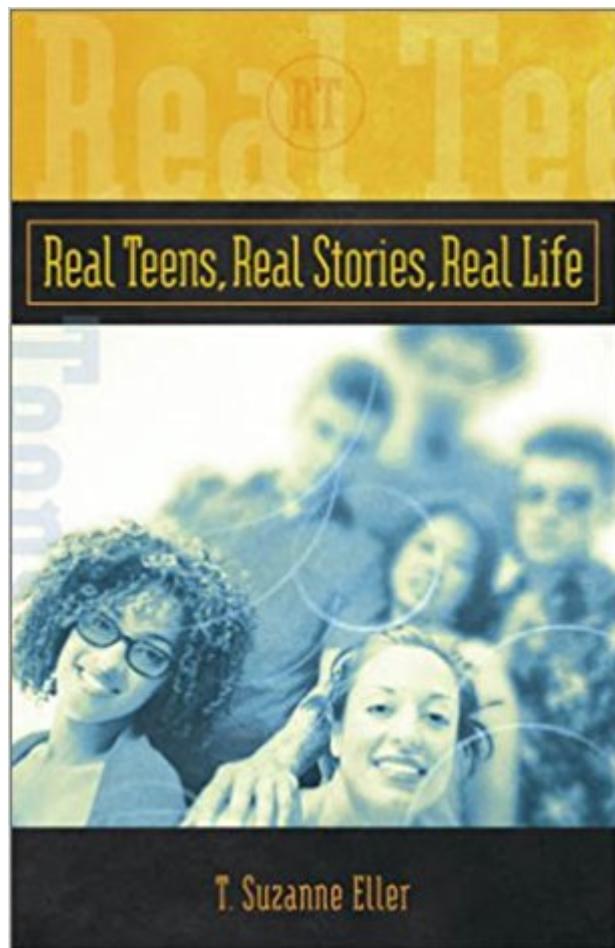


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# Real Teens, Real Stories, Real Life



## **Synopsis**

The teens in this book are not fictitious characters. Their stories are not made up. They have experienced the full range of disappointments, heataches, and personal failures that life can throw one's way. The good news is that all 39 teens in this book met Someone who changed their lives forever. That Someone is the God who loved them enough to die for them - who will never leave nor forsake them. As you read these stories of pain and triumph, open your heart to the same life-changing God they met.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: RiverOak (November 30, 2002)

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Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,887,698 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #89 in Books > Teens > Personal Health > Drug & Alcohol Abuse #245 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Drugs #1171 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Children's & Teens > Teens

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

Suzanne Eller and her husband, Richard, live in Muskogee, Oklahoma with their three children. Suzanne is active in youth ministry in Muskogee, and writes for a variety of magazines, including Guidepost, Today's Christian Woman, and Focus on the Family.

My son enjoyed reading this book and relaying it to his youth ministry at the church. It also has been helpful in working with other teens.

I will never forget the night that I wanted to die. I didn't want to tell anyone. I didn't want to tell anyone about the tears that I had cried when they weren't looking. I didn't want to tell anyone that I didn't

