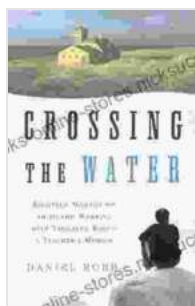


Eighteen Months On An Island Working With Troubled Boys: A Teacher's Memoir

For eighteen months, I lived and worked on a remote island with a group of troubled boys. I was their teacher, mentor, and surrogate parent. It was a challenging and rewarding experience that changed my life in profound ways.

The boys who came to the island had all experienced significant trauma in their lives. They had been abused, neglected, or abandoned. They had witnessed violence, addiction, and poverty. As a result, they struggled with a wide range of emotional and behavioral problems.



Crossing the Water: Eighteen Months on an Island Working with Troubled Boys -- A Teacher's Memoir

by Daniel Robb

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 4135 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 256 pages



My job was to help these boys heal and grow. I taught them academics, but I also focused on social and emotional learning. I helped them to develop

healthy coping mechanisms, build relationships, and set goals for the future.

Challenges

Working with troubled boys was not without its challenges. There were times when I felt frustrated, overwhelmed, and even scared. The boys could be verbally and physically aggressive. They often tested my limits and pushed my buttons.

One of the biggest challenges was the isolation of the island. We were miles away from the mainland, and there were no other adults around to help us. This meant that I was solely responsible for the boys' well-being.

Despite the challenges, I never gave up on the boys. I believed in their potential, and I was determined to help them succeed.

Triumphs

There were also many triumphs during my time on the island. I saw the boys make progress in their academics, their behavior, and their overall well-being.

One of my proudest moments was when one of the boys, who had been struggling with anger issues, finally learned to control his temper. He came to me one day and said, "I'm so sorry for all the times I've lost my temper. I'm trying to do better."

Another triumph was when one of the boys, who had been withdrawn and isolated, finally started to make friends. He joined a group of boys who were playing basketball, and he quickly became a part of the team.

The boys taught me so much about resilience, forgiveness, and the power of human connection.

Personal Growth

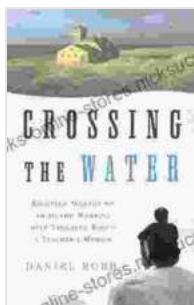
My time on the island was not only a transformative experience for the boys, but it was also a transformative experience for me.

I learned a great deal about myself and my own capacity for love, patience, and compassion. I also learned the importance of setting boundaries and taking care of my own well-being.

The boys taught me that even the most troubled children can change and grow. They taught me that everyone deserves a second chance.

Eighteen months on an island working with troubled boys was the most challenging and rewarding experience of my life. I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with these boys and to have learned from them.

I believe that every child deserves a chance to succeed. I hope that my story will inspire others to work with at-risk youth and to make a difference in their lives.



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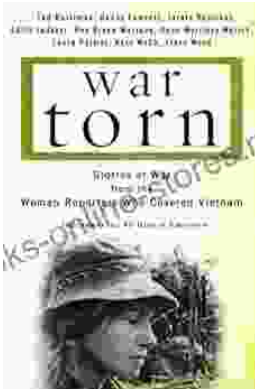
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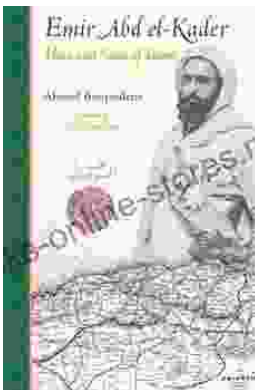
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