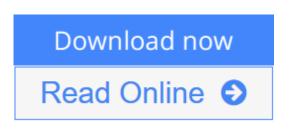


# Let Me Stand Alone: The Journals of Rachel Corrie

By Rachel Corrie



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# One young woman's voice?intense and poetic?grapples with universal ideas as it chronicles a personal journey cut short.

How do we find our way in the world? How do our actions affect others? What do we owe the rest of humanity? These are the timeless questions so eloquently posed by Rachel Corrie, a young American activist killed on March 16, 2003, as she tried to block the demolition of a Palestinian family's home in the Gaza Strip. She was twenty-three years old. *Let Me Stand Alone* reveals Corrie's striking gifts as a poet and writer while telling her story in her own words, from her earliest reflections to her final e-mails. Her writing brings to life all that it means to come of age?a dawning sense of self, a thirst for one's own ideals, and an evolving connection to others, near and far. Corrie writes about the looming issues of her time as well as the ordinary angst of an American teen, all with breathtaking passion, compassion, insight, and humor. Her writing reverberates with conviction and echoes her long-held belief in the oneness of humanity: "We have got to understand that they dream our dreams, and we dream theirs."

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Publishers Weekly

In 2003, while attempting to block the demolition of a Palestinian family's home in the Gaza Strip, 23-yearold American Rachel Corrie was killed by an armored Caterpillar D-9 bulldozer operated by a member of the Israel Defense Forces. This collection of her journal entries opens a window on the maturation of a young woman seeking to make the world a better place through social activism. The essays, poetry and drawings reveal Corrie going through the routine pangs of growing up, the development of her social consciousness and her love of language. Two events broadened Corrie's perspective beyond her childhood home of Olympia, Wash. A 1995 student exchange trip to Russia and the repercussions of 9/11 were formative events accelerating her desire to help those she felt were harmed by U. S foreign policy. Following Corrie's death, the British newspaper the *Guardian* published her e-mail accounts of what she'd witnessed in Gaza. This collection of essays, while uneven, contains thought-provoking ideas. (*Apr.*)

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#### From **Booklist**

A 23-year-old activist from Olympia, Washington, travels to the Gaza Strip to join a nonviolent protest against the Israeli Army's destruction of Palestinian houses. On March 16, 2003, she stands between the home of a Palestinian family and an advancing bulldozer. The driver does not stop, and Rachel Corrie is killed. Who was Rachel, and what brought her to Rafah? The answers are found, thanks to her supportive family, in this poignant and impressive gathering of Rachel's drawings and writings. A smart and passionate girl of conscience who wanted to see the world and become a dancer, artist, and writer, Rachel evolved into a radiant and compassionate soul who wrote with candor, lyricism, and drive about all the usual preoccupations of youth as well as her revolutionary refusal to "exist in a bubble of creativity and poetry and raindrops" while others suffer injustice and horror. Rachel's charming, prescient, and haunting chronicles trace the coming-into-her-own of an altruistic and courageous woman who loved life yet was willing to risk all for what she knew was right. --Donna Seaman

#### Review

[Corrie's] honest, sometimes scathing, renditions of the dark passages and fierce attachments of adolescence and young womanhood in the 1990s possess authenticity and power. — Adrienne Rich

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#### **Patty Shield:**

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#### Norma Ochoa:

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#### **Betty Peoples:**

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