

■ 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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