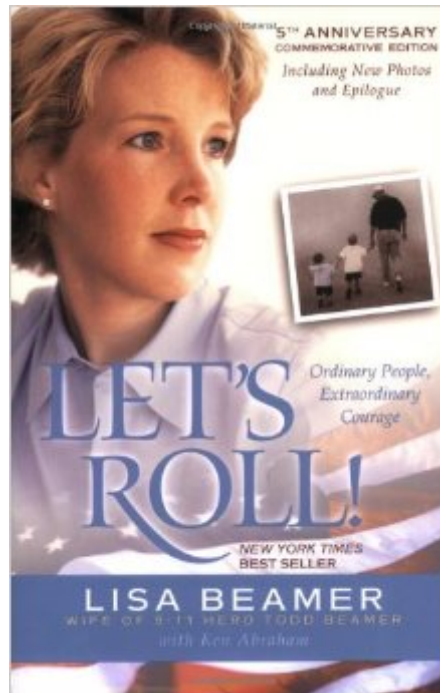


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Let's Roll!: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Courage



Synopsis

2003 ECPA Gold Medallion Award winner! The best-seller that has brought comfort and hope to millions in the wake of 9/11 is now available in softcover! Let's Roll!â€”the moving, behind-the-scenes story of United Flight 93 hero Todd Beamer and his widow, Lisaâ€”is so much more than a tribute. A message of character, courage, and undeniable faith in the face of horrifying tragedy, it encourages anyone who reads it to live real life right now . . . and to have confidence and hope for the future.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I presume to suggest that this book be read in combination with Jere Longman's Among the Heroes. Frankly, I am unable to appreciate the full nature and extent of Lisa Beamer's grief, following the death of her husband and others aboard United flight 93. As she explains in this book, her primary challenge since then has been to overcome that grief while somehow providing for the needs of their three children. Daughter Morgan was born in January, only a few months after United flight 93 crashed in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Although she has written a bestseller, and continues to attract media attention, Lisa Beamer remains focused on her children and the work of the Todd M. Beamer Foundation whose mission is to assist other children who have also lost a parent. The title of her book refers to her late husband's last recorded remarks just before he and others aboard the plane attempted to overcome the terrorists who had skyjacked it. ("Are you guys ready? Let's roll!") They knew what had already happened on September 11th whereas those

aboard the other three flights did not. Huddled to the rear of their plane, several were able to call loved ones and then recited the Lord's Prayer before rushing the forward area. Those who read this book expecting a detailed account of those final moments will be disappointed. (That is why I highly recommend Longman's book.) What Lisa Beamer shares in this book is her abiding religious faith, probably without which she could not cope with the loss of her beloved husband. She is also determined to help others to understand who her late husband was and why his heroism is "so Todd." She suggests that he was "more than a half hour of time on September 11."

First of all, I purchased the book because I've admired Lisa Beamer for all her strength and dignity in what must be the worst period of her life. When she writes of Todd being a hero (and I completely agree that he as well as the other passengers and flight crew on Flight 93 were heroes), Lisa Beamer is herself a hero. She has been 9/11's Jackie Kennedy--a vision of poise and dignity. Now on to the book. After I finished it, I concluded that if I'd have known Lisa and Todd as a couple, we probably wouldn't have been friends. I'd probably have found their deeply held religious beliefs off-putting. On further examination, I realize that would have been my loss. Lisa quotes a lot from the Bible, and for people like myself who consider themselves "spiritual" but not religious, it might seem to be over the top. But there's one part of the book that has really stuck with me since I've read it. When Lisa describes Todd's memorial service, she writes of a service filled with hope because of her total belief that Todd now dwells in Heaven, and that she will see him again. She also believes in God's will, and that Sept. 11 proved something that we all should have known all along, but might have forgotten: That God is always in control, even when we foolishly think we are. Lisa then goes on to write about a memorial service in Shanksville, PA, a service at which God was never mentioned. Lisa and her brother Paul agree that for those who grieve for loved ones without a complete belief in God, and mourn without hope, that is the saddest, most wretched grief of all. Lisa's book reveals much about Todd Beamer as a boy and young man, how they met and fell in love, and their life as newlyweds and with small children.

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