



Thank My Lucky Scars

Ward Foley

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

Thank My Lucky Scars

Ward Foley

Thank My Lucky Scars Ward Foley

Ward Foley, aka “Scarman”, survived decades of disfigurement, pain, and suffering. But it was through the death of a close friend that he learned a profound lesson and discovered a secret that changed his life forever. This is a story about finding what you want most, in the most unlikely places, and usually right under your nose. Share the joy of seeing your own life—and everything around you—in bold new ways.

Thank My Lucky Scars Details

Date : Published January 28th 2006 by ForWard Publishing (first published 2006)

ISBN : 9780978900809

Author : Ward Foley

Format : Hardcover 0 pages

Genre : Autobiography, Memoir, Biography, Nonfiction

 [Download Thank My Lucky Scars ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Thank My Lucky Scars ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Thank My Lucky Scars Ward Foley

From Reader Review Thank My Lucky Scars for online ebook

Lisette Brodey says

I've always believed that one of the key elements in being able to inspire others with your story, is simply to tell it. And that's exactly what Ward Foley did. He sat down and wrote a book about what it was like being born with multiple birth defects: Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita (AMC) and club hands and feet. As the author likes to make crystal clear: just because you're born with birth defects it doesn't mean that more bad things can't happen to you. And they did. Being nearly killed by a drunk driver, being beaten by troubled teens he was trying to help, and falling into a 400-degree fryer are perfect examples. Surely, Foley could have become embittered and assume he'd already achieved his quota of bad things at birth. But Ward Foley is anything but a bitter man.

He focuses on what he can do, not on what he can't do. And without a doubt, his natural wit and delightful humor in tandem with his life story are what made this book shine especially bright for me.

After raising his family, Foley increased the volunteer work that he had been doing for years and found a very special place in his heart for hospice patients. For me, this was the most uplifting part of the book. While writing about hospice may at first sound gloomy to some, the fact that Ward Foley can sit with a hospice patient is one of the greatest blessings of his life. The stories he tells are touching, inspiring, heartwarming, funny, surprising and heart-wrenching. As the author talks about the many "God moments" where time after time amazing things happen, he doesn't try to convince the reader to interpret it as he does. He doesn't talk about what he gives to others; he talks about what others give to him. To me, that is the very foundation of a truly inspirational story.

Meg says

I'm so glad that Foley wrote this book himself. He discusses in the text that he had wanted someone else to write it, since he thought of himself as a good "communicator" but not necessarily a good "writer." I have no doubt that the book would have contained better extended metaphors, organization, creative analogies, diction, etc. under a "writer"-- but it would have been just another well-written non-memoir. To me, Foley's writing is rough at times, but it is HONEST. The book reads like a raw, humorous, (and yes) disjointed, but thoroughly sincere private diary of one man's battle to overcome physical deformity, pain, peer rejection, disappointments and tragic loss through faith in God's everyday miracles. And I loved it for what it was, not what it wasn't.

Besides, as Foley says, when has LIFE ever flowed?

FAVORITE QUOTES:

I now have trouble growing hair on my head, but do grow it on the palm of my left hand. (due to skin grafts)

God gives us life, and we make it good or bad.

"Unlike" does not mean "unable."

Look for God in everything.

I had seen in Glenn the love of God we should all be searching for... And I wanted that peace without having to die to get it.

Why would a loving God do this, or allow it to happen? Why would He take somebody so young, someone who brought happiness to so many? These and many questions run through our minds in such situations, and there are no easy answers. In fact, there are no answers at all. This is about faith. Trusting in God is all we have.

Some days it helps just to be able to say, "I hurt."

We look so hard through the window that we don't see what is right in front of us. That's where God is.

I have yet to meet a hospice patient who asked me to get all her money from the bank or gather all the awards he had won. They have asked for family, friends, and loved ones.

If you ever need a standing ovation, just ask.

We die alone with God.

I trust in God to guide me. God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-loving. He is the One who can.

If others think I am nuts, naive, gullible, and not living in the real world, that's all right, too... I'll gladly stay in what some have called my fictitious world, my happy and peaceful world, a world full of signs of hope.

