



Grace In The Wilderness



Libra and Hasha Riley – Authors, *Grace in the Wilderness*

Twin daughters of a Vietnam veteran who battled heroin and PTSD for decades following the war, at long last reunite with their father as he embarks on his journey toward recovery. They share their remarkable story of survival, compassion, and ultimate redemption in their family-authored memoir, Grace in the Wilderness.

Twin sisters Libra and Hasha Riley grew up craving answers about their father, a man who for many years they only knew in photographs. The sisters were raised by their mother and stepfather in the suburbs of New Jersey, surrounded by loving aunts, uncles, and grandparents on both the maternal and paternal side—a strong family unit who protected the girls from knowing much about the dark, drug-filled world their dad had been lost in for so long.

In their adolescence, a brief reunion with their father began to shed light on many of their burning questions, but it wasn't for decades later would they learn the truth about Scott Riley, a decorated Vietnam veteran who had survived the war overseas but battled PTSD and a subsequent heroin addiction since his return home.

The years passed; Libra and Hasha attended Howard University and went on to pursue their respective careers—but their father and the hopes of one day reuniting with him was never far from their minds.

Scott made an unexpected reappearance in his daughters' lives when he finally entered rehab in 1995, a resounding turning point in their journey that cemented the family bond, once and for all. With Hasha and Libra's love and support, Scott got clean and sober, and today helps others fighting addiction at the very same treatment center where he himself recovered.

What began as an exchange of personal letters and stories between Libra, Hasha, and Scott through his initial stage of drug rehabilitation evolved into their family-authored memoir, *Grace in the Wilderness*, a poignant account of their family's struggle toward healing, and how their faith and willingness to forgive ultimately triumphed over tragedy.

Having experienced the power of compassion and love, firsthand, Hasha and Libra have dedicated their lives to helping others. Libra spent several years advocating for women, youth, and families through her work in media and the nonprofit sector. Hasha, a stroke survivor, continues to lend her support to the American Stroke Association and has spoken before the Congressional Black Caucus on stroke awareness.

Today, Hasha Riley and Libra Riley continue spreading their message of hope through their co-produced television show, *In Transition with Libra Johnson*, about everyday people facing adversity, overcoming challenges, and finding new purpose in their lives.