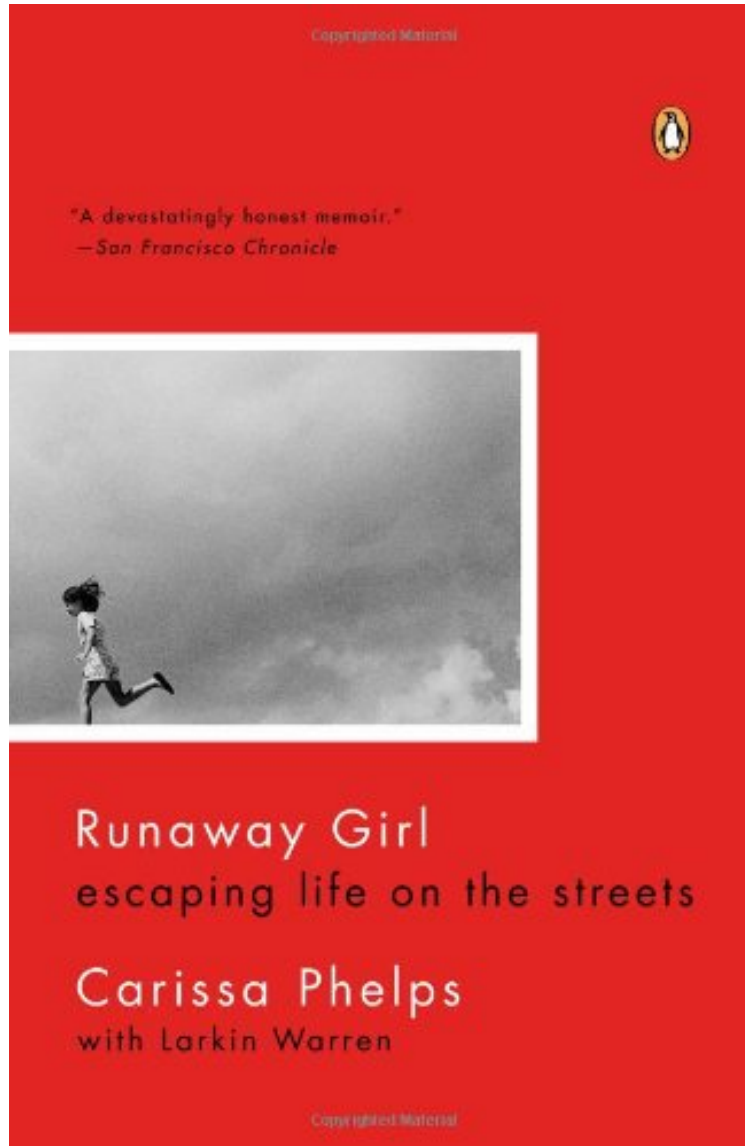


(Download pdf ebook) Runaway Girl: Escaping Life on the Streets

Runaway Girl: Escaping Life on the Streets

Carissa Phelps

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Carissa Phelps : Runaway Girl: Escaping Life on the Streets before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Runaway Girl: Escaping Life on the Streets:

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Mind-blowing story of an amazing survivor! By LovetoReadOne word, Wow! I just blew through this book, truly could not put it down. Carissa Phelps has an incredible story to tell, gut-wrenching, horrifying, and ultimately motivating. I was brought to tears many times while reading this book, not just during the frantic street scenes, but even more when Carissa starts recounting the many helping hands that helped

to pull her out of the victimization that she was experiencing. As a mother myself, with a young daughter, Carissa's experiences that she had as a young girl, simply looking for someone to love her, to take care of her, spoke volumes to me. It has motivated me even more to want to be there for her. Thank you Carissa for sharing your story and thank you for all that you are doing now to help young women out of the dead-end street life. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Brave, bold, triumphant - Carissa is an inspiration to all! By KJ What an amazing story! Carissa speaks with such raw honesty as she lets you into her world of neglect, loneliness, abuse, and eventually triumph. Her story is another example of the many youth that fall through the cracks of the system. But it's also a story of what an impact one person, "one helping hand at a time" can make in the lives of these youth. The people that stuck with her and continued to believe in her through even the toughest of times helped Carissa eventually become one of the most motivating and inspiring modern day survivor, advocate, and thriver! She truly is doing God's work and I know her story will inspire and encourage many, many people! I hope it moves others to get involved and make a difference in the life of a child in need so we can have many more stories as powerful as the life of Carissa Phelps! 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Gritty, Real and Absolutely Inspiring By Fred J Allen This book tore my heart out and then filled that wound with hope and healing. It is a clear-eyed look at what happens to a 12-year-old girl on the streets. The author does not flinch from events that others might turn away from, imply, or obscure. The question that permeates the book is how can you survive those kinds of experiences? How can you go on? The author who doesn't spare us the brutality of her life, also doesn't hesitate to credit the many kind, generous and good people who reach out to her. In one scene, she is taken to a doctor by the police. During the exam, she refuses to let the doctor go further, and the doctor doesn't push or insist, he instantly respects the wishes of this child in front of him. The author says it is the first time she said "No," and someone listened. It is such a small thing, but I wanted to hug that doctor. Every teacher needs to read about her high school math teacher Mrs. Wegerman. Every corrections officer and youth worker needs to read about her counselor in the California Youth Authority, Ron Jenkins. Anyone who has a daughter needs to read this book. It will galvanize your commitment to protect and nurture your children, no matter how troubled your relationship.

