

Undivided: A Muslim Daughter, Her Christian Mother, Their Path to Peace

By Patricia Raybon, Alana Raybon



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"Mom, I have something I need to tell you..."

They didn't talk. Not for ten years. Not about faith anyway. Instead, a mother and daughter tiptoed with pain around the deepest gulf in their lives - the daughter's choice to leave the church, convert to Islam and become a practicing Muslim. *Undivided* is a real-time story of healing and understanding with alternating narratives from each as they struggle to learn how to love each other in a whole new way.

Written with rare honesty and striking transparency, *Undivided* opens a door on the lives of an American Islamic convert, Alana Raybon, a dedicated educator, and her devout Christian mother, Patricia Raybon, an award-winning author, as they struggle to reconcile and heal their family divided by faith.

An important work for parents whose adult children have left the family's belief system, it will help those same children as they wrestle to better understand their parents.

For anyone troubled by the broader tensions between Islam and the West, this personal story distills this friction into the context of a family relationship--a journey all the more fascinating. While a conversation is desperately needed in America between Christians and Muslims, *Undivided* offers a real-time conversation to follow.

Undivided is a tremendously important book for our time. Will Patricia be able to fully trust in the Christ who "holds all things together?"

Will Alana's love for God cause her to become an outcast to her family--or provide a path that leads her back home? And can they answer the question that both want desperately to experience: "Can we make our torn family whole again?"

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Editorial Review

Review

"Powerful and beautiful. Captivating." -- Samuel E Karff, Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation Beth Israel, Houston.

"I was riveted to the end. As fresh as this evening's news...it's going to make a huge impact." - *Jerry B. Jenkins, Novelist and Biographer*

"Patricia and Alana Raybon capture the essence of the national conversation that needs to happen between Christians and Muslims. Intensely personal and deeply spiritual."-- The Rev. Mike Cole, General Presbyter, Presbytery of New Covenant in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

"Undivided left me gutted--in a good way. Here is raw honesty. Help for every one of us who finds ourselves facing the inexplicable differences between ourselves and our loved ones." -- Elisa Morgan, Speaker, Author: The Beauty of Broken, Co-Host Discover the Word

About the Author

Patricia Raybon is the award-winning author of *I Told the Mountain to Move*, a 2006 Book of the Year finalist in *Christianity Today* magazine's annual book awards competition; and *My First White Friend*, her racial forgiveness memoir that won the Christopher Award. She is also author of the One Year® devotional, *God's Great Blessings*. A journalist by training, Patricia has written essays on family and faith, which have been published in the *New York Times Sunday Magazine*, *Newsweek*, *Chicago Tribune*, *USA Today*, *USA Weekend*, and *In Touch* of In Touch Ministries; and aired on National Public Radio. She is also a regular contributor to *Today's Christian Woman* online magazine.

With degrees in journalism from Ohio State University and the University of Colorado at Boulder, Patricia worked a dozen years as a newspaper journalist for the *Denver Post* and the *Rocky Mountain News*. She later joined the journalism faculty at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where for fifteen years she taught print journalism. Patricia now writes full-time on "mountain-moving faith."

Patricia and her husband, Dan, are longtime residents of Colorado and have two grown daughters and five grandchildren. Founder of the Writing Ministry at her Denver church, Patricia coaches and encourages aspiring authors around the country and is a member of the Colorado Authors League and the Authors Guild.

Alana Raybon is a seasoned elementary- and middle-school educator. During the past ten years, she has served as a third-to-seventh-grade lead teacher to a diverse population in Texas and more recently in Tennessee. She has been a mentor to new and student teachers, an advisor to a school's accreditation process, a tutor, and a member of various school-related committees. Alana and her husband parent their three young children and a teenage stepson. She was featured with her mother in a May 2011 Mother's Day reflection in *Glamour* magazine

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Stephen Louis:

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