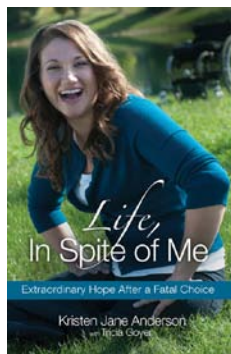


For Immediate Release
Multnomah Books,
a division of Random House, Inc.

Lynette Kittle, Senior Publicist
719-264-5661

lkittle@randomhouse.com

Losing Legs Leads Teenager to Stand for Christ **At 17, Kristen Anderson lost her legs in a suicide attempt. Today, she lives with passion and purpose.**



Colorado Springs, Colo. – Now in paperback, *Life In Spite of Me* (Multnomah Books, May 17, 2011) tells the true account of author **Kristen Anderson**'s depression, tragic choice, desperate struggle and, ultimately, abundant joy.

At 17 years old, Kristen Anderson lay across train tracks not far from her home and expected to die. Raped by someone she thought was a trusted friend, after losing three friends and her grandmother within two years, she'd had more than she could take. She spiraled into a seemingly bottomless depression that led her to a fatal choice.

Before the train engineer could stop, 33 freight cars passed over Kristen at 55 miles per hour. It was only after the train stopped that Kristen realized she was still alive. Looking around while trying to figure out if it was all just a horrible dream, she saw her severed legs ten feet away. Rocked with pain, soon peace overcame her and she experienced a heavenly concert for one. "Amazing Grace" mysteriously rang in her ears as she waited to die. But Kristen's story didn't end on the tracks.

"I was angry with the paramedics for trying to save me," says Anderson, who never lost consciousness. "With all of my being, I wanted to die." After losing her legs, Kristen fell into a deeper battle with depression and suicidal thoughts, as well as unrelenting physical pain. Still, a transformation had begun and in the midst of her darkest days, Kristen found hope in Christ and a purpose for living.

Unflinchingly honest and ultimately hopeful, *Life, In Spite of Me* tells Kristen Anderson's gripping story of finding joy and a life worth living.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Kristen Jane Anderson has been featured on *Oprah* and is a popular speaker at colleges, women's and youth events and suicide prevention outreaches. She is also the founder of Reaching You Ministries, where Kristen seek to help those who are hurting, hopeless, lost, suicidal and depressed. For the latest on Kristen, visit ReachingYouMinistries.com

Tricia Goyer is the author of three hundred articles for national periodicals, as well as fourteen novels and six nonfiction books, including *Blue Like Play Dough*.

Inspirational

ISBN 978-160142-382-5 • Trade Paperback • 209 pages • \$13.99 U.S. / \$15.99 Canada
eBook: ISBN 978-1-60142-253-8