

After switching careers in 2017, Brandon co-founded Rakkasan Tea, a company that promotes peace and development by importing solely from post-conflict countries. He began as an officer in the Army's 101st Airborne Division where his views on tea culture were shaped in Afghanistan and Iraq. Brandon's memoir, *The War I Always Wanted*, was recognized in 2010 by *The Military Times* as one of "The Best Military Books of the Decade." He writes regularly on politics for *The New York Daily News* and drinks lots of black tea.