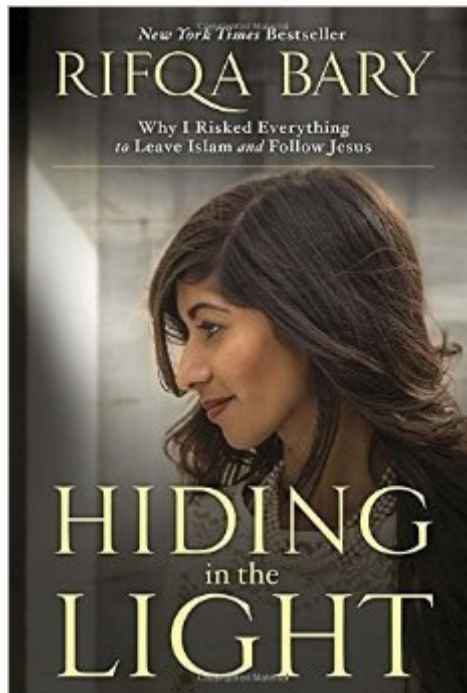


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Hiding In The Light: Why I Risked Everything To Leave Islam And Follow Jesus



Synopsis

After four years of hiding my faith from my family, I knew that it was time. I wrote with shaky hands, "Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. I refuse to deny him." There was no turning back now. I had to get out of that house if I wanted to live. Was this worth risking everything for? Yes.

Rifqa Bary grew up in a devout Muslim home, obediently following her parents' orders to practice the rituals of Islam. But God was calling her to freedom and love. He was calling her to true faith. He was calling her to give up everything. Leaving Islam for Christianity cost her more than she imagined but gave more than she could have dreamed. Hiding in the Light is the story of Rifqa's remarkable spiritual journey from Islam to Christianity. It is also the untold story of how she ran from her father's threats to find refuge with strangers in Florida, only to face a controversial court case that reached national headlines. Most of all, it is the story of a young girl who made life-changing sacrifices to follow Jesus and who inspires us to do the same.

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Customer Reviews

My wife and I read this book a few months ago when I was asked for an endorsement. We had planned on skimming, but after reading for a few minutes, there was no way we could put the book down. We read the book starting in the early evening, continuing into the night, until we finished it in the morning. Yes, I shed tears for Rifqa - I felt like she was my little sister, and that she had been alone for years. It was the extremes of physical, social, and emotional suffering that forged her intimacy with Jesus. And I do mean the extremes. Rifqa suffered more than almost all of us ever

will, before the age of 18, for the sake of her God and Savior. Rifqa is the real deal. My heart broke for her as she fought for faith and conscience at an age when many girls are tossed and torn by identity issues and consumerism. She had to fight these battles under the intensely critical scrutiny of international media spotlight. As you go deeper into her story, you see the true depths of her struggles. The curveballs keep coming, to the very last page. Read this book! Get a glimpse into Islam, immigrant life, the plight of many Muslim women, the dark side of Honor and Shame cultures, an incident of real injustice in the justice system, and the cost a young Muslim woman had to pay to receive Jesus here in America. Ultimately and most beautifully, throughout Rifqa's story, it wasn't she who was at the center, but Jesus and His Gospel. I can't recommend it more highly.

I can't explain how I felt in reading this book. I thought I would feel sorry for this young woman, but instead I want what she has. This amazing relationship with God through Christ. I wasn't expecting to be challenged and inspired in my own walk with Jesus. The scripture, the prayers, the telling of God's perfect timing was amazing. It was not a Story that has a Hallmark ending, it's a Story of life and its realities and how Jesus can bring joy and peace to all who call upon His name no matter the circumstances.

This is an amazing true story. Rifqa's passion for Jesus is very evident through out the entire book. As a person who had followed all the news reports I can legitimately say that this book has blown me away. God's presence is all over this book. I can't wait to see the fruit that this book produces and how other people escaping radical Islam is set free from bondage. Rifqa is a very skilled writer, and her writing easily captivates her audience. This book is a must have!

You all will love this book.. The struggle she went thru TO believe in Jesus Christ, the pain, the family and how awful she was treated.. Excellent!!

Few books have captured my attention so fast. I was certainly impressed with this young lady's ability to tell her story. A must read for a glimpse into an Islamic family's practice of their religion. The risk of leaving Islam is great and largely unknown by the world of its consequences. I get the impression it does not matter why you leave Islam, but doing so puts one in life long danger. In this case, it's Rifqa's conversion to Christianity and this may be on the top of the list for making a Muslim family the angriest in having their pride broken. Disrupted honor brings accountability and repercussions to the defector. As a Christian myself, I immediately found my faith

so easily practiced compared to what many in the world have to endure in proclaiming Jesus. The book challenged me to be bolder in sharing my faith yet gently in words and through practice. It's this that brought Rifqa eager to her new faith and the many people along the way that brought her support both intentionally and unintentionally. The book reads like an action story but fascinating as it is done in hiding. The ride gets more intense when Rifqa is found out. With this being a true story, I felt shame for so many people in their actions, attitudes and interactions towards Rifqa as judgments were made by others in that they had no clue what was going on. You will be amazed at Rifqa's response to these folks. Readers of different faiths, or no faith at all, will find this book fascinating as the journey of conflicts are treated with respect and with transparency. Rifqa's faith and joy is clear and humanized for all. I hope to see this story on the movie screen one day as the audience will be left with one big "oowah" •.

This is a story that I remember well as a residence of Florida so when Rifqa decided to tell the whole story in *Hiding in the Light*, I couldn't wait to hear it. In her own words she tells you what it was like to be raised in a devout Muslim home in Sri Lanka and then have her whole family move to the United States. Rifqa does an excellent job of describing the emptiness of practicing the Islamic faith and how the lack of hope from this religion can turn a household into warring factions and how abuse, both physical and psychological, in the home can become the norm. *Hiding in the Light* can also give believers who are raised in the comforts of the United States, where we have never worshiped under the threat of prosecution and a possible death sentence, a real eye opening about how we should never take this freedom for granted. I enjoyed her story of coming to faith in God and putting her trust in Jesus Christ even though she knew what the consequences could be. I love how she recounts the way God helped her in many ways when she realized her parents and the local mosque new the truth of her conversion. Rifqa also lets you see the difficulties that she experienced once she fled her parents home. She also tells how this impacted believers around her and the risks they took to help her get to safety. I hope you take the time to read this book, it will uplift you and let you see how giving your whole heart and life over to God may not be always easy but He loves you and will make a path for you. I was given this book in an EBook format from NetGalley and Blogging for Books for my honest review.

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