Riveting . . . A genuinely important book that casts the problem of sex trafficking in America into stunning, heartbreaking relief. (Kirkus Reviews) A School Library Journal Best Adult Book for Teens A Joan F. Kaywell Award Finalist from the Florida Council of Teachers of English Carissa Phelps was a runner. By the time she was twelve, she had run away from home, dropped out of school, and fled blindly into the arms of a brutal pimp. Even when she escaped him, she could not outrun the crushing inner pain of abuse, neglect, and abandonment. With little to hope for, she expected to end up in prison, or worse. But then her life was transformed through the unexpected kindness of a teacher and a counselor. Through small miracles, Carissa accomplished the unimaginable, graduating from UCLA with both a law degree and an MBA. She left the streets behind, yet found herself back, this time working to help homeless and at-risk youth discover their own paths to a better life. Like the multimillion-copy bestseller *The Glass Castle*, this memoir moves us through the power of its unflinching candor and generosity.

Praise for *Runaway Girl*: This devastatingly honest memoir is not for the fainthearted . . . Kafka famously wrote, A book must be the ax for the frozen sea within us. *Runaway Girl* just might become such a book. [Phelps] gives the reader valuable insight into a problem that is larger than most people realize. San Francisco Chronicle Phelps is a success . . . [a] remarkable story. NPR Carissa Phelps's story illustrates the power each of us has to speak the words that are the difference between life and death, freedom and imprisonment, success and failure. Carissa is brilliant. She's changing our world for the better, not despite what she's been through, but specifically because of it. Rhonda Sciortino, radio host of *Crack the Code* and author of *Succeed Because of What You've Been Through* Riveting . . . A genuinely important book that casts the problem of sex trafficking in America into stunning, heartbreaking relief. Kirkus *Runaway Girl* may break your heart but I promise it will ultimately awe and inspire you. No child should have to endure what Carissa did, but thousands do. Her story is a testimony to the resilience of these children and the difference a caring individual can make in their lives. If you have any doubts whether one person can make a difference in the life of a traumatized, delinquent, young person, *Runaway Girl* should put them to rest. Dr. Howard Zehr, professor of restorative justice, Eastern Mennonite University's Center for Justice and Peacebuilding, and author of *What Will Happen to Me?* *Runaway Girl* demonstrates a great amount of insight and maturity. Crisp writing and perfectly chosen events highlight the story of what happens to the majority of twelve-year-olds on the street. School Library Journal, selected as a Best Adult Book for Teens of the Year As a captivating account of the triumph of a battered heart, *Runaway Girl* is truly a modern profile in courage, a spiritual odyssey, and a riveting read. Any child who experienced the trauma that Carissa Phelps so poignantly portrays will gain comfort, encouragement, and hope in reading this book. Paul Freese, Public Counsel Law Center A brave memoir. Publishers Weekly What happens to the thousands of kids every year in the United States who are forced to leave home? Many of them find themselves in the same situation Carissa Phelps did: fallen between the cracks in foster care and forced by a vicious exploiter to walk the streets. With courage, insight, and unflinching honesty, Carissa reveals the truth about her life as a runaway,

bringing to light the many issues facing homeless youth while providing them with a beacon of hope to follow. I want everyone who cares about our countrys young people to read this book. Janice Erlbaum, author of *Girlbomb* This book is provocative in the best sense of the word: it incites readers to help. . . . *Runaway Girl* is an effective, socially aware book that offers unique insight into one womans personal experiences with trauma and recovery and her journey to find herself in a difficult, frightening, and ultimately supportive world. Katie Shaeffer, BookshelfBombshells.com With not a trace of victimhood or unplaced drama, this is a terrific addition to all collections." Amy Cheney, Alameda County Library, Juvenile Hall, CA *Runaway Girl* should be required reading for anyone with kids, especially girls, in their lives. Jesika Long, Jesikalong.Tumblr.com *Runaway Girl* is both a cautionary tale about the realities of sex-trafficking in the U.S. and an inspirational story of the change that is possible with the help of others. A very important read for both parents and teenagers. Vera Pereskokova, SheKnows.com About the Author Carissa Phelps is an attorney, a social entrepreneur, and a youth advocate. She is CEO and founder of *Runaway Girl, FPC*, a California flexible purpose corporation. Larkin Warrens recent book collaborations include Mary Forsberg Weiland's *Fall to Pieces* and Elyn R. Sakss bestselling *The Center Cannot Hold*.