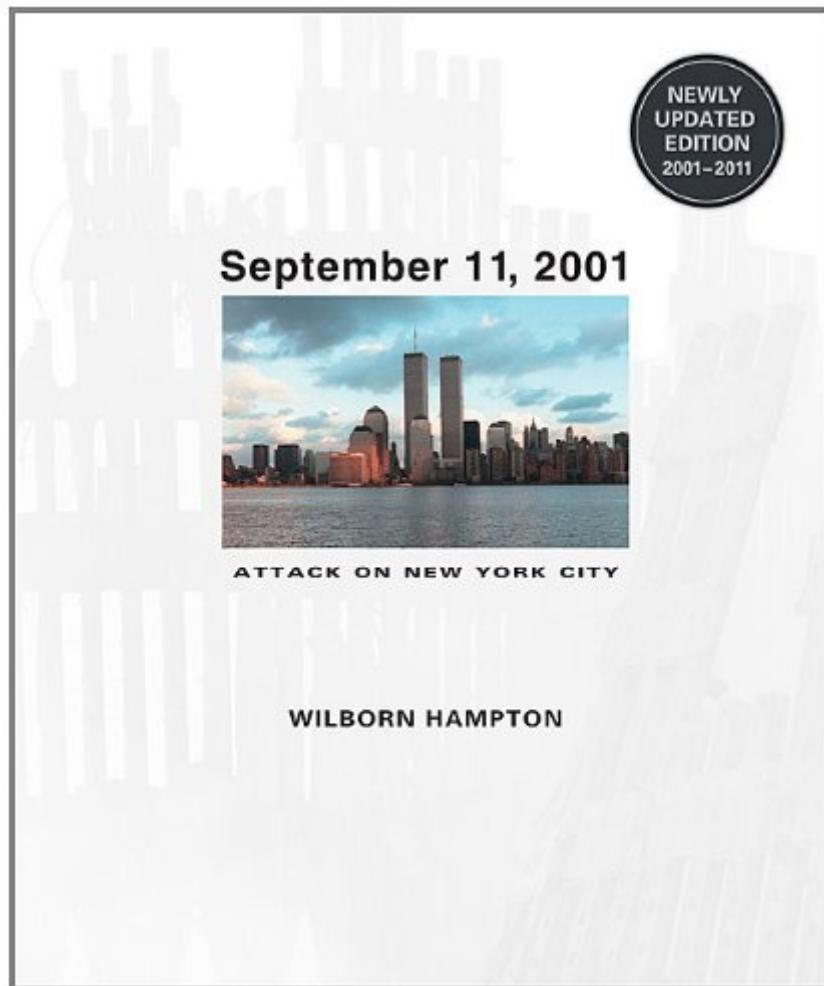


The book was found

September 11, 2001



Synopsis

A blind man and his dog struggling to escape from the burning North Tower, a company of firefighters risking their lives, an ordinary citizen turned rescue worker — each person endured a personal nightmare, and each carries a separate memory. Through interviews and accounts of survivors, heroes, and terrorists, as well as his own story, seasoned reporter Wilborn Hampton creates an intimate portrait of life and loss, and offers a deeper understanding of that tragic day.

Book Information

File Size: 524 KB

Print Length: 160 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Upd Rev edition (August 9, 2011)

Publication Date: August 9, 2011

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B005CJAGGM

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #655,578 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #83 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Violence #83 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > Sociology #117 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies

Customer Reviews

You could probably fill a library with the amount of books written about the events of September 11, 2001. For his own part, author Wilborn Hampton decided to write about that day in a way that speaks to younger readers. Setting the age group ready for this book at about middle school onwards, Hampton tells a variety of different but true stories that took place on that day. In this book, the narrative is split between eight different groups of people. As the day progresses, some of the people presented are left in limbo, others escape their fate unscathed, and at least one person dies. When you write a book about this subject you're almost guaranteed that your tale will not be boring.

The real question is, how well do you tell the events of that day with the respect they deserve? Hampton gives his story just the right amount of gravitas without plunging the narratives into hopeless despair. It's a delicate balancing act that he gets juuuust right. The book is split into five sections. There is the Introduction, then chapters entitled, "The Attack", "Flight", "The Aftermath", and "Epilogue". We meet Jim Kenworthy and his wife Ginger Ormiston who both worked in the towers. We hear the story of Omar Rivera, a blind man that was in the 71st floor of the North Tower. We follow a squad of firefighters from Ladder Company 6, Rudy Giuliani, and even the author himself. Each story lends another glimpse into what was going on that day. With this method of storytelling, Hampton can gives us the point of view of people inside the towers when the planes hit, outside on the streets below, and at home watching television (as most of us were that day). He doesn't sacrifice narrative tension in the course of telling his story, and I appreciated that.

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