



From Tears to Triumph: My Journey to The House of Hope

By Linda M Bello-Ruiz

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FROM TEARS TO TRIUMPH, My Journey to The House of Hope is a captivating true story of despair turned into hope. During the summer of 1970, nineteen-year-old Linda stops on the way home from work to talk to a handsome stranger. That chance meeting on a San Francisco street corner changes the course of her life. Linda's compassionate, gripping, and soul-searching memoir tells the story of her remarkable journey from the darkness of despair and crushed dreams to the creation of a house of hope. Her desperate cry for help brings a spiritual awakening, a two-year life-molding adventure with the controversial Children of God commune, and her decision to leave them. By the age of twenty-two, disillusioned but not defeated, Linda follows a tug on her heart and a voice in her head and moves to Costa Rica where she advocates for street girls and underage prostitutes. Read her story of tears turned to triumph as faith, defiance, and courage propel her forward, fighting against the underage sex trade—one child at a time.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Linda Caridad Cassells (Bello-Ruiz) co-founded and directed the House of Hope—the first safe-haven for street girls, runaways, and underage prostitutes in Costa Rica. She was a twenty-three-years-old college dropout when she took on the project, and relied on her faith and determination which was much bigger than her curriculum vitae. After her return to the United States in 1976, she went back to college and earned her Master's Degree in Psychology from Sonoma State University. She worked as a bilingual vocational rehabilitation counselor in Santa Rosa, California, for twenty-six years, and as a vocational forensic expert on disability for five of those years. She maintains friendship with many of her former clients. The mother of four grown children, she divides her time between Lincoln, California, and Barra de Navidad, Jalisco, Mexico, where she practices her mantra, “Lord, where can I be of service today?” She is a member of Destiny Christian Church in Rocklin, California, president of the Lincoln Hills Authors Resource Group, and a member of Inspire Christian Writers, Northern California Publishers and Authors, and the California Writers Group. Ms. Bello-Ruiz speaks to clubs and organizations on her experiences in moving beyond despair into hope and in combating the underage sex trade. She currently volunteers with groups whose mission is to combat sex trafficking and provide a safe haven for girls rescued from the sex trade. This is her first book. Visit her website: www.lindabelloruiz.com

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Troy Riley:

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Ricky Bradley:

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