

The Stones, the Crows, the Grass, the Moon (Missing collection)

Walter Kirn

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From Reader Review The Stones, the Crows, the Grass, the Moon (Missing collection) for online ebook

sharon in Hercules says

Very interesting enjoying book

After the death of his mother, the main character describes how he finds spirituality in the months following. He becomes interested in his mother's Bible. Then he will feel the instinct to go to Medicine Wheel . He will find an attraction to crows, and allow them guidance to his life, which he would never given before. His girlfriend Amanda believes that they are messengers. The allowance of the thought spirituality, the crows, leads them to a New Life! I found this story touching, with almost a tear in my eye, and a giggle when I realized that was the end. I thank the author for this experience.

Beverly says

Another Amazon short from the Missing collection. This book is about the author's trial of deciding to remove his mother from life support and then dealing with his loss. This was obviously a difficult life decision to deal with. Along the way, the author's belief in spirituality is revealed in a part of the book where he and his family visited an Indian Medicine Wheel to honor his mother's spirit. His account of being visited by a number of crows in different situations and finally letting their appearance help him make decisions was a little over the top for me but it was obviously meaningful for him and helped him in his grief. Interesting.

Lisa says

Has nothing to do with anyone missing

If it does, I am totally not understanding the who, what, when or where of it. All I'm seeing are a bunch of crows some guy is using as a device for making decisions. Not sure what this has to do with the "missing" theme.

M. Sarki says

Fairly interesting story about something this reader does not believe in. The mystical, in my understanding, is governed by a desiring mind. Drugs help, but are not necessary for acquiring a meaningful result. I am not buying his point of view, but willing to consider others, always. I do wish Kern's subject would have remained his mother's dying. His crows are for the birds.

Lisa says

Death, loss and moving forward

Watching the life of a parent slip away is pure agony. The journey through grief is sometimes shared but it is also different for everyone. I admire Walter Kirn for sharing his journey with us.

Shadira says

Every once in awhile I stumble onto a story or event on the web or in print that tends to support or emphasize another story or even that I chanced upon. Between last night and today was one of those bizarre occurrences. It is no small irony that this true story deals with a totally different aspect of the same sort of issues. I'm left wondering if I might be getting a sign for my next great adventure, just as this author seems convinced that he was being given signs. That, however, is getting a bit ahead...

Detailing the coincidences I found last night and today would bore review readers to death. Just please take my word for it: this short, true, story stimulated me to learning about a place called Medicine Wheel, Wyoming and to muse its connection with Ancient Egypt and On, or Heliopolis and the Sun God Ra and my personal circumstances.

How so? The author of "The Stones, the Grass, the Stars, the Moon" mentioned going there and driving up a steep road with a cliff of which scared his wife so that she wanted him to stop. Hmm, thought I, the only place I know of like that is the Beartooth Pass into Yellowstone's Silver Gate, which is not so near Powell as he claims.

So, of course, I surfed the web and learned that I was dead wrong. My reward? Learning about a mystical place utilized by several Native American tribes since it was erected several hundred years ago.

When writing forces me to research to learn the truth, it will result in a minimum of three stars. Still, none of that information will likely help you decide if this story is worth a purchase by you.

THE WRITING: The writing and editing are smooth, subtle and clean. I did find one small typo in which the word fall is used instead of tall. Otherwise, the writing is more sensitive than it comes across if listening to the audible version. This is unusual for me, as the narration usually finds me more receptive. Having said that, I still feel the writer has been so afraid of ridicule or charges of insanity that he didn't fully open his feelings to us.

BLUSH FACTOR: No worries here. Feel free to read this nonfiction work to anyone you feel might listen.

ADVENTURE: Yes. Although the author doesn't go too deeply into describing the drive from Iowa back to Montana, except for going to Medicine Wheel, Wyoming. Still, for such a short piece, there is more adventure than I would expect.

SOUL: This is all about soul, in a somewhat mystical sense. Yet, the author could have gone even deeper into bearing his innermost confidences and thoughts.

Cindy says

The crow on the cover is what caught my eye and this turned out to be an interesting story. Following the journey of the author in his grief after the death of his mother connected with me. The decision to remove someone from life support is a hard one. I wish I had the journey he did to help you deal with the feelings you have afterward. Very nicely written story!

Onionboy says

A very unusual story. I can tell the author is a good writer. The story wasn't the kind that had a direct point, it was more just telling a part of his life. It was somewhat interesting, but not so much that I would recommend it.

Dee Cherry says

The title is what pulled me in to read this story. Once I began, I found the story interesting as the storyteller discussed preparing for the death of his mother & the emotions that went along with death. Amanda was a rock by his side even after he explained the crows. While it was different, I thought this was a well written short story

Dawn says

The third book in the new Amazon Original Stories 'Missing' Collection I have read in the last few days. Three left to read. All are free to Amazon Prime Members via the Prime reading perk of the membership. All six are short stories that are non-fiction ranging from the mysterious to the traumatic, to this one- mystical. And my favorite so far! I listened along to the free Audible download of this one as I read along. The author eloquently narrates his enlightening and mystical journey that occurs right before and in the next couple of years after his mother's abrupt death. Goosebumps in a good way! Don't miss this one if you believe in signs from those who have passed on. 5 stars. (These are only \$1 each I believe to download from Amazon if you aren't a prime member.

Nancy Hegarty says

Insight into the always interesting, sometimes comical, entertaining, and endearing life and thoughts of Walter Kirn. I'll never look at a crow the same, ever again. Or a bug on my windshield for that matter. Enjoy

John says

A weird book about the author's journey after the death of his mother whom he admits they (along with a willing nurse) overdose with morphine after a massive stroke. He somehow manages to include both biblical passages and a trip around a Native American Medicine Wheel. I found it super weird and bizarre, but also sad.

Annabelle says

Lovely Story

I enjoyed listening to this short story. Losing someone especially your parent is never easy and reminiscing can cause to look back at all the various coincidences with a spiritual reverence.

Kathy says

Interesting story of dealing with grief

This story deals with a man who has to make the decision to allow his dying mother to continue on support or slip away. Knowing she has little hope and since he is the eldest of the siblings, he decides it is best to let die. After his mother dies, he goes with his girlfriend high into the mountains to grieve. The story slowed down some when in the part where the main character encountered crows . I won't give away the last part since it deals with the title of the book, which is American Indian based.

K.Z. Howell says

Excellent read.

Walter Kirn wrote and narrates a vividly emotional tale of loss with an almost mystical twist. Throughout the story the reader/listener is carried along with the deeply personal story. You will never look at crows the same.
