



The Cross and the Switchblade: A True Story -- the Best-Selling International Adventure of All Time!

By David Wilkerson, Elizabeth Sherrill, John Sherrill

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A young preacher from the Pennsylvania hills comes to New York City and influences troubled teenagers with his inspirational message.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

"Go to New York City and help those boys."

When David Wilkerson heard those words in his heart late one night as he glanced at a picture in Life magazine, he was dumbfounded. The boys in question were members of a violent gang and on trial for murder. He, on the other hand, was a country preacher settled comfortably in a little mountain church in Pennsylvania. What could God possibly expect him to accomplish--in New York City, of all places?

But the thought would not let him go--and his life and the lives of countless despairing teens were changed forever on account of it.

This is the riveting story of the founding of Teen Challenge, an inner-city ministry that today maintains residential and crisis counseling centers around the globe. But even more, it is a story of how the most unlikely people can hear--and follow--God's call to do the impossible.

This 45th anniversary edition includes a brand-new foreword by Charles Colson and two new epilogues celebrating Teen Challenge and reflecting on fifty years of following God's lead.

"David's story will touch your life in a way few books can."--from the foreword by **Charles W. Colson**

David Wilkerson (1931-2011) was the founder of Teen Challenge and World Challenge and longtime senior pastor of Times Square Church. He authored more than thirty books, including the bestselling *The Cross and the Switchblade* and *Knowing God by Name*. He ministered to people worldwide, and on the day of his death, he was still ministering.

About the Author

David Wilkerson (1931-2011) was an Assembly of God pastor who established Teen Challenge, an organization centered around the needs of converts of his successful street evangelism ministry in New York City. As part of Teen Challenge, he also established the Bible Institute, which evolved into the international organization known as World Challenge. David also cofounded Times Square church in New York City. Of his many books, perhaps the most influential has been *The Cross and the Switchblade*, which sparked interest about baptism in the Holy Spirit from both Protestant and Catholic circles.

John and Elizabeth Sherrill have authored or coauthored numerous bestsellers with sales in excess of fifty million, including *The Hiding Place*, *The Cross and the Switchblade*, and *God's Smuggler*. Their ongoing work as roving editors for *Guideposts* magazine has taken them from their home in Westchester County, New York, to assignments in five countries.

Raymond Todd is an actor and director in the theater as well as a poet and documentary filmmaker. He plays jazz trombone for the Leatherstocking quartet, an ensemble that gets its name from one of his favorite Blackstone narrations, *The Deerslayer*. Todd lives in New York.

From [AudioFile](#)

Paul Michael recounts the lives of teenage gangs in New York City in the '60s. He has just the right amount of drama and inflection in his voice as he characterizes street kids who are addicted to drugs and crime. This is the true story of David Wilkerson, an Assemblies of God preacher who left a little country church to go to the streets of New York. There he faces life-threatening situations and hears heart-wrenching stories as he seeks to bring change into the lives of these kids through faith in God. The book tells the story of the beginning of Teen Challenge, a thriving ministry today. Paul Michael does an excellent job creating a believable drama of God's work through the vision of just one man. N.L. © AudioFile 2008, Portland, Maine-- Copyright © AudioFile, Portland, Maine

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frances Hairston:

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of often the crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated that for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a guide your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand up than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading a book, we give you this kind of *The Cross and the Switchblade: A True Story -- the Best-Selling International Adventure of All Time!* book as basic and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

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