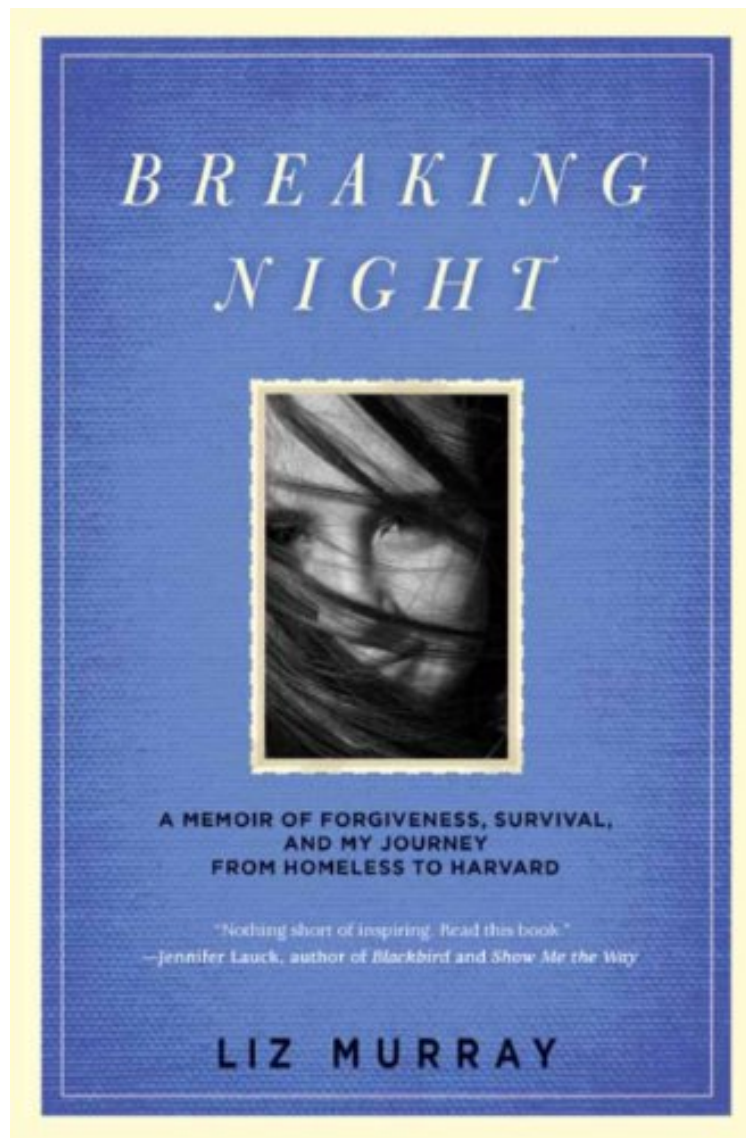


(Download free pdf) Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard (English Edition)

## Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard (English Edition)

Von Liz Murray

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Von Liz Murray : Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A wonderful way from nothing to a lifeVon BjrnI must say that I watched the movie version 'From homeless to Harvard' first - something I categorically dislike, because you already know the end when reading the book afterwards. Nevertheless I bought the book and it just amazed me.My own summery:The book tells the story of Liz, born and living with her older sister and drug-addicted parents in a world she just adapts to. That world consists of waiting for the welfare check, caring for the parents while they're high, bad-tempered and longing for the next trip and the necessary school visits for not being taken by the child protective services. Liz just accepts her fate until the family splits up because Liz's mother wants to get out of drugs and cannot while being with her husband. Liz is torn between her parents. After a while, when she had made a very bad experience at a child's home and the child protective services is about to take her, she decides to become homeless, sleeping with friends and shoplifting for food, accompanied by her best friend. She begins a relationship with a cute and somehow rich and mysterious guy, who - after a while - not only cheats on her but also get violent so she leaves him. Losing her mother to AIDS she's crushed down to the lowest limit. But like a phoenix she arises by making up her mind to work hard to do something with her life. She starts to attend a special school and by working hard and getting a lot help from teachers and friends she graduates - while still being basically homeless. Then she applies for a scholarship, sending in her story as the required essay.The book doesn't skip on the hard parts, that's what made it pretty real to me. It doesn't describe everything in detail but you definitely get the picture of the drug-taking, her first sex experience and the monthly problems arising when becoming a woman, just as an example. I could visualize her before my eyes and I just admired her strong will to move on, from day to day most of the time. The happy end makes it seem kind of a fairy tale where in the end everything gets wondrously okay. It makes the world seem fair and gives hope when everything looks so dark.I'm glad, I read the book although having watched the movie. While in the movie Liz seems like a innocent girl getting in the end her reward for being brave and strong, the book makes her more realistic by showing her faults, too. Also, there are (like always) complete parts (like Liz' boy-friend) that are not even mentioned in the movie.I can definitely recommend this book! The scenery might pull you down but the end will exhilarates you.

KurzbeschreibungIn the vein of *The Glass Castle*, *Breaking Night* is the stunning memoir of a young woman who at age fifteen was living on the streets, and who eventually made it into Harvard. Liz Murray was born to loving but drug-addicted parents in the Bronx. In school she was taunted for her dirty clothing and lice-infested hair, eventually skipping so many classes that she was put into a girls' home. At age fifteen, Liz found herself on the streets when her family finally unraveled. She learned to scrape by, foraging for food and riding subways all night to have a warm place to sleep. When Liz's mother died of AIDS, she decided to take control of her own destiny and go back to high school, often completing her assignments in the hallways and subway stations where she slept. Liz squeezed four years of high school into two, while homeless; won a New York Times scholarship; and made it into the Ivy League. *Breaking Night* is an unforgettable and beautifully written story of one young woman's indomitable spirit to survive and prevail, against all odds.PressestimmenLiz Murray shows us that the human spirit has infinite ability to grow and can never be limited by circumstance. *Breaking Night* is a beautifully written, heartfelt memoir that will change the way you look at your community, the obstacles in your own life, and the American Dream. An inspiration; a must-read. (Robert Redford)As much as it is a memoir, *Breaking Night* is a primer on how poverty and drug abuse create a heartbreaking underclass of children, one that goes largely unnoticed. By the truly uplifting ending, Liz Murray has shown us the worst, and the very best, of America. (Haven Kimmel, Author Of *A Girl Named Zippy* And *She Got Up Off The Couch*)In tender and graceful prose, Murray gives us the uncompromising and searing story of a forgotten family and devastated childhood. She reminds us that the greatest acts of love and failure can occur side by side; that isolation and loss can give way to accomplishment and promise. She offers the awesome hope that, regardless of its past, a life can go beyond endurance and reach for triumph. She leaves us with the memory of a child who clung to and refused to surrender the dignity of her soul. (Andrew Bridge, Author Of *Hope's Boy*)Liz Murray's startling and beautifully written memoir is a story of one young woman's tenacity, ingenuity, brilliance and compassion. It not only shows us the fierce, triumphant spirit of teenage girls, but that of the human spirit, as well. (Eve Ensler, author of *The Vagina Monologues* and *I am An Emotional Creature*)WerbetextAn inspirational memoir by a young woman who, at age fifteen, was forced out onto the streets and survived several years of homelessness before eventually making it into Harvard