



Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us

By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker

Download now

Read Online ➔

Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker

Rebecca Parker was a young minister in Seattle when a woman walked into her church and asked if God really wanted her to accept her husband's beatings and bear them gladly, as Jesus bore the cross. Parker knew, at that moment, that if she were to answer the woman's question truthfully she would have to rethink her theology. And she would have to think hard about some of the choices she was making in her own life.

When Rita Nakashima Brock was a young child growing up in Kansas, kids taunted her viciously, calling her names like "Chink" or "Jap." She learned to pretend that she did not feel the sting of scorn and the humiliation of contempt. The solitude and silence of her suffering-decreed by both her mother's Japanese culture and her father's Christian heritage-kept the wound alive.

It was the gap between knowledge born of personal experience and traditional theology that led Rita Brock and Rebecca Parker to write this emotionally gripping and intellectually rich exploration of the doctrine of the atonement. Using an unusual combination of memoir and theology in the tradition of Augustine's Confessions, they lament the inadequacy of how Christian tradition has interpreted the violence that happened to Jesus. Ultimately, they argue, the idea that the death of Jesus on the cross saves us reveals a sanctioning of violence at the heart of Christianity.

Brock and Parker draw on a wide array of intimate stories about family violence, the sexual abuse of children, racism, homophobia, and war to reveal how they came to understand the widespread damage being done by this theology. But the authors also undertake their own arduous and unexpected journeys to recover from violence and to assist others to do so. On these journeys they discover communities that begin to give them the strength to question the destructive ideas they have internalized, and the strength to seek out an alternative vision of Christianity, one based on healing and love. *Proverbs of Ashes* is both a condemnation of bad theology and a passionate search for what truly saves us.

 [**Download** Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Sufferi ...pdf](#)

Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us

By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker

Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker

Rebecca Parker was a young minister in Seattle when a woman walked into her church and asked if God really wanted her to accept her husband's beatings and bear them gladly, as Jesus bore the cross. Parker knew, at that moment, that if she were to answer the woman's question truthfully she would have to rethink her theology. And she would have to think hard about some of the choices she was making in her own life.

When Rita Nakashima Brock was a young child growing up in Kansas, kids taunted her viciously, calling her names like "Chink" or "Jap." She learned to pretend that she did not feel the sting of scorn and the humiliation of contempt. The solitude and silence of her suffering-decreed by both her mother's Japanese culture and her father's Christian heritage-kept the wound alive.

It was the gap between knowledge born of personal experience and traditional theology that led Rita Brock and Rebecca Parker to write this emotionally gripping and intellectually rich exploration of the doctrine of the atonement. Using an unusual combination of memoir and theology in the tradition of Augustine's Confessions, they lament the inadequacy of how Christian tradition has interpreted the violence that happened to Jesus. Ultimately, they argue, the idea that the death of Jesus on the cross saves us reveals a sanctioning of violence at the heart of Christianity.

Brock and Parker draw on a wide array of intimate stories about family violence, the sexual abuse of children, racism, homophobia, and war to reveal how they came to understand the widespread damage being done by this theology. But the authors also undertake their own arduous and unexpected journeys to recover from violence and to assist others to do so. On these journeys they discover communities that begin to give them the strength to question the destructive ideas they have internalized, and the strength to seek out an alternative vision of Christianity, one based on healing and love. *Proverbs of Ashes* is both a condemnation of bad theology and a passionate search for what truly saves us.

Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #227843 in Books
- Published on: 2002-11-18
- Released on: 2002-11-18
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .57" w x 5.31" l, .68 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages

 [**Download** Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Sufferi ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

"Your maxims are proverbs of ashes!" Thus spoke Job when his friends spouted pious platitudes in the face of his considerable suffering. Brock, a Harvard theologian, and Parker, a seminary president, echo Job's cry in this deep theological study of suffering and its role in the Christian faith. The two women became friends in graduate school and continued to meet after graduation, discussing their personal lives and how their experiences shaped their theology. "We were convinced Christianity could not promise healing for victims of intimate violence as long as its central image was a divine parent who required the death of his child," writes Brock. The two authors take turns communicating their views, sharing deep and painful traumas (such as Parker's childhood sexual abuse, estranged marriage and abortion) as they weigh the concept of "redemptive suffering." Too many Christian women, they argue, have remained in abusive situations because they have been taught that their suffering is necessary for spiritual growth. The authors are serious theologians, confidently challenging such explicators of the faith as Anselm and Abelard, Wesley and Whitehead. Readers may not agree with Brock and Parker that the fundamental Christian doctrine of Jesus' atonement is inherently dangerous and destructive for Christians, especially women. But they cannot help but be swayed by the book's searing passion and profoundly literary writing style (a remarkable achievement in a coauthored work). Brock and Parker have thrown down a gauntlet that cannot be ignored.

Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Brock (director, Fellowship Program, Radcliffe Inst., Harvard Univ.) and Parker (president, Starr King Sch. for the Ministry, Graduate Theological Union) have written an intensely personal and provocative book. They aim to show that the theological assertion that God required the death of Jesus to save the world sanctions violence. This is not a theological text but more of a dual memoir in which the authors alternately tell the stories of their lives, emphasizing the violence that they have encountered. Basing theology on their own experiences is not a problem, but on balance, the narratives swamp the theological arguments presented here. The most telling indictment of the harmful effects of traditional Christian views comes from their stories of women who have stayed in abusive relationships because they felt that the church taught them to accept suffering passively, if not gratefully. A first step in an interesting but unfinished theological project, this is recommended for larger public libraries and academic libraries with religious studies and women's studies collections. Stephen Joseph, Butler Cty. Community Coll., PA

Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

With breathtaking self-disclosure, Brock and Parker confront one of Christianity's most influential concepts, redemptive suffering, which, they argue, has proven particularly destructive for women, who under its influence often have been socialized to be self-sacrificial and to tolerate abuse. Drawing on their personal experiences of abuse and those reported by friends and counselors of victims, they reject the claim that suffering, including the suffering of Jesus on the Cross, "saves" us. Instead, they insist, we are saved by diverse supportive communities of loving persons, in whose presence we experience God. The three sections of their book correspond to Lent, Pentecost, and Epiphany; this organization carries the text from suffering to presence, thereby presenting the argument in the order of the liturgical year. Within that continuum, which sustains theological reflection, Brock and Parker also tell the book's many particular stories beautifully.

Furthermore, they report that their friendship made the book possible. Indeed, that friendship breathes in its pages as it pronounces good news for readers of all faiths who are seeking resources for resisting violence.

Steven Schroeder

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joanna Weekley:

Do you have favorite book? Should you have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or goal; it means that publication has different type. Some people truly feel enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. These are reading whatever they get because their hobby is usually reading a book. Why not the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, individual feel need book after they found difficult problem or maybe exercise. Well, probably you will require this Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us.

Alice Lawson:

Does one one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt when you find yourself in the book store? Aim to pick one book that you find out the inside because don't evaluate book by its cover may doesn't work here is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not seeing that fantastic as in the outside look likes. Maybe you answer is usually Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us why because the great cover that make you consider concerning the content will not disappoint anyone. The inside or content will be fantastic as the outside or cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly guide you to pick up this book.

Stephen Beatty:

This Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us is new way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information as it relief your hunger details. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know or you who still having little bit of digest in reading this Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us can be the light food in your case because the information inside this particular book is easy to get simply by anyone. These books create itself in the form which is reachable by anyone, that's why I mean in the e-book application form. People who think that in publication form make them feel tired even dizzy this book is the answer. So there is no in reading a guide especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for an individual. So , don't miss the idea! Just read this e-book variety for your better life as well as knowledge.

Rodney Natale:

Don't be worry should you be afraid that this book may filled the space in your house, you will get it in e-book method, more simple and reachable. This Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the

Search for What Saves Us can give you a lot of close friends because by you checking out this one book you have point that they don't and make a person more like an interesting person. This book can be one of one step for you to get success. This e-book offer you information that possibly your friend doesn't learn, by knowing more than some other make you to be great people. So , why hesitate? We need to have Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us.

Download and Read Online Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker #Y65BU1RP2QF

Read Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker for online ebook

Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker books to read online.

Online Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker ebook PDF download

Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker Doc

Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker Mobipocket

Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker EPub

Y65BU1RP2QF: Proverbs of Ashes : Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us By Rita Nakashima Brock, Rebecca Ann Parker