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Between Hell And Hope: Teaching Humanity In An Imperfect World



Synopsis

Heartwarming, heartbreaking, and tough as nails, Leanne Lawrence tells tales of her work so far teaching those behind bars. "With the words of Leanne Lawrence, you are introduced to a world of incarcerated, hard human shells of despair. Leanne has the capacity to find the humanity within each of the inmates and brings their stories to page after riveting page. She describes their raw, personal journeys without passing judgement. She has been given a gift because of their trust; her gift to us in return is stories that are haunting and challenging..." -Sadie Darnell, Sheriff: Alachua County, FL "This is a gritty, street-wise little book with a big heart. It is a full cup for the parched lips of the voice-less. Leanne Lawrence tells from the inside out how hearts shot full of pain may be mended. She tells how the anguished may come to speak not in requiem, rather with hope and thanksgiving. This book will break your heart, and you will mend to be the better for it." -Will Irby, Author and Journalist

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Customer Reviews

Heartwarming, heartbreaking, and tough as nails, Leanne Lawrence tells tales of her work so far teaching those behind bars. "With the words of Leanne Lawrence, you are introduced to a world of incarcerated, hard human shells of despair. Leanne has the capacity to find the humanity within each of the inmates and brings their stories to page after riveting page. She describes their raw, personal journeys without passing judgement. She has been given a gift because of their trust; her gift to us in return is stories that are haunting and challenging..." -Sadie Darnell, Sheriff: Alachua County, FL "This is a gritty, street-wise little book with a big heart. It is a full cup for the parched lips of the voice-less. Leanne Lawrence tells from the inside out how hearts shot full of pain may be

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The depth and feelings portrayed in this book are evident from the very beginning. The world needs more people and teachers with the heart, soul, and passion that is expressed by Leanne. I knew her Mother and was taught by her Mother. Her Mother's values and those shown by Leanne are goals we all need to strive for. We are blessed to have teachers like this.LINDA_M

As much as people don't want to admit it, this book was right on the money. As a detention officer we are trained to refrain from showing our true feelings for incarcerated men and women but as a Christian, we sometimes find ourselves broken hearted as we hear the horror stories of some of these people. Leanne was able to put to paper what many people feel deep within their hearts. She did it with class and dignity and she is absolutely a blessing to the lost souls that she encounters on a daily basis. I would absolutely recommend this book as it shows you the true side of the lost and those who care about them

A tour de force of reportage. Leanne Lawrence gives us a passport to a world few of us get to visit. Through the eyes of her GED students -- all inmates in Florida prisons -- we experience crushed hopes, immense courage, unspeakable tragedy and unforgettable examples of the resiliency of the human spirit. Funny, infuriating, wise, profane and triumphant, *Between Hell and Hope* will leave you a different person than you were before reading it. Highly recommended.

Written from the background, knowledge and love of students that were brought to her to educate. She shares the hardships and involvement of her sharing in their lives. Great first person stories.

It is great book. So many memories from a small town and the teaching of the less fortunate. Expect some tears-especially if you know the author.

If you are looking for a book that stays with you long after the pages are read, this is the one! Leanne provides an authentic, unique opportunity for readers to gain insight into a world that most of us thankfully have never had to experience. At times, it is a painful read since the life stories are very difficult to acknowledge. Be prepared to walk away changed as a result of this book.Leanne

reaches beyond the circumstances of each student to offer us a dignified look at who they are and how they got to where they are today. She removes the degrees of separation, and allows her readers the opportunity to experience the potential that she knows is in each of them. Be forewarned, it is impossible to walk away from this book and not feel grateful for what you have and understand your accountability to affect change. We get to realize that we are all part of the solution, and there are a wide range of opportunities for each one of us to positively impact our world. This book does not disappoint, and instead offers suggestions and resources to begin finding a path to make an impact. This book speaks to a wide range of interests. It will touch the hearts of anyone who cares about children and adults, human welfare, animals, and the growing drug epidemic. It offers tangible and realistic ways to positively impact race relations in our country. There is something for everyone here!

This book is a powerful accomplishment for the author and all the students she introduces. Leanne is a master at bringing events and people to life, in fact all the students she breathes life into will touch other lives and incite deep feelings as well. Anyone who reads this book will revel in the bittersweet joy and inspiration it evokes and creates. I got my copy from a local library, but you can be sure I'll be buying gift copies for any friend who isn't too faint of heart. Of course, the faint of heart won't know what they're missing, but things just are what they are. Get a copy by hook or by crook and watch a masterful writer & feeler at work!!!

An important book for everyone to read to help them understand what many less fortunate Americans have to deal with in their lives every day. Story after story from her years of teaching the lower income in jails and GED classes illustrate how a little humanity shown to those who much of society has forgotten can reap large rewards. At the very least, this book will remind you to count your blessings, and perhaps to be a little less judgmental about people who are born into less fortunate circumstances.

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