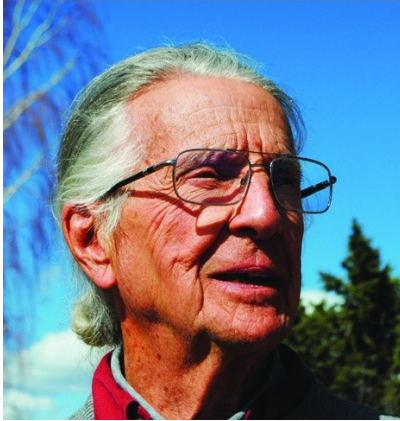


Tears in God's Bottle Readers Guide

by Wayne A. Ewing, PhD



TEARS IN GOD'S BOTTLE



WAYNE EWING

1. What draws you to Tears in God's Bottle? Are or were you a caregiver, a grief companion, a spiritual seeker, or someone simply curious about what love looks like in its most demanding form?
2. The title comes from Psalm 56:8, in which the psalmist speaks of God collecting our tears in a bottle. What does that image mean to you? What does it suggest about how God regards human suffering and grief?
3. Wayne describes himself as Ann's 24/7 care partner. What does that phrase carry for you? What does it ask of a person spiritually, emotionally, and physically?
4. Ann was a pioneering feminist therapist and high-profile, accomplished woman. How does knowing who she was before her diagnosis shape the way you read about her journey into the land of forgetfulness?
5. Wayne weaves biblical references and personal prayers throughout his reflections. Did any particular scripture or prayer strike you with special force? What made it land the way it did?
6. One reviewer described this book as giving Job's reply rather than waiting for God to answer Job. What do you think that means? Does Wayne's response to suffering feel like a protest? An acceptance? Something else?
7. Wayne is honest about exhaustion, grief, and the invisible weight of caregiving. Did reading his honest admissions make you feel

less alone? More understood?

8. What inner resources did Wayne draw on that surprised you? Which of those resources do you recognise in yourself?

9. Wayne describes the caregiving journey as one of transformation as well as grief. Do you believe that suffering can genuinely transform a person? Does this book make a convincing case?

10. What remains of Ann in these pages? How does Wayne carry her presence and her legacy into the writing itself?

11. If Ann could read these reflections about her own journey, what do you imagine she might feel? What might she want to say to Wayne, or to you?

12. Is there someone in your life right now who needs this book? How might you share it with them?

The Rev. Wayne A. Ewing, PhD served as the devoted 24/7 care partner of his late wife Ann through her five-year journey with Alzheimer's. He is a retired Episcopal priest, pastoral counselor, and academic, and continues to work as a staff writer for the award-winning Wet Mountain Tribune in Colorado. *Tears in God's Bottle* earned multiple awards including Second Place Book of the Year in Religion from Foreword Magazine, Finalist for the Benjamin Franklin Award, GLYPH Awards for Best Book in Religion and Inspirational/Spirituality, Best First Book by a New Publisher, and the Clara Award. Its companion volume, *In the Land of Forgetfulness*, is also available on Amazon.

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