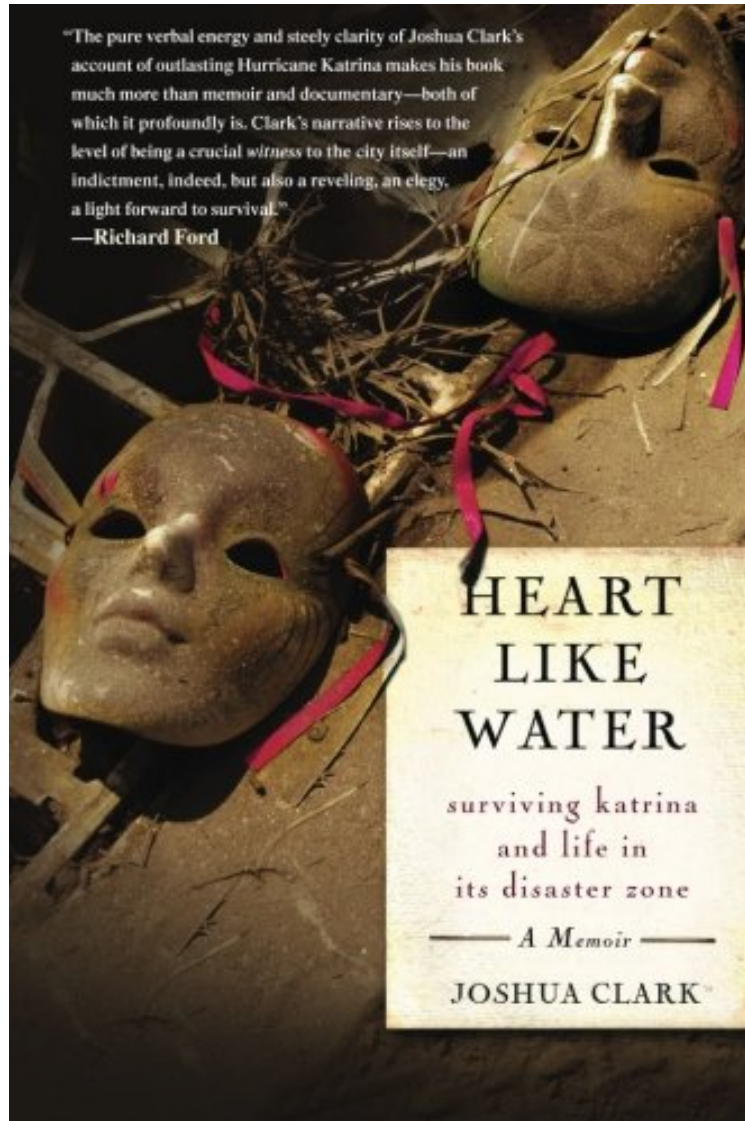


(Free) Heart Like Water: Surviving Katrina and Life in Its Disaster Zone

Heart Like Water: Surviving Katrina and Life in Its Disaster Zone

Joshua Clark

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Joshua Clark : Heart Like Water: Surviving Katrina and Life in Its Disaster Zone before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Heart Like Water: Surviving Katrina and Life in Its Disaster Zone:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funny, heartbreaking and eye-opening! By Carol A Hornak This book is honestly my favorite of all time. It made me laugh, cry and think, think really hard! So many reviews are bases upon the drinking, well, let's see YOU go through 2 hurricanes and not need a little twist on sobriety. I love the style of