have a reason to get out of bed in the morning. I wasn't going to tell anyone. But I needed to tell someone. And I needed to hear someone say, "I know what it's like to be depressed." But no one was saying it. And I wasn't telling. I was tied up in my own fear that someone would think that I was crazy. And I couldn't afford to be different from those around me - God knows that I didn't want to be any more of a misfit than I already was. What I didn't know was that there were thousands of teens experiencing similar thoughts, and they too felt that they had nowhere to turn. They too, were suffering in a dangerous silence. One of those silent teenagers was a young boy named Darrin. Darrin was so addicted to pornography that he tried to take his own life. He had no hope. Around the same time in another area of the US, Jennifer Harmon was learning to live again. After a serious diving accident, Jennifer was left dependent and paralyzed from the neck down. Jennifer had nowhere to turn. I've never met Darrin, or Jennifer. But their stories of hope and life have inspired me to live life to the fullest. I've never heard Darrin say, "I know how it feels to be depressed," and I've never put my arm around Jennifer and laughed with her so hard that my stomach hurt. But it doesn't matter - because these teens are just like me, with stories just like mine. They're Real Teens, with Real Stories, in Real Life. They're just like you and they're just like me - they're not afraid of the word, "suicide", they're not afraid to talk about the pain they feel, and they're not afraid to share their honest feelings about love, life, and God. Their stories are presented in a book that was published this month by T. Suzanne Eller, entitled, *Real Teens, Real Stories, Real Life*. \*The publisher, Suzanne Eller, remembers what it was like to suffer extreme emotional pain as a teenager. Coming from a difficult home situation, Suzanne questioned the love of God. In fact, she questioned His very existence. "I asked God to show me that He existed," Suzie says. "And when He did, He rocked my world." One of the ways that God continues to rock Suzie's world is by giving her the opportunity to edit and compile the book, *"Real Teens, Real Stories, Real Life"*. Suzie began working on the book when she realized that there was no other book for teenagers that handled the tough issues. "I'd look in a bookstore," says Suzie, "and I'd ask myself the question, 'why are we not talking about the things that matter?'" When Suzie began her work on the book, teens from around the world volunteered to share their personal stories. From tragedy to triumph, Suzie's book is packed with true and inspiring accounts written by "Real Teens", containing "Real Stories", about "Real Life".

The format of the book *"Real Teens, Real Stories, Real Life"* by T. Suzanne Eller, lends itself to easy reading. Each chapter is a touching real life experience by young folks in their early teens to mid twenties. The stories tell of their personal downward spiral into the pit of lying, stealing, physical abuse, drugs, porn, occult, sex, pregnancy, homosexuality, and some of them jail. Their life and

death stories are made even more significant by the fact that hundreds of our nation's teens are moving in the same direction. Intervention is needed. This book is one of hope, of overcoming, of climbing out of the pit. Each of the teens tell their story because they did find help, they did find a way to "do a 180". These teens were from different states across our nation and yet the common thread to the answer is through God. T. Suzanne Eller is a cancer survivor who has written a book that will help other teens, parents of teens and those who work with teens. I'm a grandmother of teens and heartily recommend the book. Clarice Claiborne

This new book by T. Suzanne Eller is absolutely wonderful and real! It is full of so many great, true and personal stories of teenagers who were struggling with something very difficult in their lives and gave it all to God and let HIS awesome power transform them! I was so inspired by this book. This is an excellent book, not only for teenagers struggling in their lives; but for anyone who wants to read about the love God will pour over you, about HIS awesome power to transform your life into something beautiful, and how you can feel so much closer to HIM through prayer. Suzie has done an excellent job of telling these teens' stories and I definitely look forward to future releases by this awesome author!

This book kept my interest from the first word to the last. It was honest and real and didn't talk down or preach about issues that matter to teens. It was open and honest and identified with the things that teens face, but showed God to be powerful and merciful. Perfect gift for a teen from a parent, grandparent or anyone who knows a teen who needs to know that God is not afraid of the tough stuff. In fact, he's HUGE in our lives and can walk with us through whatever we face and not only bring us out on the other side, but change our lives forever. He's awesome. This book is awesome.

This book is so powerful. I actually was one of the people that had a testimony in it. I love to hear and read testimonies of how God changes peoples' lives. This book is a valuable resource, I have already purchased 10 extras to hand out to new believers and friends who also love testimonies!! It's fantastic to see how God still moves today, in the most screwed up lives, and bring His sons and daughters up out of the mud and sets them on mountains!! Hallelujah!! You will be very blessed if you get this book!

I bought the book and read the entire thing in a day. I must say the trueness and the reality of it touched me deeply. The teens Suzie wrote were teens that have gone through some of the

everyday problems that most teens go through these days. I know one story in particular touched me. It talked about looking in God mirror than worrying about what everyone else thought about you. It was really great and I would recommend it to all and any. Rock On Suzie.

A lot of Christian books for teens stay away from the real issues. This book doesn't and it's encouraging to know that God can change a life like this. Loved the quotes from teens, the stories, and especially the poetry written by teens. Very cool book.

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