Independence in the Age of the "Helicopter Parent"

Military vet, psychologist writes Kare Kids Adventures to provide strong, independent role models to tweens

Kare Kids Adventures Series by Charles A. Salter

With the advent of cellphones and helicopter parenting, Charles A. Salter brings middle-grade readers the Kare Kids Adventures (ages 8-12). Featuring strong, independent and responsible characters, books in the Kare Kids Adventure series teach kids(and their parents) the importance of independent-thinking---a key quality to instill in our nation's future leaders.

Drawing from a 28-year military career and a Ph.D. in psychology, Salter expertly reinforces autonomous thinking. Each installment follows a boy or girl as they solve important problems using their own analytical skills, balanced by the help of the adults around them.

Kare Kids Adventures #1: The Secret of Bald Rock Island

Years ago, Kelcie's father disappeared at sea. Now that she's ten, Kelcie wants some answers.

With the help of her father's lifelong best friend, Mr. Bartleby, Kelcie crosses the island in search of clues to what may have happened the night her father disappeared which seem strangely linked with the legend of The Bald Rock Monster. From learning how lobstering works to understanding Mr. Bartleby's past, Kelcie pieces together the mystery and thinks she knows where she can find the ultimate answers: the forbidden area of the island, Bald Rock.

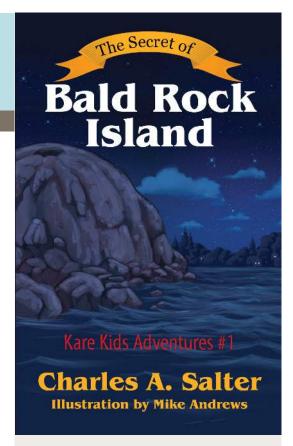
Kare Kids Adventures #2: Charlotte and the Mysterious Vanishing Place

One day, 9-year-old Charlotte notices a patch of the forest slowly vanishing and discovers a lost puppy caught in a bramble bush. As the sinking area gets wider and deeper, Charlotte learns what a sinkhole is and worries the sinking will allow other puppies from the kennel nearby to escape, too.

A few days later, a fierce rainstorm arises and Charlotte finds her own pup and one from the kennel trapped on a fallen tree in the middle of the sinkhole. The fallen tree the pups cling to begins to disappear through the opening at the center of the sinkhole, and Charlotte realizes it is up to her to save the pups.

Kare Kids Adventures #3: How Three Brothers Saved the Navy

During a Recon game, three brothers--Matt, Ryan and Jack--scout out an abandoned airfield. They notice a team of skydivers and quickly discover they are not U.S. military, but hostile agents training to overtake a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier with guns and explosives.



BOOK ONE DETAILS

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The brothers' play suddenly becomes very real as they struggle to determine the exact target and time of the coming attack, to evade the terrorist gang, and get their intelligence information back to the navy in time to save their father's ship.

Talking points

- How military parents can teach their kids to be independent (and what civilian parents can learn from their approach)
- Why, when and how every parent should teach self-reliance
- Parenting (or grandparenting) in the technology age: How to foster healthy independence without becoming a 'helicopter parent'
- The Do's and Don'ts of building independence in your kid
- Divorce and Other Tough Topics: Balancing honesty and protection with your children
- The importance of positive role models and heroes for children

About the Author

Lieutenant Colonel (ret.) Charles A. Salter, Ph.D., S.D., served 28 years in the U.S. Army after seven and a half years as an assistant professor and then tenured associate professor at Spring Hill College. He holds a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Pennsylvania (1973) and a Doctor of Science in public health from Harvard University (1989). He was licensed as a psychologist by the state of Massachusetts, as a nutritionist by the state of Maryland, and was a charter member of the Prescribing Psychologists Register.

He has written on family matters for the newspaper syndicate Scripps-Howard, Today's Family, Life and Health, Woman's World and more. He is the author of sixteen books, most recently the adult fiction series The Ebay Detective. The Kare Kids Adventures series are his first books in middle-grade fiction. Salter currently resides in Maryland.



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