writing, it places you were the author is.. a definite eye opener to times highly ignored by President Bush but not the newscasters. How scary it is to know that all these people were in the throes of a disaster and not being helped or told what to expect. I am a born and raised Milwaukee gal, and while drinking may have come to the attention more so of people in other states, maybe it is that I live in the most drinking-est state of all that it didn't bother me, I rather understand it and didn't think it was a 'frat-boy, silver spoon spoiled' author writing this, but rather someone who dealt with it the best he could. I read, on average 2-3 books a week and this one, I've read it once a year since it came out. I just purchased it on Kindle for easier reading than my hardcover. People need not criticize how Joshua Clark spent his time in Katrina, but rather where blame belongs, the people who's very jobs are to keep Americans safe and not heavily ignored by the very same people, not being deployed in the right areas or in a timely manner. While it may not be their fault indirectly, but Bush didn't do what should have been done, WHEN it should have been done. I love this book. It amazes me that it's all true, and yet, truth is stranger than fiction, so one must believe it all. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thankyou Joshua! By [dojo](#) I really hadn't planned to relive this horrific nightmare but since I finally moved 1300 mi away I figured it would be interesting to hear about someone who stayed. Of course, Mr Clark is insane...in a good way...But since he was a writer I knew his story would be better than just a memoir. Thanks for the details on breaches and locations of all else. Closure at last...I think. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It's Real And It's Chaos And It's A Touching Tale of Fear And Survival By [Lynne Marie](#) At first, the book seemed to be a bit chaotic but I kept reading and found it fascinating. It's a real story of survival amidst chaos and insanity inflicted on regular people by a federal government that messed up something awful. It's real and emotional and makes perfect sense that strong people survived to tell a amazing story. Great story.

Try it. Right now. Picture the lights going off in the room you're sitting in. The computer, the air conditioning, phones, everything. Then the people, every last person in your building, on the street outside, the entire neighborhood, vanished. With them go all noises: chitchat, coughs, cars, and that wordless, almost impalpable hum of a city. And animals: no dogs, no birds, not even a crickets legs rubbing together, not even a smell. Now bump it up to 95 degrees. Turn your radio on and listen to 80 percent of your city drowning. You're almost there. Only twenty-eight days to go. Joshua Clark never left New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, choosing instead to band together with fellow holdouts in the French Quarter, pooling resources and volunteering energy in an effort to save the city they loved. When Katrina hit, Clark, a key correspondent for National Public Radio during the storm, immediately began to record hundreds of hours of conversations with its victims, not only in the city but throughout the Gulf: the devastated poor and rich alike; rescue workers from around the country; reporters; local characters who could exist nowhere else but New Orleans; politicians; the woman Clark loved, in a relationship ravaged by the storm. Their voices resound throughout this memoir of a unique and little-known moment of anarchy and chaos, of heartbreaking kindness and incomprehensible anguish, of mercy and madness as only America could deliver it. Paying homage to the emotional power of Joan Didion, the journalistic authority of Norman Mailer, and the gonzo irreverence of Tom Wolfe, Joshua Clark takes us through the experiences of loss and renewal, resilience and hope, in a city unlike any other. With lyrical sympathy, humility, and humor, *Heart Like Water* marks an astonishing and important national debut. A portion of the author's royalties from this book will go to the Katrina Arts Relief and Emergency Support (KARES) fund, which supports New Orleans-area writers affected by the storm. Visit NewOrleansLiteraryInstitute.com to find out how to make a direct and positive impact on the region.

From [Publishers Weekly](#) Starred . As Hurricane Katrina bears down on New Orleans, Clark (founder of Light of New Orleans Publishing) refuses to leave his French Quarter apartment, convinced that he'll be safe four stories up. In the days that follow, he and other friends who stayed behind make the best of the situation, appropriating huge quantities of liquor during a supermarket looting, and organizing themselves as a makeshift cleanup crew to avoid being forcibly evacuated. Such lighthearted moments become increasingly rare as tension develops between Clark's optimistic outlook and his girlfriend's depressed reaction. We each think the other's pathetic, he confesses to a friend, and there's New Orleans busted in the abyss between us. The drawn-out disintegration of their relationship runs through the second half of the memoir, while Clark tape-records impressionistic interviews with fellow storm survivors. The scenes of physical devastation are matched by an uncompromising look at the emotional traumas that unfold in the storm's aftermath yet through it all, Clark never fully abandons his sense of the absurd. In a short postscript, he turns serious to call attention to the fastest disappearing landmass on the planet, the coastal wetlands that separate New Orleans from the Gulf of Mexico, urging readers to agitate for a solution. (July 10) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From [Booklist](#) Starred * Clark was among the few hearty or hapless souls who remained in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. He and his girlfriend banded with a group of friends equally determined to stay, cycling between their apartments and an abandoned condo complex with a pool used for bathing and keeping drinks cool. They kept an eye out for other survivors, local bars still open, looters, and drifting dead bodies while they dodged the police and the National Guard as the city was evacuated. In this riveting first-person account, Clark recalls the static in the air as the hurricane approached; the unnerving silence

