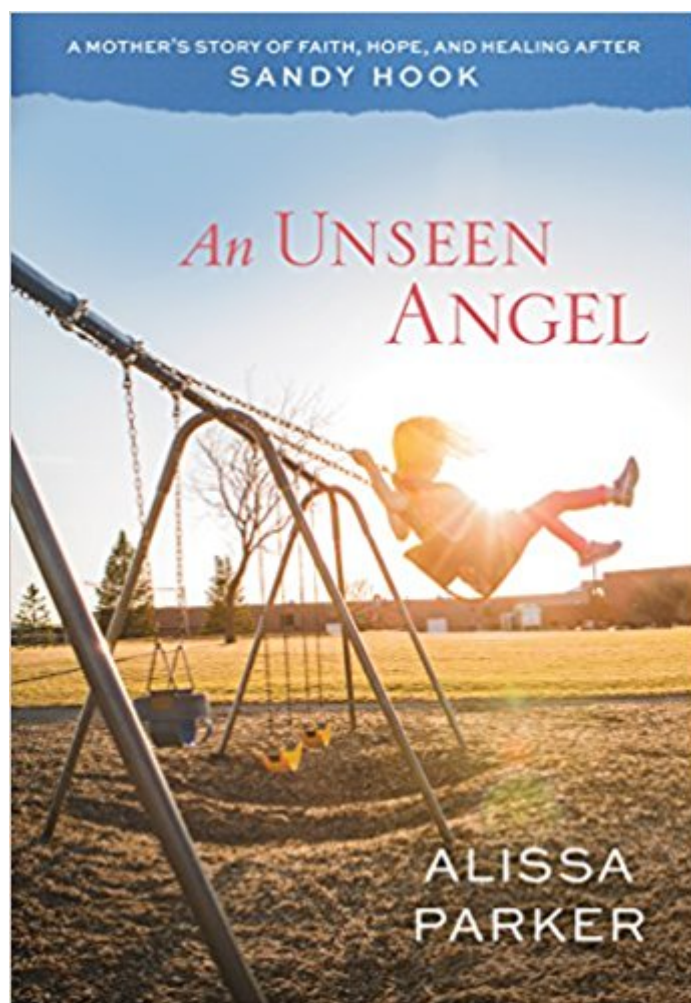


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An Unseen Angel: A Mother's Story Of Faith, Hope, And Healing After Sandy Hook



Synopsis

As the mother of one of the children who died at Sandy Hook school in Newtown, Connecticut, in 2012, Alissa Parker had her world shattered by a mass murderer's rampage. She was left to make sense of her daughter's life and death and to rebuild, seeking a deeply spiritual path to carry on with her life and find new meaning and purpose. As a co-founder of SafeandSoundSchools.org, a touring national advocacy group that helps people take action to make schools safer, Alissa has talked to hundreds of parents around the country about her ordeal and how she was able to endure the unspeakable horror of Sandy Hook. *An Unseen Angel* takes readers through Alissa's complete journey, chronicling the moment-by-moment account of the day that began with every parent's worst nightmare: hearing, "There's been a shooting at your child's school." It follows her faith-filled spiritual path to coping, healing, forgiving, and eventually feeling gratitude for the life and love of her daughter Emilie. She describes a bond of love between a mother and daughter that is so profound it transcends the physical body and touches Alissa and the people who loved Emilie who feel her presence every day. And she articulates her deep Christian faith, which guided the answers to Alissa's gut-wrenching, post-tragedy questioning: "Where is Emilie now?" "Can love transcend the physical body?" "How can I know that Emilie is in a better place?" "How do I deal with the 'here and now' when the pain and anger I feel is so overwhelming?" This is the first book about the school-shooting tragedies with a focus on faith and spirituality. As we learn Alissa's story, we are introduced to a special little girl who was wise beyond her years and whose lessons about life and the transcendent power of love continued even after she had passed away."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“From the deepest pain a mother can imagine, comes a beautiful book whose message of redemption and healing touches all of us. Reading her words, my breath caught in my throat, and yet, her story reminds us that sun follows night, love and faith are powerful balms, and we can choose whether we live in the darkness or light. Alissa Parker’s healing story is a testament to the best parts of human nature and the power of resilience.” Lee Woodruff
Contributing Reporter for CBS This Morning and New York Times Best-selling author --Lee Woodruff
“An Unseen Angel” is a beautiful message of peace. I’m inspired by how Alyssa Parker found hope after the horrible murder of her daughter Emilie. Her story of strength as she worked through her pain and heartbreak is amazing. I feel relief with Alyssa when she ultimately found closure and forgiveness in the worst of situations.”
--Stephanie Nielson New York Times Best-selling author

