



Neglected But Undefeated: The Life Of A Boy Who Never Knew A Mother's Love

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This book is surprising, dramatic, unbelievable, heartbreaking expressions said and done. One young man going through trials and tribulations, feeling unloved, unwanted, never needed, and unexpected, from a lady that he had finally understood was his true mother. The one he was told loved him the most in the world no matter what she does and says to him. Growing up and feeling like there was and cannot be any future and purpose for him because he felt and was being told that he could die and day to come. For reasons of that he couldn't control his feelings and seizures that were occurring because of the hatred he felt towards him from the one that loved him the most in this world.

Neglected But Undefeated: The Life Of A Boy Who Never Knew A Mother's Love Details

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From Reader Review Neglected But Undefeated: The Life Of A Boy Who Never Knew A Mother's Love for online ebook

Lauren says

I in no way want to belittle the horrors that Jonathan had to suffer through his childhood and adolescence. The beatings and cruelty he had to endure were obviously terrible and reading about them was traumatizing. Like most people I have never experienced anything close to his abuse and I sympathized with him greatly.

That being sad, I didn't think the book was a very good read. A lot of the things the events didn't seem to make much sense. I was confused by the adult women attempting to have penetrative sex with him when he was as young as five years old. Surely they were mature enough to realize that wasn't possible?

Also, despite the sadness that I felt for Jonathan and the horrors that befell him, he treated many of the women in his life very poorly. He uses the girls he is with for his own gain. Jonathan no longer cares for Latoya because she did not support him through his arrest and troubles, he uses Cindy for sex despite the fact that he feels she has a bad attitude, and he gets Monique pregnant because he wants an heir without ever consulting her on the matter.

The themes of homophobia also made me particularly uncomfortable. Tim comes onto Jonathan and he is disgusted and horrified. Worse, later in the book Jonathan is more uncomfortable with the fact that Tim is gay than the fact that he has molested a child. Overall, all of the names he called gay men and his thoughts about them were very troublesome for me.

I did think Jonathan's poetry showed great promise. It seemed to get across his true feelings and the pain he felt better without including facts that I didn't need to hear.

Teri says

Many of us have asked why do they act like that Working with children my entire life , bringing children into our home for many years this is my answer. You must read this book. It's a heart breaker but if you read , you will understand that we are all wanting the same thing LOVE, we are All children of God. A special. Thank you for this insight of neglect I will keep you and many others in my prayers. God bless

Brent Soderstrum says

I won this book through GoodReads First Read program.

I am truly sorry for all Mr. Burkett has gone through in his life. Nevertheless, this is a bad book. Burkett describes how his mother beat him using various methods to inflict the beating, she would then tell him not to tell anyone or she would beat him more severely and then she would beat him again using a different method. This goes on and on for many chapters. Every once in awhile a different form of abuse from someone else is thrown in such as sexual abuse when he was a little guy. I am in no way down playing what Burkett went through. It just wasn't an enjoyable read.

Ashley says

About The Book:

This book is surprising, Dramatic, unbelievable heartbreaking expressions said and done. One young man going through trials and tribulations, feeling unloved, unwanted, never needed, and unexpected, from a lady that he had finally understood was his true mother. The one he was told loved him the most in the world no matter what she does and says to him. Growing up and feeling like there was and cannot be any future and purpose for him because he felt and was being told that he could die any day to come. For reasons of that he couldn't control his feelings and seizures that were occurring because of the hatred he felt towards him from the one that loved him the most in this world.

My Review:

The author helps to show us that sometimes we don't have it as bad as we think. Jonathan's life was very upsetting. It made me feel bad that he never really knew what it's like to have a mother's love. A mother's love is something you can't get from anywhere else. But Jonathan shows us that you do not need a mother's love to grow. Whether that physical, spiritually, or mentally. Jonathan's life may have been different from many people's but he still succeeded in the end. He knows God and that's all he really needs.

The author's life reminded me of the life of a friend of mine. My friend, Jessica has a mom is a lot like Jonathan's. Jessica doesn't understand why her mom is always so hateful and unloving towards her. Jessica has a younger brother but he is not treated as badly as she is. I've been praying for Jessica a lot lately and I hope that she will soon be able to forgive her mother and move on. I can't wait to give this book to Jessica and I hope she will feel comforted that she's not the only one that feels alone.