afterwards without even the sound of birds; and "shopping" for supplies at a local store where the owner had apparently given permission before fleeing. Between forays to find food and water, and "something to make us smile," Clark corresponded for NPR and wrote a Katrina diary for Slate. He also recalls the finger-pointing among politicians, both local and national. This is a raw, revealing, and highly personal look at surviving Hurricane Katrina. Bush, Vanessa "The first Katrina books were literal and drawn in American Realism tones. Now comes Josh Clark and "Heart Like Water", written in surrealistic bursts of purple and crimson and goth black, as vivid as the storm itself and as uncompromising as the survivors of New Orleans." -- Curtis Wilkie, author of "Dixie""Joshua Clark has written a poignant, evocative book about the city he loves. "Heart Like Water" has the paradoxical ability to both uplift and haunt." -- Douglas Brinkley, author of "The Great Deluge: Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans, and the Mississippi Gulf Coast""In the growing constellation of Katrina stories, Josh Clark's masterful tale shines brightest. The Apocalypse destroyed a city and ripped to shreds lives, but the legibility of its profound inner impact had to wait for this book, which is a love story. Clark's book is our "Love in a Time of Cholera", but, even more than Marquez's novel, it is immediate and wrenching and true, while its rhythms, like Marquez's, are nothing short of majestic. Josh Clark has written the great nonfiction New Orleans novel, a book that's here to stay. -- Andrei Codrescu, NPR correspondent and author of "New Orleans, Mon Amour""For those of us who still mourn and fear we will always mourn for our beloved New Orleans, Joshua Clark's memoir of the terrible Katrina -- for which he would not abandon the city -- is a tough and beautiful thing. He has an eye and an ear for the crucial details and he is also a really fine writer. You will mourn anew reading this book, but it will help you heal." -- Robert Olen Butler, author of "Severance" and the Pulitzer Prize-winning "A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain""Sprawling, rambunctious, and finally very moving, Josh Clark's "Heart Like Water" is a valuable, kaleidoscopic record of a time when reality got turned inside out in America's most soulful city." -- Tom Piazza, author of "Why New Orleans Matters" ""Heart Like Water" gives us not only a first-person history of a horrific time, but all the chaos and absurdity of that time. Clark has produced something that is not only entertaining, but an important document explaining how people adjust and survive." -- John Barry, author of "The Great Influenza" and "Rising Tide" "Joshua Clark stuck it out in New Orleans during Katrina and the ensuing flood and serves up Apocalypse stew, which doesn't go down easy. "Heart Like Water" is street reporting at its rawest and most revealing. Clark tells what happened as it happened, the disgusting, painful truth without pontificating from a safe distance. He's a soul survivor if ever there was one." -- Barry Gifford, author of "Wild at Heart" and "Night People""The hurricane as seen by a young man in the French Quarter who stayed through it all, describing a trajectory from horrified onlooker to rebel and outcast to angel and mystic and madman, to trauma victim and political activist. As an adopted son of Louisiana and friend to its residents, witness to suffering and the loss of all some possess -- the one thing that is not lost is his devotion to the place and admiration of their spirit and plea for their future." -- Nancy Lemann, author of "Malaise" and "The Fiery Pantheon""What was it like? That's what you want to know, isn't it? What was it like when the levees collapsed and New Orleans sank into chaos? "Heart Like Water" is the vivid eyewitness account by Joshua Clark of life and love in a ruined city." -- John Biguenet, author of "Oyster" and "The Torturer's Apprentice"