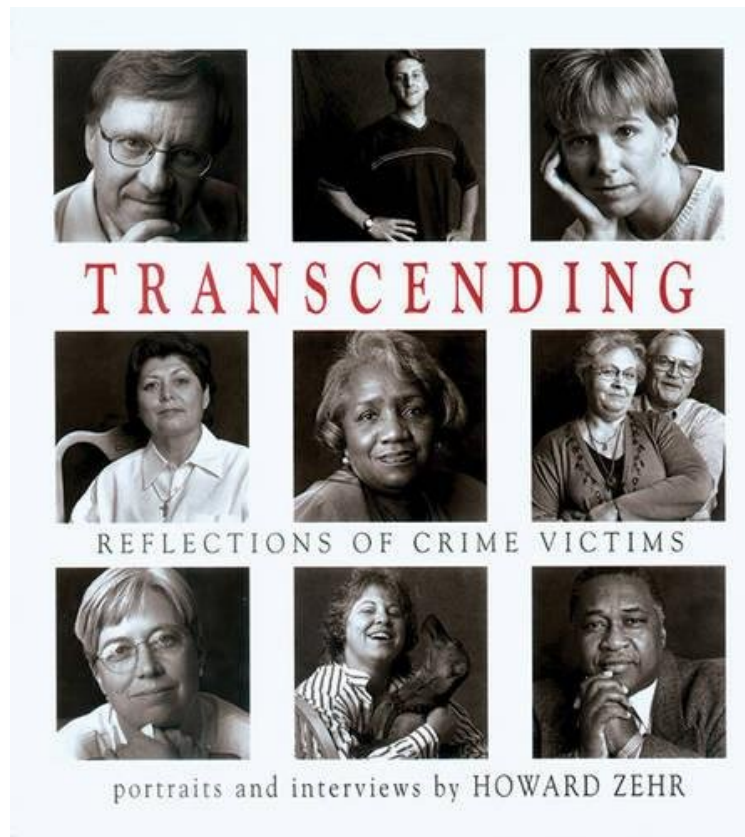


Transcending: Reflections Of Crime Victims

Howard Zehr

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Howard Zehr : Transcending: Reflections Of Crime Victims before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Transcending: Reflections Of Crime Victims:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Raw and real and restorativeBy E. RansomI bought this book because I am a fan of Howard Zehr's academic writing, and I study forgiveness academically. That being the case, I find the stories both interesting and helpful, but wish, both for clarities sake, and so that I would not be distracted by wondering as I read, that there was even just a brief summary of exactly what happened to the story-tellers, as, for example, The Forgiveness Project does with their stories. Despite that complaint, this is an important book. Reading the stories enclosed within is a journey itself, and I would caution you to not attempt to read them all at once. Remember, when you gaze at the faces in the pictures and read their words that you are treading on holy ground. You are glancing through the most sensitive parts of the human soul.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. They are everyday people like you and me when sudden tragedy strikes in a ...By KMSI was curious, how do people live their lives after such violent experiences, and who are they? They are everyday people like you and me when sudden tragedy strikes in a violent and abhorrent way. As a recent victim of a serious, but not violent crime, I was looking for answers and hints as to how they were able to carry on. I consider it an honor to be able to hear their stories. I get it now, there are no answers as to why and for what reasons horrendous events occur that take your breath away and alter

your life. It seems that finding the courage to live on in spite of never knowing answers is the key. Thanks to the author for the beautiful presentation. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Djuna Witherspoon Needed for class.

Are victims of crime destined to have the rest of their lives shaped by the crimes they've experienced? ("What happened to the road map for living the rest of my life?" asks a woman whose mother was murdered.) Will victims of crime always be bystanders in the justice system? ("We're having a problem forgiving the judge and the system," says the father of a young man killed in prison.) Is it possible for anyone to transcend such a comprehensively destructive, identity altering occurrence? ("I thought, I'm going to run until I'm not angry anymore," expresses a woman who was assaulted.) Howard Zehr presents the portraits and the courageous stories of 39 victims of violent crime in *Transcending: Reflections of Crime Victims*. Many of these people were twice-wounded: once at the hands of an assailant; the second time by the courts, where there is no legal provision for a victim's participation. "My hope," says Zehr, "is that this book might hand down a rope to others who have experienced such tragedies and traumas, and that it might allow all who read it to live on the healing edge."

From Booklist Longtime criminal justice worker Zehr became a creative exponent of restorative justice, which focuses first on crime victims and their self-defined needs and second on bringing offenders to understand and take responsibility for the harm they have done, after concluding that current U.S. criminal justice systems ignored victims. This book of testimonies and photographs of some direct victims of crime and many spouses, parents, children, and siblings of victims responds primarily to the prime focus of restorative justice, though the secondary focus comes up in the statements of several persons who have met or want to meet their or their loved ones' attackers. Zehr says he hasn't editorially skewed the depositions, and apart from lacking verbal tics and bad spoken grammar, they ring utterly true. Most subjects report how crucial their religious faith was to dealing successfully with the rage, despair, and brokenness that engulfed them, and many remark how poorly the courts, in particular, served them. Moving and awe-inspiring, this is very high-order advocacy literature. Ray Olson Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved From the Back Cover "This book is a powerful wake-up call. These beautifully written, moving stories communicate powerfully the depth and complexity of every victims individual experience with crime. Each profile not only reminds us why we should listen to victims, but challenges us to embrace a new vision of justice. Howard Zehr has given us a book with truth and wisdom on every page. Susan Herman, Executive Director, National Center for Victims of Crime, Arlington, Virginia This book is essential reading. I defy anyone who reads this book to remain indifferent to the issues it raises. I applaud Dr. Zehr's efforts to bring clarity to this process by offering victims a chance to tell fully their side of the story. This book is a powerful wake-up call on so many levels. We no longer have an excuse for avoiding the issues this book raises. I hope it can be used to enlighten, inform, and encourage discourse about the kind of society we want to inhabit. Tom Kennedy, The Washington Post (former Editor of Photography for National Geographic) Howard Zehr did something not enough of us takes the time to do he listened to victims about what they need. That is where justice reform and victim services should begin. *Transcending: Reflections of Crime Victims* should be mandatory reading for anyone with an interest in justice, especially politicians, advocates, judges and anyone who works with victims. Steve Sullivan, President of the Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime, Ottawa, Ontario This book is a graphic acknowledgment that crime can happen to anyone, anywhere, anytime, at any place. It is also an elegant reminder that none of us knows how we will react to our own victimization or that of other people, and that each of us has our own vision of what justice truly means. Cheryl Guidry Tyiska, Director of Victim Services, National Organization for Victim Assistance, Washington, D.C. About the Author Howard Zehr is widely known as the grandfather of restorative justice. Since 1996 he has been Professor of Restorative Justice at the Center for Justice Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA, an international graduate program for justice and peacebuilding practitioners. Howard has published several other portrait/interview books including *Doing Life: Reflections of Men and Women Serving Life Sentences* and *Transcending: Reflections of Crime Victims* (both with Good Books). He has authored numerous other books and publications; best known are *The Little Book of Restorative Justice* (Good Books) and *Changing Lenses: A New Focus for Crime and Justice*. He is a frequent speaker and consultant on justice issues in North America and internationally. Zehr has also worked professionally as a photographer.