

Glimmer of Hope: How Tragedy Sparked a Movement

The March for Our Lives Founders

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Glimmer of Hope: How Tragedy Sparked a Movement The March for Our Lives Founders The official, definitive book from The March for Our Lives founders about the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, the March for Our Lives, and the ongoing fight for sensible gun control legislation in the United States.

GLIMMER OF HOPE: HOW TRAGEDY SPARKED A MOVEMENT chronicles in first person essays the events of February 14th and the creation of the March for our Lives from the founders of the movement, including Emma González, Cameron Kasky, Jaclyn Corin, and more. The book also features oral histories of both the first day back to school following the shooting and the March for Our Lives, one of the largest marches in America's history.

On February 14th, 2018, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida was the site of one of the worst mass shootings in American history, in which 17 students and teachers were killed and 17 more were injured. Instead of dwelling on the pain and tragedy of that fateful day, a group of inspiring students from MSD channeled their feelings of hurt, rage, and sorrow into action, and went on to create one of the largest youth-led movements in global history.

Glimmer of Hope: How Tragedy Sparked a Movement Details

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From Reader Review Glimmer of Hope: How Tragedy Sparked a Movement for online ebook

Elizabeth says

Here is my whole review—these kids are amazing. Let them lead the way.

Olivia Hodgson says

I am not exaggerating when I say this one of them best books I have ever read. I cried, I smiled, and a fire was ignited inside me that encouraged me to continue my activism. Absolutely phenomenal. I love it I love it

Teenreadsdotcom says

On February 14th, 2018, there was a school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, and 17 people --- 14 students, one teacher and two coaches --- died. From that moment, a movement was born. Students from Marjory Stoneman decided to create an organization to call for protection against gun violence. These students organized a march on March 24th, 2018. They named the march, and their organization, March for Our Lives. From then the March for Our Lives founders have done many things including a tour across the United States and are continuing to do more to fight against gun violence. Now, they have written the book GLIMMER OF HOPE. The founders include Cameron Kasky, Delaney Tarr, Kyrah Simon and more students both from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and elsewhere.

GLIMMER OF HOPE chronicles the story of the founders March for Our Lives from February 14th to the first day back at school to the march and even onwards to the future. GLIMMER OF HOPE shows the inner workings of the March for Our Lives movement as each student takes a turn telling the story. The students also describe their own experience with either the shooting, their lives afterward and/or how they became involved in the March for Our Lives. Each chapter focuses on a different significant event. The chapters are written by one to three people except for the two focusing on the first day back at school and the March for Our Lives on March 24th.

A great thing about GLIMMER OF HOPE is that it is written completely by students --- college students, high school students and even a student who is not even in high school yet. This gives the book a great feel, because the book gives voice to students when students are usually ignored by many people including those in government as GLIMMER OF HOPE shows. It also feels good for students to hear other students writing and giving voice to a movement that personally can affect and affects all of us. By reading GLIMMER OF HOPE, the world can see how even though students are young, they are serious about their present and the future and about ensuring mistakes from the past do not happen again.

I also really liked how the authors of GLIMMER OF HOPE showed how March for Our Lives all came together and how the organization works now. The authors show how everyone works together and also how everyone is now bonded together through the organization in the book. It also shows how hard the founders of March for Our Lives worked all the while dealing with school and their own trauma that affected them

due to the shooting. GLIMMER OF HOPE is inspiring as it shows how this moment began, gives hope for the future by showing how far we've come, but also mobilizes those who read it as it shows how much farther we have to go.

GLIMMER OF HOPE by the founders of the March for Our Lives is a great book. Anyone looking to learn how to participate in politics or anyone looking to learn more about how to prevent gun violence should read this book. GLIMMER OF HOPE is inspiring, and it gives a good message to the world about how we need to rise up and work together to bring more action to prevent gun violence.

Erin *Help I'm Reading and I Can't Get Up* says

Beautiful. Concise. Hopeful. Powerful.

I loved their refusal to name the names that aren't helpful—the name of the president and the name of the shooter aren't ever mentioned, that I recall. But the names of the victims, the names of the movements and marches, the names of the future they're building.

5 very proud stars.

S says

This book was written by the youth in the March for Our Lives movement and it is inspiring and honest. The chapter in which the kids talk about their first day back at school after a two week break following the shooting was the most moving to me-something you have to sit down and absorb for a few minutes before you can recover. The closing section on common sense policy recommendations was also really good.

