

## Introduction

Life is a gift. The people who are part of our lives are also precious gifts. *Listen to the Whisper* offers a glimpse into not only the day-to-day experiences but also the people who have enriched my journey. My life reflects that of a common, ordinary, everyday person. I am confident readers will relate to the personal stories shared and be inspired to recognize the whisper in their own lives.

Our journeys are interwoven through the ups and downs of life, each event presented for a purpose. Daily, we are confronted by choices as countless emotions signal us to uncover the possibilities which move us forward. I've learned that love is the source of power on my journey; love of self, love of others and love of a higher power.

The stories which create the chapters of *Listen to the Whisper* come from the pathways I've followed and the people I've encountered along the way. In quiet reflective moments, I recognize that each experience and companion on my voyage has graced me with an abundance of knowledge and a deeper understanding of love.

I have discovered that God speaks to us through others, offering hope as we listen for the whisper. Listening for the whisper means hearing the very breath of God speaking ever so softly but confidently, through each experience of our lifetime, through each voice we hear. The whisper comes when we least expect it. We just need to be sensitive and aware.

It may be easy to recognize the whisper in the happy times, but what about through the storms? Sometimes our lives are best illustrated by a thunderstorm with wind, rain, and fear motivating our reactions.

Thunderstorms are powerful. They are a metaphor for the trials of life. If we just ride out the fury, we find a rainbow on the other side with its beautiful colors offering us hope, peace, tranquility, and a greater appreciation for sunny days. It may take work to clean up after the storm, but I have learned many hands make light work. If we look, we will find a crew on stand-by willing to lend a hand.

As I seek to know and understand the essence of God who created this amazing universe and all life which dwells here, I find love and peace in the midst of this chaotic world in which we live.

*Listen to the Whisper* was written to help others identify and connect with their inner spirituality and to find balance. As we seek, we will find the love of God in the most unlikely places; with someone who is dying, in a prison, while running a race or sitting under a willow tree. Learning to recognize God's voice in the midst of one of life's storms will help us live a life filled with peace, joy, and happiness. As we experience these emotions, we are reminded that love is the source that transforms our heart and soul.