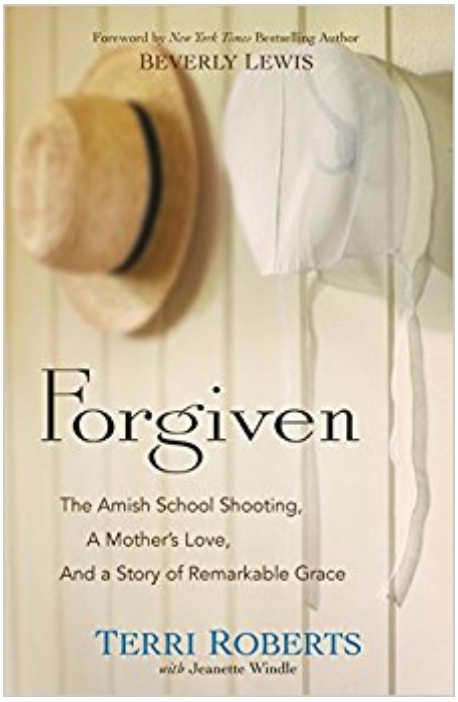
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Forgiven: The Amish School Shooting, A Mother's Love, And A Story Of Remarkable Grace



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Synopsis

Mother of Amish Schoolhouse Shooter Gives Message of Hope and HealingWho would have believed all the beauty God would create over the nine years since that awful day. On October 2, 2006, a gunman entered an Amish one-room schoolhouse, shooting ten girls, killing five, then finally taking his own life. This is his mother’s story. Not only did she lose her precious son through suicide, but she also lost her understanding of him as an honorable man. Her community and the world experienced trauma that no family or community should ever have to face. But this is, surprisingly, a story of hope and joy--of God revealing his grace in unexpected places. Today Terri lives in harmony with the Amish and has built lasting relationships that go beyond what anyone could have thought possible. From the grace that the Amish showed Terri’s family from day one, to the visits and ongoing care Terri has given to the victims and their families, no one could have foreseen the love and community that have been forged from the fires of tragedy. Let Terri’s story inspire and encourage you as you discover the wonder of forgiveness and the power of God to bring beauty from ashes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This riveting account, written by a brave and brokenhearted mother, may not be what you're expecting. In fact, it may surprise you. But it will surely present you with an enduring hope that can only come from the loving hand of our heavenly Father. You will be drawn, as I was, to embrace fully the miracle and blessing of forgiveness."--from the foreword by Beverly Lewis, bestselling

author"Caution advised: You won't be able to put this book down once you start reading."--Donald B. Kraybill, author of Amish Grace --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

After a son does the unthinkable, how can a mother go on?On October 2, 2006, a gunman entered an Amish one-room schoolhouse, shooting ten girls, killing five, then finally taking his own life. This is his mother’s story. Not only did she lose her precious son through suicide, but she also lost her understanding of him as an honorable man. It was a trauma that none should ever have to face.But the biggest headlines came when her Amish neighbors did the unimaginable, reaching out to the family of the shooter with comfort and forgiveness. Today Terri lives in harmony with the Amish and has built lasting relationships beyond what anyone could have thought possible. From the grace that the Amish showed Terri’s family from day one, to the visits and ongoing care Terri has given to the victims and their families, no one could have foreseen the love and friendship that have been forged from the fires of tragedy."Caution advised: You won’t be able to put this book down once you start reading."--Donald B. Kraybill, author of Amish Grace"This riveting account, written by a brave and brokenhearted mother, may not be what you’re expecting. In fact, it may surprise you. But it will surely present you with an enduring hope that can only come from the loving hand of our heavenly Father. You will be drawn, as I was, to embrace fully the miracle and blessing of forgiveness."--from the foreword by Beverly Lewis, bestselling author

One day in October 2006 Terri Roberts was having lunch with a good friend when they heard sirens in the distance and saw police helicopters overhead. As was her case, she offered a quick prayer before finishing her lunch. On her was back to the office she turned on the car radio and heard the breaking news of a shooting at an Amish School. This led to a second prayer for the families of the victims. Even as she was walking into her office the telephone was ringing. Her husband needed her to come to the home of their oldest son immediately. When she arrived, she learned that not only had her son been the shooter, but he had taken his own life. The shock and horror were almost unbearable.In an effort to understand what had happened and why, she wrote her autobiography. When she reached the time of the shooting, the story evolved into efforts at understanding and seeking forgiveness. With the passage of time she became acquainted with the families of the slain girls and other members of the Amish community. The grief and forgiveness had to go both ways.While she will never fully recover or understand why, she has made progress. Gradually she began telling her story in local churches and in time, she quit work to devote her energies to public speaking and telling the story. Whenever possible she takes a member of the Amish community,

especially a family member of the slain girls, with her and asks them to share their story.This book is part of the ongoing effort. It offers us all a lesson in forgiveness.

There are no words to accurately describe how much Mrs. Robert’s book touched my heart...It blessed my heart and soul beyond measure...This book is proof that no matter how horrific and evil any given circumstance may be our loving God has the power to make beautiful things from the broken pieces...Mrs. Roberts was thrust into circumstances so horrible that most people would find it difficult to breathe...She teaches you that no matter how heart breaking or life shattering any given event may be God will not only help you through it (if you will allow him), he will also bless you beyond your wildest dreams. "Forgiven" has prompted me to strengthen my relationship with our Lord...it has given me a hunger for his word that I haven’t felt in years...I would give this book more stars if I could.

My husband and I were in Lancaster preparing to take a buggy ride by an Old Order Amishman about 7 miles from Nickel Mines school when it all happened. That night we went to see a performance. At the end of it, the owner came to talk to the huge audience. He said many of the cast members who usually perform their role were played by stand ins because they had family member involved in today’s happening. He did not mention that their manager of concessions was the shooters mother. He did ask us all to stand while the performers came down to join us in prayer. We prayed for the children involved and their families. We also prayed for the shooter and his family. This event has had an impact on my husband and me, especially in our prayer life.this book touched me too as like we are not only hoping for blessing for the Amish families but the one who did an evil thing that day. His family was dying inside too. Blessing to all who touch that autumn day.

A powerful and moving story of one Mom’s struggle to assimilate the horrific act her son had carried out. It taught me that there is another family who is behind this type of crime -an innocent family who is just as shocked as any of the victims’ families. Often the families of perpetrators are ostracized and treated as if they are the guilty ones, but they are grieving too. It doesn’t diminish the magnitude of the crime. It just shows that the scope is bigger than any of us imagine. I truly admire this mother for speaking out and for her testimony of what true faith can do for each of us when/if we ever face a situation such as this.

I found this to be a very moving story and the fact it was true gave it even more meaning. It is truly

hard to imagine that with as much pain & loss that was present after this huge loss of life. Those feeling the deepest loss & physical aftermath were able to forgive. It expresses the true ability to forgive as is asked of us many times in our lives but in smaller ways.

To be honest, I've never given much thought to what killers' families go through except to think they must have been dysfunctional families. This book is gripping. Recounting sections of it to my husband would leave me in tears. I had to read the book slowly, put it down, and ponder. This shows true love in action, and excellent writing as well. Great book and message.

An amazing life story that brings healing. My daughter was murdered 25 years ago and I too had to forgive to move on with my life. It took many years of praying I choose to forgive, help me with my unforgiveness. This is a wonderful testimony of God's love and grace.

I loved this book, my family live very close to where this tragedy took place and I often wondered why this school was never mentioned what d n other tragedies similar took place. To learn about their compassionate spirit humbles me.

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