Not loving others is wrong, and attacking them is sick. One of the most important things I learned as I grew up was that people were not better than I was because they were stronger or could run faster. They were not smarter because they looked "normal." We are all equal in God's eyes. God loves a bum, a rich man, a homosexual, a couple celebrating fifty years of marriage, a prisoner, a jailer, a woman who just had an abortion, a foster mother, a Republican, a Democrat, and me, just as much as He loved His son Jesus.

Asking for help can be just as important as helping others.

Throughout my life, God has been with me. I'm the only difference in whether I see his presence or don't. The more I trust in Him, the easier life is. God is everywhere, and willing to help, and, the more I ask, the more He does. The more I look, the more clear He is. The more I listen, the more noise He makes.

Over many centuries every religion has been guilty of ungodly acts. These acts were not performed by God or even the religion itself... We should not let religion get in the way of our faith.

No matter how bad things get, they can get worse. But they can also get better. To rephrase Murphy's Law, what can go wrong can also go right.

Pamela says

This book is very good read. It is humorous, inspirational, and enticing, all at the same time. It shows what God is capable of and also what we humans are capable of as well. By spinning his story, Ward is able to help others and show what he went through, while he does this he succeeds in teaching without coming off

as preachy. By reading this book you will be renewed with a sense of hope and will make you believe anything is possible. A definite favorite of mine.

Destiny says

Ward Foley is disabled. He struggles with daily activities such as brushing his teeth. There are so many things that he will never be able to do because he simply CANNOT. He must tolerate ridicule and insensitivity from the general public concerning his deformities.

Thank My Lucky Scars isn't about any of the above. This book is about all the things Foley can and has done with his life. He challenges himself beyond his physical limitations. He keeps a positive attitude about life and about himself. One of the most important lessons from this book is about self-acceptance. Foley ponders the meaning of life and his life in particular.

Foley describes facing more near-death experiences than should be cosmically possible. He strengthens himself through faith and love and family. He chooses to use his life to help others through friendships, motivational speeches, and volunteering with hospice. His testimony is miraculous and inspiring.

This book has a profound message. Ward Foley is a great role model for us all. He makes me want to do more with my own life. Thank you, Ward.

Sherrie says

The short and very sweet version of what I think about Thank My Lucky Scars: I can HONESTLY say that this book, this man's life story, has helped to change my outlook on life! My own hardships are now met with a more focused spirituality, sprinkled with a touch more humor, and a heap more faith. I will keep Ward Foley's charming, funny, and very poignant memoir near and dear. Fully appreciating that I will continue to learn from and be inspired by him as I "run the bases," too (borrowing from an achievement of Ward's). I can't think of a better gift to give or to receive!

Shay says

This is one of the most beautiful books I have read. I loved it because the author, Ward Foley, doesn't try to be preachy, doesn't try to be anyone he's not; he just tells the story of his own struggles from his heart.

Ward Foley, who was born with myriad birth defects, not only was given little chance to live, but he went through so much growing up, trying to enjoy the same things other kids enjoyed -- all the time having to endure pain, sadness, humiliation and so much more. As if all that weren't enough, he suffered several more traumas which were unrelated to his birth defects.

As I kept reading **THANK MY LUCKY SCARS**, I couldn't get over what a *very* genuine human being Foley is, and it was clear that he had written this book to help others, not to help himself. I loved the fact that he wrote his own book and didn't have a ghost writer pen a slick story that would have taken away from his warm and self-deprecating humor. At times, I felt not as if I were reading a book, but almost as if this delightful man were sitting next to me telling me his story.

And while Ward Foley has a strong belief in God that has guided him, this book is about as non-preachy as you can get. Foley embraces everyone and his stories are clearly meant to help EVERYONE, no matter what one's religious beliefs or affiliation. That was really important to me, as I'm not a fan of any book that tells me what to believe.

As I reached the end of this book, I couldn't help think of people I knew who were going through rough times, as was I, and who might be helped. Since I read this book, several of my friends have read it, too. One friend, who is going through unimaginable problems, told me she was ready to give up on life but after reading how Ward Foley had survived, and with such love in his heart to give others, she too had to keep going.

