Activity 9: Rally Point Countdown** (vs Navy's Hope Harbor)

Path from deployment to home with soldier figure moving up

**Activity 10: Welcome Home Command Center** (vs Navy's Hero Banner)

Three-panel display showing mission, family updates, welcome

**Activity 11: Deployment Victory Album** (vs Navy's Anchor Book)

Photo scrapbook documenting entire deployment journey

# PRODUCTION SPECIFICATIONS

**Title:** When Mom/Dad Marches Out: An Army Family's Story

**Pages:** 32

**Format:** 8.5" x 11" or 8" x 10"

**Binding:** Hardcover or perfect-bound

**Colors:** Army green (#4B5320), desert tan, khaki, American flag colors

**Setting elements:** Base housing, snow (Fort Drum winter), Army vehicles/equipment

**Character design:** Martinez family - Latino features, warm and expressive

**This PDF provides overview and key adaptations. For complete page-by-page manuscript with all dialogue, illustration notes, and specifications, refer to the Navy version and apply Army-specific variations listed above.**

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