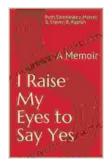
# Raise My Eyes to Say Yes: A Journey of Hope, Resilience, and Empowerment



#### I Raise My Eyes to Say Yes: A Memoir by John A. Kirk

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.8 out of 5 Language : English File size : 3922 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 250 pages Lending : Enabled



In the tapestry of life, we are all faced with trials and tribulations. Some are more difficult than others, but it is in the crucible of adversity that we discover our true strength and resilience.

For author and advocate Vanessa George, her journey has been marked by extraordinary challenges. Growing up in a dysfunctional home, she endured years of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. As a young woman, she turned to drugs and alcohol to numb the pain. Her addiction led her down a spiral of homelessness and despair.

But even in the darkest of times, there was a flicker of hope within Vanessa. A chance encounter with a compassionate stranger set her on a path to recovery. With the support of a community of caring individuals, she began to heal the wounds of her past.

Now, in her powerful memoir, Raise My Eyes to Say Yes, Vanessa shares her remarkable story of triumph over adversity. It is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the transformative power of human connection.

#### **A Harrowing Childhood**

Vanessa's childhood was a nightmare. She was subjected to constant abuse by her parents and stepfather. There was never enough food or clothing, and she was often forced to sleep outside. As a result of the abuse, Vanessa developed severe anxiety and depression. She also began to self-medicate with alcohol and drugs.

At the age of 16, Vanessa ran away from home. She lived on the streets for several years, struggling to survive. She was often beaten and robbed, and she was constantly in fear for her safety. During this time, she became addicted to heroin.

#### A Path to Recovery

In 2007, Vanessa met a woman named Rachel who worked at a local homeless shelter. Rachel saw the pain in Vanessa's eyes, and she offered her a helping hand. Vanessa was hesitant at first, but she eventually agreed to go to rehab.

Rehab was a difficult experience for Vanessa, but it was also a turning point in her life. She began to confront the trauma of her past, and she started to heal her wounds. With the support of her counselors and peers, Vanessa slowly began to rebuild her life.

#### **Finding Her Purpose**

After completing rehab, Vanessa knew that she wanted to help others who were struggling with addiction and homelessness. She became a certified peer recovery specialist, and she began working at the shelter where she had first met Rachel.

Vanessa is passionate about sharing her story with others. She speaks at schools, churches, and community events, inspiring others to overcome their own challenges. She also volunteers her time at a local soup kitchen, and she helps to raise money for homeless shelters.

Vanessa is a beacon of hope for others. She is living proof that it is possible to overcome even the most difficult circumstances. Her story is an inspiration to all of us to never give up on our dreams.

#### **Praise for Raise My Eyes to Say Yes**

"Raise My Eyes to Say Yes is a powerful and inspiring memoir. Vanessa George's story is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the transformative power of human connection. It is a must-read for anyone who has ever struggled with addiction, homelessness, or trauma."

#### -Rachel Lloyd, author of The Way Out: A Memoir of Recovery

"Vanessa George's story is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is always hope. Her memoir is a testament to the power of the human spirit and the importance of community support. It is a must-read for anyone who is struggling with addiction or homelessness."

#### -Dr. Sam Rivera, CEO of the National Coalition for the Homeless

#### **About the Author**

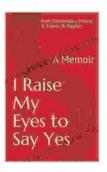
Vanessa George is a certified peer recovery specialist and advocate for the homeless. She is the author of the memoir Raise My Eyes to Say Yes. Vanessa lives in New York City, where she works at a local homeless shelter and volunteers her time at a soup kitchen.

#### Call to Action

If you are struggling with addiction or homelessness, please know that there is hope. There are people who care about you and want to help you. Reach out for help today. You are not alone.

You can find more information about addiction and homelessness on the following websites:

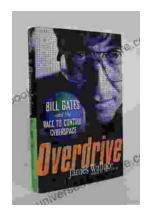
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- National Coalition for the Homeless
- Narcotics Anonymous
- Alcoholics Anonymous



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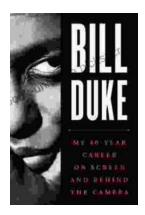
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