This is a simple, but genuine story from a man's heart. Some people who have gone through what Ward Foley have gone through would be bitter. But he has not. He is a hospice volunteer, a husband, a father, and an all-around great human being who simply tries to do his best to help make the world a better place. If only everyone were as special as Ward Foley . . .

Susan Murphy-Milano says

About a year ago I was on Facebook and one of those instant messages came up on the bottom of my screen. Rarely do I pay attention, for some unknown reason I hit the response button and typed "hello." The person at the other end of cyberspace was a man whom unknown to me at the time, literally, across the country, makes the journey with those in the final hours of their lives. He had a difficult time typing and asked if I would be alright with calling so we could talk on the phone. His voice sounded like a cross between singer Kris Kristofferson and Pastor Rick Warren, with the ease and wisdom that comes with being wiser beyond ones years. We laughed and talked for hours as though we were long lost friends.

Ward was born with multiple birth defects and very little chance of survival. After decades of surgery, years of taunting by classmates, constant ridicule because he was different and humiliation by the outside world most us would not survive, Ward Foley is a remarkable life force like nothing I have ever encountered. Nearly seven days a week Ward Foley begins his day by touching the lives of those whom are in their last hours of life, or visiting a children's hospital talking with a parent or child after a difficult surgery to correct a limb or remove a life threatening tumor. Other days he can be found making the rounds in the hospice wing of hospitals or at the home of a person preparing to die. No matter how he is feeling or what is aching in his own body he journeys out that door because people are counting on him. He remains at the side of those whose families are either non-existent or have already passed on. Ward runs errands, (well he says he does but I know he cannot run as he often jokes) when a patient has a request he finds a way to make certain it happens. Or, in his arms, using his body as a kind of cushion, he holds that precious life up close into his body, gently telling a corny story or talking with them until they take their last breath.

Sandy Kuhlman who is on the Board of Directors for the National Hospice & Palliative Care organization said " Ward has limitless wisdom, courage, warmth, and humor to share with those facing so many life's major transitions and hardships.

Ward found a "life peace" most of us only dream or read about. His body is covered with scars and he realized that each "scar" was the one thing in his life that brought him closer to the people and experiences that helped others make important transitions in their lives. He does not know the meaning of the word "can't," in fact it's banned from his vocabulary except when he is giving one of his witty speeches.

Ward Foley is also the author of the book "Thank My Lucky Stars" a book that once you read it you actually

forget your own troubles. It is an amazingly inspiring book that will make you laugh (even when you don't feel like it) and for me that is a huge achievement. A portion of the proceeds are donated to Hospice. It's Ward's way of doing something indirectly for those he does not have the opportunity to meet or help with during end of life care. His previous book needs to be mentioned to let you know what kind of extraordinary man Ward Foley is. It's title is: "God Didn't Me Me A Woman Because I Had Enough Problems."

He uses what others might view as an obstacle, providing human compassion, hope, love and laughter, spreading his message of "I can do anything" and so "can you" taking his scars that he wears on the outside and somehow shows us the importance of removing those we carry with us on the inside.

Ward Foley is a blessing to so many-I am humbled to call him my friend!

From the site Time's Up: <http://timesupblog.blogspot.com/searc...>

Wright Gres says

I read "Thank My Lucky Scars" because a friend suggested it, saying the author, Ward Foley, was such a remarkable person. Isn't that how so many of us end up reading some of the books we do?

Not usually a reader of "inspirational" books, I have to admit I was blown away. What a wonderful surprise! Ward manages to inspire, bring you up, help you appreciate all that is good, make you feel good (what else can I say?) -- all without being preachy.

Ward Foley, inspite of some of his "lucky scars," travels a lot, talking to all kinds of groups. After reading the book I found a video of one of his talks. Again, WOW. If you get the opportunity, go to one of his talks, but in the meantime, do yourself a favor, read his book.

Regardless of how blessed is your life, or the challenges you have to face, I really believe anyone who reads "Thank My Lucky Scars" will not only gain something from the experience, but will enjoy a good read.

