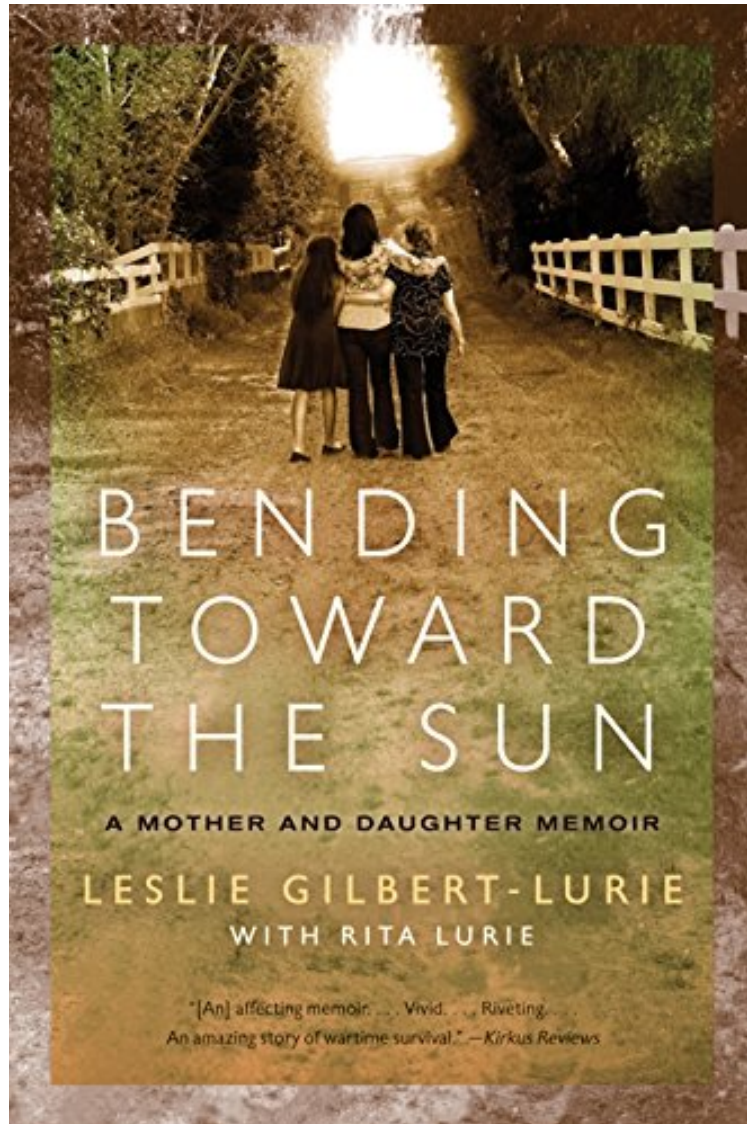


(Read free) Bending Toward the Sun: A Mother and Daughter Memoir

Bending Toward the Sun: A Mother and Daughter Memoir

Leslie Gilbert-Lurie

*DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#1220155 in Books 2010-09-07 2010-09-07Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .83 x 5.311, .63 #File Name: 0061776726368 pages | File size: 71.Mb

Leslie Gilbert-Lurie : Bending Toward the Sun: A Mother and Daughter Memoir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bending Toward the Sun: A Mother and Daughter Memoir:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Bit DisappointingBy Autumn SkyI was intrigued by this book because, while I've read many accounts of Holocaust survivors, I'd never read about the effects that experience would have on the subsequent generations. The book is divided into two parts: the story of Rita, a child who hid with her family in an attic for two years and the story of Leslie, her daughter. Rita's story was horrific and heartbreaking, as are

all accounts of that time. Even though she was only 4 when her family went into hiding, she remembered quite a bit and other older family members were able to fill in the blanks. Similar stories usually end with the end of the war, but Rita's also tells of how her family wandered for years after, from one Displaced Persons camp to another and her recovery from near starvation. Finally, they emigrate to America. I found all of that fascinating, but sad. It's Leslie's story that I found disappointing. She had a wonderful childhood in a loving family, but while trying to explain how her mother's past affected her she just comes across as self-absorbed. She keeps mentioning the research done on children of survivors, but never really tells what that research was and how it applies to her. That was why I wanted to read the book and she just never got around to it. So I give the first half of the book, Rita's story, the stars.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. *Bending Toward the Sun: A Mother and Daughter Memoir*: Purchased at .com By dep Definitely one of the most interesting books I have ever read. The first part is in the voice of Rita Lurie, a Holocaust survivor who, survived as one of a group of fourteen relatives hidden in an attic in Poland for two years. Sadly, her mother and younger brother perished in the attic. The second part is in the voice of Rita's oldest daughter, Leslie. The third part is a combination of the two women, plus an addition by Leslie's daughter Mikaela. There is a lot of information to take in in this book, it really makes you think. Because the years that Rita spent in the attic were between five and eight, those were the ages that held the most trauma for her. It explained why at times she acted inappropriately for her age. Basically, she missed out on a lot of caring and nurturing as a child. That is a difficult thing to miss out on. Leslie went on to become a very over achieving oldest child of a survivor which was not uncommon. Actually the part I liked the best was Leslie's story. She worked very hard to become an adult on her own, away from and separate from her mother. A great story that gave me quite a bit of understanding about relationships and trauma.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. They survived the Holocaust through the good-heartedness and valor of a farmer and his family who hid them at great risk and tha By Flydon This was a very lucky family. They survived the Holocaust through the good-heartedness and valor of a farmer and his family who hid them at great risk and thanks to neighbors in their town who left food out for them, also at great risk. They also survived the aftermath of the Holocaust which was very difficult and they were fortunate enough to come to the U.S. and to eventually make a new and prosperous life for themselves. Naturally, they were deeply scarred by the profound and far-reaching losses of the war.. I hated to see the petty squabbles and hurt feeling that devolved from the great personal sacrifices made during their individual struggles to survive. I think this book did a good job of showing how fears and trauma are transmitted, unintentionally, down through the generations. I've read a fair number of Holocaust survivor books and this one was just OK - not the best, not the worst.

