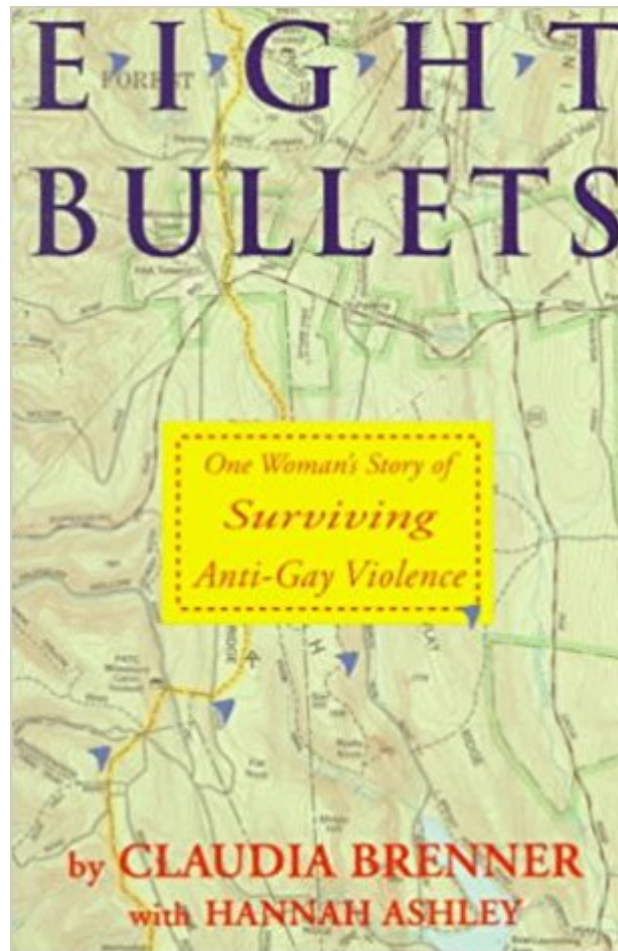




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Eight Bullets: One Woman's Story Of Surviving Anti-Gay Violence



Synopsis

The lesbian victim of a violent hate crime that left her seriously wounded and her partner dead is the story of family and community, the medical system, the police and courts, and the media--and of one woman's incredible courage. Simultaneous. IP. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

On May 12, 1988, Claudia Brenner and her companion, Rebecca Wight, parked their car on Dead Woman's Hollow Road before starting on a hike on a part of the Appalachian Trail that runs through Pine Grove Furnace State Park in Pennsylvania. The next night, Friday the 13th, Brenner would make a four-mile hike out this time alone and with five bullet wounds, four in her head and neck. Just two bullets had hit Wight, but one destroyed her liver and killed her. This is Brenner's recollection of the attack; of the hunt for her assailant, Stephen Roy Carr; her recovery; and her activism against anti-gay crimes. The bare outlines of Brenner's story are very powerful, but awkward writing and unnecessary switching of perspective from first person to a wildly omniscient third person ("Anne wished she could be at Hershey [Medical Center] that second.... Anne pushed a picture of Claudia's face with bullet holes in it out of her head") weaken it. More disturbing are Brenner's assumptions of homophobia, even on the part of two policemen who by all accounts acted honorably ("Although they were no less homophobic than the average state trooper, their units no more enlightened, they became committed to me, a lesbian crime victim and my lesbian family.") Without more supporting evidence, this kind of aside amounts to stereotyping, which

Brenner, of all people, should abhor. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

When Brenner and her lover, Rebecca Wight, took a three-day camping trip on the Appalachian Trail in 1988, they planned on hiking, privacy, rest, and relaxation. Instead, while they made love in a secluded woodland, Stephen Roy Carr--a stranger to them--spied on them from concealment in a nearby thicket and then gunned them down, killing Wight (Brenner survived five wounds, four in the head and neck). Brenner's gripping account of those events and their aftermath leaves our nerves pulsing and raw and constitutes powerful testimony at a time--the present--when hate crimes against members of specific minorities are increasing and domestic terrorism seems to touch everyone's life. Perhaps Brenner's compelling book will also have TV talk show hosts busy with hate-crime programming, but it definitely deserves a place in any true crime or public affairs collection. Whitney Scott --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I was in junior high school when Rebecca Wight was murdered along the Appalachian Trail and was obsessed with learning every detail I could which, back then, involved trips to the library and poring through micro-fiche. Over the past two decades, I'd forgotten about this tragedy until a recent hike near the site of Rebecca's murder sparked my memory. I was excited to learn that Claudia had written this book about her experience and once delivered, devoured it in 2 days. It was well-written and compelling -- a real page-turner. Much has changed for gays and lesbians since this book was written, so I was surprised at how frank and open Claudia was about the details of her relationship with Rebecca. She is clearly one brave woman. This book isn't a cautionary tale by any means, which made me like it even more.

I've wanted to read this book since I heard about it on WXPB 88.5 radio in Philadelphia back about 15 years ago. I finally bought it before Christmas 2009 and just picked it up to read this weekend. It was an amazing read - I could NOT put it down. It just confirmed for me that if you are gay/lesbian that you are NEVER alone outside of your own 4 walls! We are never truly "safe" anywhere we go. Things may have changed a teeny tiny bit since then but really not near enough. Stephen Roy Carr's name will forever be engrained in my brain. What was it that made him think that since he never found love that he should take someone else's? I think the book was wonderfully written and it's something every person should read.

Love the book but it was written in :(

This book tells a captivating story that offers great insight into the very real fears lesbian, gay, and bi-sexual individuals face due to the homophobia and prejudice that permeates our society, and often our institutions.

This is a good book. I was outraged to read of such prejudice against lesbians. To stalk and murder a woman because she's gay goes way beyond hatred. It's frightening to think that anyone can be this vulnerable to such violence, or that any human can be given to such hatred.

This is a compelling true story of a horrific act of anti-gay violence, told by the victim. Once you start reading, it will be difficult to put it down.

Interesting read.

We know the ending, but the book was written to make it exciting throughout. A good read. I highly recommend it.

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