Alissa Parker is the mother of one of the twenty children who died tragically in the Sandy Hook school shootings in Newtown, Connecticut, in 2012. After Emilie’s death, Alissa began The Parker Five blog as a tool to express the emotions she and her family experienced throughout the grieving process. She is also the co-founder of SafeandSoundSchools.org, which helps people take action to make schools safer, and The Emilie Parker Art Connection, a charity helping local community art programs for children. The Parker Five Blog (theparkerfive.com): 3.5 million p/v; Visitors: 922,689 The Emilie Parker Art Connection (emilieparkerfund.com): 297K Facebook followers Safe and Sound Schools (safeandsoundschools.org): Since 2013, 200K+ visitors to the website, 100K people have downloaded free online materials for use in their school or professional community, more than 30,000 people have attended a speaking engagement or workshop, 6K+ social media followers. Organization has also visited schools in 31 states."

Honestly, this is one of my favorite books, for different reasons than most of my faves. Just like the best of fiction, I could not put it down once I started. Not only was the content compelling, but Mrs. Parker did an excellent job of compiling it, every experience and photo in just the right place. What a lessons for us to concentrate on the positive, rather than dwell on the negative. This grieving mommy now realizes why Emilie was taken and what she is doing now. I don't want to give anything away, so I won't express my other thoughts, but I was DEEPLY MOVED! I had been following Alissa's blog so I was aware of how very much she was hurting; it made me feel so much better to learn that a lot of the painful issues have been resolved and, even moreso, just how they WERE

resolved! Blessings to this sweet family, and shame on anyone who is claiming this is a hoax!! I am taking this to my daughter who has lost a child and will soon be losing another. Anyone who's experienced this great mourning can benefit greatly from reading this!

I loved this story of overcoming grief and finding joy and hope again through that overcoming. It brought me back to memories of losing my eighteen-month-old granddaughter fifteen years ago to a choking accident. I will forever be grateful for the "angels" in my life during that difficult time and for the influence of our angel Shaeden that we continue to feel in our lives. The book is well written, drawing you into the experiences and struggles of the author and allowing you to empathize and follow her path back to a life of happiness and hope. I would recommend this book to anyone who has lost a child and is searching for a way to find peace.

How do you write a review for someone's heart being poured out? This book is just that: Alissa's heart. It is profoundly beautiful, heartbreaking, and encouraging all at the same time. Her testimony of God's grace and comfort, her memories of her daughter Emilie, inspiring recollections of the kindness of strangers in the aftermath of the Sandy Hook tragedy, all make for a book well worth reading. Loved it.

This book was beautifully written. I read the whole thing without a break. It was very inspiring. I know Emilie is beyond proud of the strength her Mom has found amongst the tragedy. If only we all could find the good in the things we want to hate. The things that can destroy you but won't if you can find hope and faith in the darkest days. I feel sure Emilie is always holding her mom's hand even if it's not seen with our earthly eyes.

This book as written by the child's mother provides much input into the events of that horrifying day at the Elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut. The book was quite emotional but provides in-depth understanding of the loss of a child and coping mechanisms utilized in such cases.

This is a very honest book about a horrible tragedy. I pray for all the families that lost their beautiful children that day. Thank you Parker family for sharing your little girl's life. Beautiful and well written.

Beautifully written with a powerful message. Made me cry and smile, and filled me with hope. Wonderful, unforgettable story.

Very moving story of a mother's worst nightmare and how her family dealt with the loss. A comforting book to read if you have lost a loved one or know someone who has, as she shares personal experiences of family and friends with her "unseen angel".

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