This book will let everyone know that God will be with them through it all and that God loves them more than any mother could.

About The Author:

Jonathan Anthony Burkett was born February 1, 1987. He is a bright outstanding writer inspired by many, as he continues to struggle in life. Devoted for achievement in his lifetime, he is willing to take any test. He told himself, that he would never give up no matter the trials and tribulations. He decided to write to help him move towards a bright future for himself; and because he knows that's what his Grandparents want for him.?

Disclosure: This book was given to me for free by the Author for my honest review.

Liza says

The things that Jonathan went through at such a young age by a mother who could/would not love him is heartbreaking. I can not imagine what was going through his mother that would make her be that abusive, and for so long. What is worse is the child's fear of things getting worse if the child tells.

There are so many children who are getting abuse like this, who have no one they can turn to. Telling someone would not bring immediate or permanent remedy. If the issue is investigated and a crime is not found, that child goes back to that abusive parent. (off my soapbox).

What I did wonder, while reading this book, why no one called the police? Was it a really bad neighborhood where kids are getting whooping's all the time so everyone was numb to the sound? I am pretty sure he screamed his head off. At least until he just couldn't. (But I am pretty sure the pain was so great sound wouldn't come out.) Just trying to visualize what he explained is upsetting.

I was also surprised that he kept talking back like he did. In other people stories of abuse, they tend to try avoiding anything that could potentially cause a beating. They tried to be invisible, didn't speak, etc. I could understand it he said those things because she was preparing to beat him in hopes of her ending his life with that beating. But him just saying something "out of the blue" seemed like his was taunting her. I was reading it and saying to myself "shut up, you gonna get in trouble!"

The book seemed to jump around slightly to me during the teenage years. Otherwise I saw it was written probably how it would have been spoken.

Laura Shavers says

I got this through a Goodreads giveaway. I've been super excited to read it.

This book.... wow! What this man has been through... and still standing to fight the next battle in life is amazing.

He was originally raised by his grandparents in Jamaica and was then sent to the States with his mother. In Jamaica, he witnessed countless acts of violence in the streets but had unconditional love. Once he was with his mother (a term I use loosely,) he was abused to levels I would think are impossible because he was the product of rape. The Child Welfare Dept in Florida should be ashamed for never taking him from her custody.

Mr. Burkett was also diagnosed with epilepsy and encounters many problems due to that. He has been homeless which has made his situation worse. Surgery to remove a lesion was performed to alleviate the symptoms.

I really would like to read a follow up in a few years to see where he is in life. The things he's been through are heartbreaking and I how he rises above it all.

Tanya Harrison says

Parts of this memoir are unbearable to read. But life is unbearable sometimes. It's his life's story. He was so resilient. You could definitely see a hand guiding him through impossible moments. I love his humanness. He made a lot of mistakes in his life, but he kept going on. That's what I love about his story, he kept getting back up and walking forwards.

I highly recommend reading this book. He's a beautiful soul. His poetry and quotes are beautiful at the end too. I look forward to reading more of his work in the future.

Jonathan says

This autobiography will grip at your heart as the author pours out his very soul, flooding each page with painful echoes of the past that will not die down while kept bottled up. In time, he realizes that his own grief has been passed on to him by his mother, who experienced incredible anguish at the hands of his biological father. Join John Burkett's journey to freedom from a traumatic life brought upon by the one who should have loved him most, but didn't.

Cerenity says

I won this book for free through a First Readers giveaway. This was a great but heartbreaking story. I still can not believe everything that he went through he still could have the strength to change his life. A very motivating story to think you could survive through anything if you can put your past behind you and strive to be a better person. It is a very difficult book to get through. He went through so much abuse. His poetry was beautiful and sad. I would definitely recommend this story to anyone who wants to read a story about hope and perseverance.

Denisa Howe says

The story starts out as a young boy's life, his childhood and yet it is the story of finding his father and their relationship. Passed around to different caretakers the writer brings about emotions that reach out and grab your heart, soul and mind. It was shocking, intense, implausible and yet amazing. A boy going through emotions of not being loved and not understanding why. Dealing with seizures and heartache without understanding and inability to change anything. The book is wrote very well with a main character I cried with and wanted to snatch out of the book and change that which he was faced with. The poetry mingled in brought out emotions on a very intense level bringing about the desire of one's heart and needs. I received this book via goodreads and certainly appreciate the opportunity to read it and add it to my library.