Megan says

Powerful and moving - a great Election Day read that felt so empowering

Alison Smith says

It is a depressing fact that in modern-day America, mass shootings are no longer surprising. The shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, which resulted in the deaths of 17 students and teachers, could've been headline news that generates "thoughts and prayers" from politicians but no action. Yet with it, the March For Our Lives movement was born. The extraordinary origins of the movement is told by its founders in their new book, which details their anger and activism, but also their trauma and grief.

For admirers of the movement and its leaders, the book, which is composed of essays, excerpts from speeches, and conversations between students, offers enlightening behind-the-scenes info about now-famous events. For instance, Emma González was writing her iconic speech at the gun control rally in Fort

Lauderdale up until she started speaking. But regardless of one's personal stance on gun control, it serves as a useful primer for activism in the age of social media. The writers detail the many steps in their movement, from connecting with the media to designing merch. It also shows the dedication and countless hours of work required to make a movement successful--work that doesn't make headlines.

More personally, the book delves into the trauma the Parkland survivors still face. Emma González writes about her fear that every time a stranger congratulates her on her activism, they're actually planning to shoot her at close range. Delaney Tarr describes how the beeping noises that accompany votes on the House floor sounded like a fire alarm and reminded her of the shooting. Terrified, she wondered, "Are we going to die?" The book is an important reminder that trauma and grief are lifelong baggage not captured by fleeting news coverage.

A common charge against the March For Our Lives movement—as well as any effort, after a mass shooting, to change gun policy—is that it is disrespectful to the dead, that it turns tragedy into politics. But for the Parkland survivors, activism is a way to channel their grief into something positive, while acknowledging that it will never go away. In the lead up to the historic march in D.C., Emma writes that "thinking about anything other than planning the march and the solutions for the future was to have a breakdown." During this time, members of the nascent movement barely ate, slept, or showered, so busy were they working.

Although *A Glimmer of Hope* could use better editing and more structure, these flaws are reflective of the fact that the book is, like the movement it documents, unfinished. Ultimately, though, it's a book that's simultaneously sobering and inspiring, and that offers far more than just a glimmer of hope.

Morgan says

I'm incredibly inspired by this group of teenagers and their activism, so that is largely why I found the content of the book somewhat disappointing. Still, their work has made me commit to never missing an election again.

Ben Rogers says

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Extremely powerful book. This is activism done right. I feel compelled to assist making a change to gun policy, even though I live in Canada. Really well written testimonials and stories from the students directly-affected by the shooting - must have been tough to revisit & write, really touching stories. Highly recommend for anyone in government or education - better yet, anyone who can vote.

Progress notes while reading:

Learning SO MUCH and getting really inspired to make a stand and a change against gun violence and gun control. Topics learned so far: How to be an effective activist. What the mainstream media does against the cause and what they should be doing instead. How to start a meaningful conversation on social media. How to request & convince the government to make a change.

Learning to make change in government and legislation by your vote. Learning to be more respectful to

people who experienced trauma such as school shootings. Learning all the various triggers for victims of shootings that actually exist in the 'real world' and being able to empathize with their feelings. The power + helpfulness that a well-behaved therapy dog can do for good.

Learning about corruption in government and how to force change in gun control policies, and uncovering statistics of gun violence they hide from the public. How to hold elected officials responsible for the policies - or getting into politics to make the changes necessary yourself, first-hand.

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Les Vogel says

Why we vote...

Was in tears through much of the book. First tears of sadness then tears of joy. A fast but important read. Inspiring, clear and delightful. I'm heartened to see how they have turned this tragedy into something so incredibly positive.

Stephen Kiernan says

There is no substitute for authenticity. These are the stories of the kids in the Florida high school where the horrible shooting took place. In their own words, they describe how they turned tragedy into a national movement.

There is no gore, nor even a description of the events that Feb. 14. Instead this is writing about the heart -- what it felt like to hide in the dark, to go back to school two weeks later, to prepare for a CNN interview. The book closes with a ten-step agenda for increasing gun safety without damaging 2nd Amendment rights. It is entirely reasonable, and as this book proves, long overdue.

Chelsy says

Don't forget about these kids. LISTEN to these kids.

Brittany says

It was like getting punched in the face by the physical embodiment of every single inspiring TED Talk out there.

And that basically sums up how I felt while reading the majority of this book. If these kind, empathetic, forward-thinking people are our future, we are all going to be okay.