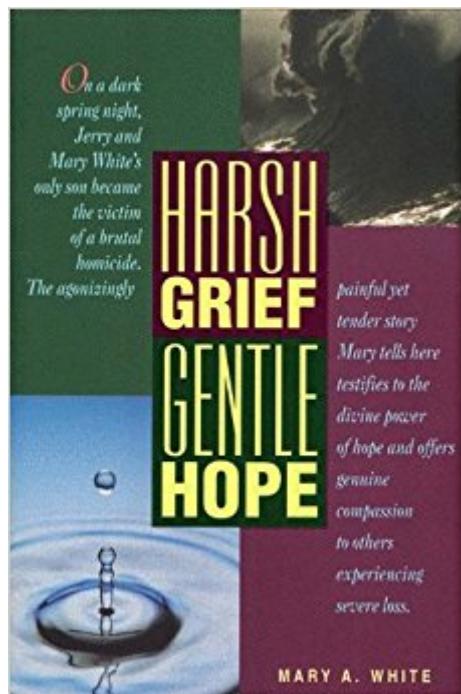


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# Harsh Grief, Gentle Hope



## **Synopsis**

This agonizing story of grief and loss is the White's account of the murder of their only son, Steve. It is also an inspiring account of God's mercy, tenderness, and persistence as He continues to lead the Whites and their family toward hope and healing

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

A deeply moving book that helps open our eyes to the personal pain of crime and the power of God to restore and sustain those who call upon Him." -- Chuck Colson, Chairman of the Board, Prison Fellowship Ministries Solomon wrote, 'It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting' (Eccles. 7:2). Mary White invites us into her house of mourning--that we, with her, might look loss in the eye and hear the God of hope speak--and be the better for it. -- Jean Fleming, author of *A Mother's Heart* and *The Homesick Heart* White's writing captures in stunning detail her myriad thoughts and raging emotions. The narrative of events is written on one track, while her own inner turmoil and God's responses are italicized. People who have had a loved one die unexpectedly will resonate with these agonized inner conversations...Harsh Grief, Gentle Hope is a story of heartbreak and "soul-break," but also a story of restoration and healing. -- Melanie Mueller, *The Mennonite*, October 24, 1995

MARY A. WHITE holds a degree in English from the University of Colorado and has studied at Northwestern Bible College and the University of Washington. She and her husband, Jerry, who is

the general director of The Navigators, are involved in a discipling ministry, speak at seminars around the country, and minister in their local church. Mary and Jerry are the authors of Friends and Friendship (NavPress).

Anyone who has lost someone in a tragedy can benefit from the grief turned to hope of Mary White. Her sister, Ruth, suggested the book to me. My loss was my brother four days before I turned 19. He was 15 & 1/2. God has given Mary the grace to share her private, vulnerability over the loss of her 30 year old son to murder. It doesn't matter how hold they are, they are too young to die in needless tragedy. For those trying to make sense of a senseless loss, this book, Mary, shares the journey.

Knowing Mary and Jerry White as the children grew up, it was hard to imagine all that they went through with the death of Steve. I was in the middle of the book when the school shooting took place in Connecticut. I believe all of the families would benefit from what Mary & Jerry White shared.

Having lost two of my own children in the last 9 years, I cannot tell you the value of a book where someone really knows your pain BUT can give you incredible hope in the Lord's grace and mercy. thank you for this HOPE

I recently lost my fiance' to a sudden heart attack. The shock has not worn off nearly four months after the tragedy and I suspect it has changed me forever. This book was loaned to me by a friend and I read it cover to cover in one sitting. It was easy to read and hit so close to home. I am Catholic but my loss has shaken my faith. Mary White struggled, as I do, with the question of "why?" and her story follows her evolution through pain into acceptance and peace. I particularly liked the text in italics where she questions God and hears His answers. I refer to these passages often for comfort. Also the section at the back of the book that takes you through the stages of grief is a great help. I would recommend this book to anyone trying to find peace with a loss that has made them question their beliefs.

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