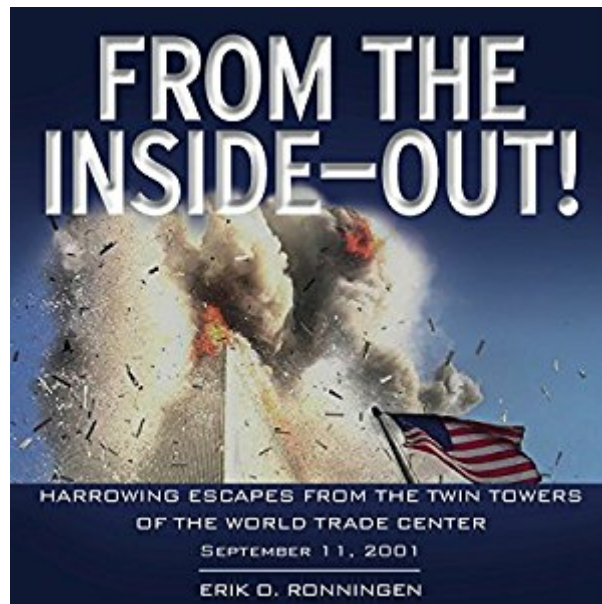


The book was found

# From The Inside Out: Harrowing Escapes From The Twin Towers Of The World Trade Center



## Synopsis

Erik Ronningen was on the 71st floor of the North Tower on September 11, 2001, when American Airlines Flight 11 struck the building. After an incredible, near miraculous journey down through the acrid, smoke-filled building, Erik tried to get to the security command center in the South Tower. Unable to do so, he was the last person to make it out of the South Tower alive. Here is the story of his harrowing escape, interwoven with the accounts of 14 others who were lucky enough to be able to recount them. Altogether, these accounts document the bravery and heroism, selflessness, and generosity demonstrated by hundreds of people when their normal, everyday lives were suddenly plunged into a fiery scramble for survival. The astonishing photograph on the cover of this book was taken by survivor Jim Usher as he lay on the concrete outside the World Trade Center, losing consciousness, so his family could see what he saw during what he thought were the last moments of his life. And yes, that flag was really there! This photograph has never before been made public.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Every year on September 11th, I organize a free community concert (along with a small group of wonderful volunteers) honoring those who lost their lives, who lost loved ones and who responded to the events of 9/11 as well as to celebrate our patriotism and community spirit. In 2009, we were privileged to have Erik as our guest speaker. He spoke to our full house with harrowing and intimate details, perfect storytelling and respectful dignity and shared the events of 9/11 from his perspective on the 71st floor. For more than 40 minutes our audience of more than 1,400 citizens, sat riveted to

their seats. We ran really late on our concert that evening but it was worth every minute. Erik mentions this concert in his preface as one of the reasons he continued to pursue completing this book. Someone posted an amateur video on YouTube that shares a short portion of his speech. If you search for 9/11 Patriot Day Concert, Lebanon PA, you can hear about 4 minutes of the beginning of his speech. His ability to share his story clearly, with feeling but not pity, details but not exploitation, and most importantly, grace and humanity make his story a worthwhile read to any citizen of our great nation. His speech is still the best we ever had in our (now) 12 years of holding this concert and I'm so glad he has put his words to paper. Now he has it in writing. And it is incredible. I got the book yesterday and couldn't stop reading it until I was done. So amazing are the stories of survival that some seem too much to believe. But they are true and they are just a small part of the survival stories from that fateful day. Erik has done a great job organizing the events by each person's story and a consistent timeline for all of them.

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