Sheri says

Thank My Lucky Scars is a FANTASTIC read!
It made me laugh, it made me cry.
Most of all it renewed my Faith.
I highly recommend This book to all.
Ward Foley has a heart of Gold, and the compassion of a Saint.
He is a wonderful person.
Lucky Scars is a excellent book!

K Perry says

I read this book after my son was also diagnosed with Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita (AMC) (I like to say it in full - because I can!!). I was at a time in my life when I did not know where to turn and needed inspiration! Ward Foley gave it to me - in buckets!! I was inspired, I could see that my baby was not disabled - just different! Special! I am not particularly religious but believe that things happen for a reason, my son was born to me for a reason, I found this book for a reason! Doctors told me my baby would not walk - I found positivity in this book and believe that my positivity has been passed on to my son! He CAN walk now and is doing it well! I thank my lucky stars and Wards Lucky Scars for that! Wonderful book, read it! x

Tommy says

Now I have to confess to the world how ashamed and embarrassed I am. I started reading, Thank My Lucky Scars, after I had met the author, Ward Foley on the Goodreads website. I read several of the reviews other people had posted there and thought. Hey, I'm also a good guy and I probably had it as bad as he did. I came down with polio when I was 4. I was paralyzed and lost both the ability to walk and talk for several years. I was in an iron lung for over six months and at one point a doctor entered the waiting room and told my mother that I had died. A few minutes later a nurse came from my room and spoke to the doctor saying I still had a pulse. I thought that I had a long hard life learning to walk and talk again, but I never had to go through all the pain, suffering, and humiliation that Ward Foley had to endure. Nor, did I give of myself as he has for so long now to comfort others. I had wanted to write, to comfort others less fortunate than he, but in Ward's case, you just can't do that. His book is, (and I know this statement is over used so much,) truly inspirational. Yet, in this occurrence, that is the only word I can use. Pick up his book; it will inspire you about life, faith, and the true meaning of helping others in their time of need. I recommend very few books, but I am recommending this one. You will not be disappointed. A very fast read.

Stuart says

So Much More than a Book---An Inspirational Experience

There is so much to admire about the author Ward Foley, the way he has enveloped the ideology of the human spirit in positive ways is just one of them. Life can often be difficult, harsh and unkind, which makes this story so incredibly valuable for all.

Born with rare, highly debilitating condition, Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita and club hands and feet, life expectancy for young Ward was uncertain. However, after enduring multiple surgeries, pain daily and disfigurement, the author's purpose in life began to unfold. He has become an advocate for (AMC) helping many with his generous uplifting attitude and positive outlook. This leads him into becoming a volunteer with hospice patients. The many truly beautiful stories being with people during their final days' are testimony to this man's remarkable compassion and empathy.

'Thank My Lucky Scars' is a delightful true story which highlights the authors wonderful wit which is infused throughout the pages. Today, when I read or hear the word inspirational one name will immediately enter my mind: Ward Foley.

Melanie Hallam says

A fantastic, inspiring story!

Lori says

Ward's book was awesome . . . I could not put it down. I have recommended it to lots of my friends and have given it as a gift to many. Ward's book inspires me to "Thank my lucky scars". I have had the priviledge to meet Ward and he is a very compassionate being that will certainly find himself a special place in heaven next to Jesus! Thanks for writing such a great book and allowing the world to get to know Ward Foley!!

Kelly says

This is the story of one man's journey into discovering himself. Born with physical handicaps, severally burned as a young man and then hit by a drunk driver, Ward has still decided that it is better to give than receive. He shares his personal relationship with God without being preachy or trying to convert you. His story is unusual in many ways, but at the same time, there is a kinship in many aspects.

This book was discovered by accident and for all of you that know me, I have to recommend it to you. It is an inspiration. God does work in mysterious ways and I love this man's outlook on life-and death.

Overcoming some of our trials can make us feel lonely, but with reading this, I realize that we are never alone. This book was a gift in many ways-the fact that I began corresponding with the author on the anniversary of my mother's death seems to speak volumes.

All I can say to you guys is READ IT.
