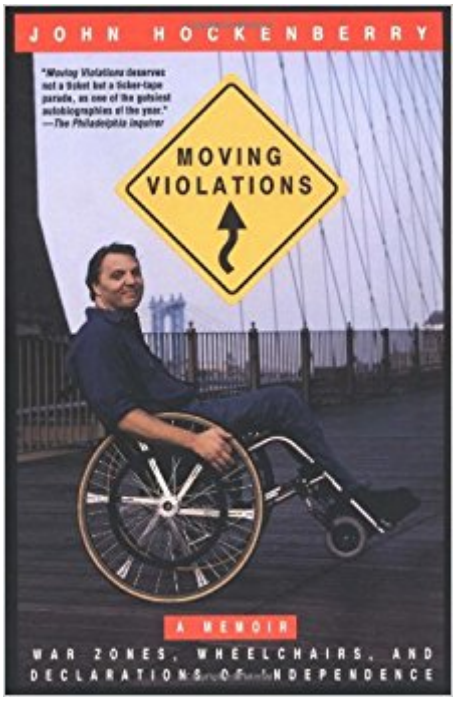
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Moving Violations: War Zones, Wheelchairs, And Declarations Of Independence



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Synopsis

John Hockenberry’s Moving Violations is one of the most entertaining, provocative, unexpected, outspoken, and occasionally outrageous books in recent memory. It is a story of obstacles--physical, emotional, and psychic--overcome again, and again, and again. Whether riding a mule up a hillside in Iraq surrounded by mud-stained Kurdish refugees, navigating his wheelchair through intractable stretches of Middle Eastern sand, or auditioning to be the first journalist in space, John Hockenberry, ace reporter, is determined not only to bring back the story, but also to prove that nothing can hold him back from death-defying exploits. However, he will never be a poster boy for a Jerry Lewis telethon. A paraplegic since an auto accident at age nineteen, Hockenberry holds nothing back in this achingly honest, often hilarious chronicle that ranges from the Ayatollah’s funeral (where his wheelchair is pushed by a friendly Iranian chanting "Death to all Americans"), to the problems of crip sex and the inaccessibility of the New York City subway system. In this immensely moving chronicle--so filled with marvelous storytelling that it reads like a novel--John Hockenberry finds that the most difficult journey is the one that begins at home, as he confronts the memories of his beloved one-armed grandfather, and finally meets his institutionalized Uncle Peter, whose very existence was long a secret buried in the family history. Moving Violations is a sometimes harrowing but ultimately joyful ride.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

ABC correspondent Hockenberry, who was left a paraplegic after a 1976 car accident, writes of

living life from a wheelchair. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The former National Public Radio correspondent, currently seen on ABC's Day One, explains what it's like to report from such embattled outposts as Jerusalem, Baghdad, and New York City in a wheelchair.Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is an incredible story about an incredible journey. I have made that same journey, with some common experiences, and many different ones, and have lived with a wheelchair since a losing encounter with gravity, at age 16, in 1960. John does a beautiful job of describing what it is like being in the fishbowl and relating to all of the staring folks outside of it. It is a world that the privileged Americans who are not disabled in some way have a hard time understanding. I am heartened that John has done such a great job of helping them understand (if only they would read this book!). The disability that John and I share has made it possible for us to overcome the tendency of most folks to ignore people who are different from them, especially our mentally retarded citizens. Especially interesting and telling is John's observation and description of how different cultures relate to disability. The Iranians, Palestinians and Israelis are fascinatingly unique in their attitudes and behavior, and all much more accepting than smug, complacent Americans. From my own experiences, I must add Mexicans to that group of more-accepting and understanding people. John's editors missed on little error about Iran: Tehran's big cemetery is not called "Beheshed al Zahra

I was so pleased to find A copy of this book! I am a big fan of John Hockenberry's, and especially of this book. I read it when it first came out and loved it. Over the years, I lent it to someone that forgot to return it. I will not be lending this one out!

Love this book, for many reason! I recommended it to my book club, and they loved it, too -- very interesting topics, very discussable, funny, lots of insight into the world of disabled workers and journalism, very literate and fully of tales of humanity around the globe.

I had to read this for a class and it was great! It starts off kind of slow but then picks up and is an interesting, funny and heartbreaking read.

This is a marvelous book.Hockenberry’s got a great story to tell, and he tells it very well. He is matter-of-fact and even blunt in his approach, discoursing upon the realities of wheelchair life that most non-paralyzed folks never even think to wonder about.But the nuts and bolts of his story never obscure the larger themes. Here is a man whose life was transformed in an instant, who decided that he was just going to live the rest of that life by finding ways to do what he wanted to do. It is a story of great determination, creativity, good humor, and profound intelligence. Anyone who reads this book will be moved, amused, educated, and permanently affected by it. I recommend it very highly.

Every chapter in this book can stand completely on its own. JH is an incredible writer with an amazing story to tell (and it’s not over yet).You will laugh, cry and be amazed by John’s moxy and his vibrant, in-your-face-sometimes HUMANITY.During the events recorded here - and ever-after - JH becamse and remains an inspiration and a very powerful voice for the disabled and differently-abled communities.There’s no one you would rather have on your side.

I read this book years ago and it opened my eyes to so much. I really admire how John Hockenberry didn’t let his condition keep him from his adventures. His openness and sense of humor kept me enjoying this book from start to finish. I loaned this book to a friend years ago, apparently permanently. I had to add it to my shelf again. So should you.

If you or someone you love is disabled this is a book you might find useful to share. I have given it and had positive feed back from people who have never considered what the world is like from the disabled perspective. Hockenberry is a good writer and an easy read.

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