A beautifully written family memoir, *Bending Toward the Sun* explores an emotional legacy forged in the terror of the Holocaust that has shaped three generations of lives. Leslie Gilbert-Lurie tells the story of her mother, Rita, who like Anne Frank spent years hiding from the Nazis, and whose long-hidden pain shaped both her daughter and granddaughters lives. Bringing together the stories of three generations of women, *Bending Toward the Sun* reveals how deeply the Holocaust lives in the hearts and minds of survivors and their descendants.

From Publishers Weekly The lasting impact of the Holocaust on a survivor and her daughter emerges in this joint account by Lurie-Gilbert and her mother. Lurie was five when a farmer agreed to hide her along with 14 Polish-Jewish relatives in his attic in exchange for jewelry and furs. While in hiding, Lurie witnessed the Nazis shoot a cousin and an uncle; her younger brother and mother died in the stifling, stinking hideout (years later her daughter, Gilbert-Lurie, wonders if the boy was smothered to quiet him and if her grandmother died of a broken heart). After the war, in an Italian DP camp, Lurie's father remarried to a stepmother Lurie resented; her father became increasingly depressed and remote when their fractured and traumatized family relocated to Chicago; and deep depressions haunted Lurie's own otherwise happy marriage. Gilbert-Lurie in turn recalls her mother's overprotectiveness, her career as a TV executive, a 1988 visit to her mother's childhood village and her own guilt, anxiety and sadness. Although the voices and experiences expressed are valuable, the writing is adequate at best, with none of the luminosity of Anne Frank, to whom Gilbert-Lurie compares her mother. Photos. (Sept. 1) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. *BENDING TOWARD THE SUN* is a captivating memoir that explores a complicated, loving, and enduring mother-daughter bond, and reveals how doubts, hopes, and dreams are handed down from generation to generation. As both a mother and a daughter, I found it deeply touching. (Arianna Huffington, author, syndicated columnist, and founder of The Huffington Post) Here is a memoir that takes us through many worlds, through heartache and noble hopes, through the mysteries of family love and toward a beautiful, light filled conclusion. Read *BENDING TOWARD THE SUN* and enrich your life. (Rabbi David Wolpe, author of *Why Faith Matters* and *Making Loss Matter-Creating Meaning in Difficult Times*) Gripping, exhausting, exciting, devastating--this book is at times hard to read but always impossible to put down. (Rabbi Irving Greenberg, Founding President, Jewish Life Network; former Chairman of United States Holocaust Memorial Museum) *BENDING TOWARD THE SUN* is . . . bolstered by writing that is compelling and sensitive, the book transcends the holocaust genre with its multi-generational point of view on the ultimate effect of fear and evil on young minds. (Dick Wolf,

Emmy Award-winning creator and Executive Producer of Law and Order; Law and Order: Special Victims Unit; and Law and Order: Criminal Intent)From the Back Cover"A memoir that takes us through many worlds, through heartache and noble hopes, through the mysteries of family love. . . . Read Bending Toward the Sun and enrich your life."#8212;Rabbi David Wolpe, author of Why Faith MattersA miraculous lesson in courage and recovery, Bending Toward the Sun tells the story of a unique family bond forged in the wake of brutal terror.Rita Lurie was five years old when she was forced to flee her home in Poland to hide from the Nazis in a cramped, dark attic with fourteen members of her family. Young Rita watched her younger brother and her mother die before her eyes. But the tragedy of the Holocaust was only the beginning of Rita's story.Decades later, Rita's daughter Leslie began probing the traumatic events of her mother's childhood to discover how Rita's pain has affected not only Leslie's life and outlook but that of her own daughter, Mikaela, as well. The result is Bending Toward the Sun, a collaboration between mother and daughter that brings together the stories of three generations of a family to understand the legacy that unites, inspires, and haunts them all.Leslie Gilbert Lurie has served as president of the Los Angeles County Board of Education. Formerly an executive at NBC, where she worked on such hit shows as Cheers, Family Ties,Saved by the Bell, and The Fresh Prince of Bel Air, Gilbert-Lurie lives in Los Angeles with her husband and two children.