Melissa B says

Received through a Goodreads giveaway.

This is a heartbreaking but very uplifting memoir. As a mother, I could never imagine looking at my son and hating him, much less harming him. The fact that Jonathan was able to eventually rise above his mother's abuse and work on making himself better makes this one of the most uplifting memoirs I've read.

The beginning seemed choppy to me and at first I didn't think I cared for the author's writing style, but as he continued to tell his story, the writing seemed to grow with him. He started with a very "in-your-face" first chapter, before delving into how he came to be in that situation. Every time he wrote about the abuse he suffered at the hands of his mother, I felt my heart break for him.

He overcame so many challenges in his youth that I truly hope Mr. Burkett will go on to do great things.

Whisper Pines says

Jonathan and his journey through an abusive childhood and life really spoke to me and at times a tear slid down my face. He must have had an angel protecting him through this ordeal. He himself was not a perfect person but he never gave up. He survived and he rose above that kind of life to a knowing that there was something better and he could be in control of it.

I was given this book through goodreads and it is one of my favorites that I will read again I am sure.

Betsy Hover says

I receive this book as Goodreads giveaway! The author, Jonathan Anthony Burkett, takes the reader thru a autobiography of his horrific childhood. As a mother myself of three children, I want to reach thru the pages and love this child, who need to be mothered and nurtured properly. The author is an overcomer of the most horrific childhood circumstances and comes out on TOP of life due to the work he has done on his personal life.

Jesemy Eisele says

I received this book as a goodreads giveaway.

I was moved by Jonathan's story. I commend him for being so brutally honest but sometimes the details of the abuse he endured at the hands of his mother were a bit much for me to read. It was so frequent and horrific and I am shocked that nobody intervened sooner to help him when he was a boy. My daughter has epilepsy so hearing about Jonathan's seizures really struck a chord with me as I was reading those parts of the book. Although I mostly enjoyed the story, I wouldn't describe it as a page turner. I ended up skipping over parts of the middle to see what happened later because I was becoming bored with some of the content. I will probably go back and reread the parts I skipped. I did, however, really enjoy the poetry throughout the book. I wish Jonathan the best of luck with his future writing!

Tiffany says

Let me first start off by saying it takes a lot for a person to relive their past, especially a past like the one in the book, but it takes even more for that person to be brave enough to write it down and give it to the world to read.

Growing up in a household and an environment filled with love and familiar faces and quickly taken away from that environment and having to grow up in a household full of uncertainties. A household where one would expect nothing but love and nurture, is a house that has anything but. Growing up in a house where you feel like the outside, where beatings are something you expect on a daily basis regardless if your good or bad. Not only were there brutal beatings given out daily to a child, there was also verbal abuse as well as neglect in many forms, medical and food neglect. Jonathan goes through so much at an early age that he cant even understand whats going on. There are incidents that happen to him in school with older people, there are things that he witnesses when he is growing up in Jamaica that no child should see, that also effects his life when he moves to Miami to be with his mother. Due to her past that she doesn't share she takes much of her frustrations out on her son because she sees him as someone else. All Jonathan ever really wants is the love of his mother and to feel welcomed by her. How can a boy who grows up going through brutal beatings, verbal abuse, a mother who was a monster still have a positive side and willingness to overcome everything that he had been through.

I enjoyed this book. It was a very powerful and touching story that I think people growing up in care, or

growing up in the same situations can relate to. When you read this you just cant help to feel your emotions rise with the story, the way this young boy had to grow up being beaten everyday and scared to tell the truth and let people know what was going on or fear of being killed was really sad. There were parts in the story were I was hoping and wishing that he would tell anyone someone just tell the truth about what was going on with him because the way he was getting beat and treated, no food, holes in his shoes, in a way he loves his mother that he didnt want to see her get taken away. As he got older and realized things wouldnt change but since his family dynamics did he just did what he had to do to survive out there. At least there were people around him who suspecting something and were willing to give him a helping hand when they could. The story did have a few minor errors here and there but not a whole lot and also I felt some parts kind of repeated somewhat. Overall a really good book, its sad that anyone had to grow up going through these things, but its great to have so much love in you that you want to give that love and can take that and move forward with your life thats a really strong person. I have recommended this book to a few people, it is a strong subject matter but the lesson of neglected but undefeated is an amazing one.
