

WHERE WERE YOU ON 9-11?

intimate interviews with
pam houston • gerry spence
james redfield • gloria allred
victoria toensing • lt. colonel bo gritz
sarah ferguson the duchess of york
dr. robert schuller & others

JANETTE REYNOLDS

INTRODUCTION WITH DONALD J. TRUMP

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Where Were You on 9-11?: We all have an interesting and unique story to tell about our experiences on September 11, 2001. Where were you when the catastrophic news hit the airwaves? What was in your head? Invite your reading, viewing and listening audiences to compare and share experiences with those of world renowned media personalities, authors, historians, and lawyers like Gerry Spence, Dr. Robert Schuller, and Sarah Ferguson.



Photo by Sarah Ferguson

Keeping the Memory Alive: America's memory is at best, short-lived. Turn on TV, and surf channel after channel of breaking news stories that are reported every few minutes. Immediately after the events of 9/11, the world seemed to temporarily slow its pace as people began to examine their lives and how they relate to their communities and world. Invite your viewing and listening audience to debate why it is important to keep the memory alive for future generations to come.

Does God factor in?: Clearly, the hottest controversy is how the events of 9/11, the ongoing war against terrorism and how the shape of politics has made many question their faith. Were the attacks at the root cause of the problem given the disparity of Muslim and Christian beliefs? This argument stands alone as some choose political and religious sides, and others turn away altogether. Where do you stand? Are the events of 9/11 a wake-up call for non-believers living in a secular world? Are these the prophesized "end times?" A survey conducted in 5 boroughs of New York City found that 57% of the people were praying more, and 40% were reading their Bible once again. Or do we lie in the wake of our own doing - America's quest for world dominion?

Top 10 Events That No One Can Forget: You know an event is really significant when you remember every detail - where you were, what you were doing, what you were thinking, who you were with - when you first found out the news. Your viewing, reading and listening audience will join in for a discussion of the top 10 events that etched themselves indelibly into the hearts of people everywhere. Top 10 events include: Assassination of John F. Kennedy; the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr; the landing on the moon; the attack on Pearl Harbor; Nixon's resignation; John Lennon assassination; O'J's infamous car chase; Beatle's first televised American appearance; Hiroshima bombed with nuclear weapons.

Nations top lawyers speak about September 11th: Some say lawyers are nothing more than "hired guns" who can debate anything, yet feel strongly about

nothing. But during, and after 9-11, our nation's top attorney's experienced powerful emotions - and provide articulate and poignant perspectives. Find out what Gerry Spence, Gloria Allred, Victoria Toensing, and other prominent attorneys personally experienced on 9-11, and how they perceive the post 9-11 world.

Historians take on 9-11: It is the job of historians to discuss and write about world-changing events with an unemotional and objective perspective. However, the tragic events of 9-11 were so close and disturbing that many historians could not help but react emotionally. The full historical importance of the terrorist attacks is yet to be determined, but find out how renowned historian Shelley L. Davis responded to the events and what is being done to preserve the events of 9-11 historically.

Sarah Ferguson speaks on 9-11: The Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson, like so many of us, experienced the loss of co-workers and loved ones during the terrorist attack. Her beloved charity, Chances for Children was housed on the 101st floor of One World Trade Center. In Reynolds' anthology of interviews and personal impressions, she talks with "Fergie" - up close and personal.

Health: In a post 9/11 world, few would argue that American citizens have suffered emotional, physical and mental health. As the eve of the 2nd anniversary draws near people continue to experience Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, anxiety, alcoholism, depression and joblessness...even suicide. With an estimated 27% of people losing their jobs after the attacks and a steady decline in employment - has this nation begun to heal yet? How has this affected our well-being.

BACKGROUNDER 1: Where Were You on 9-11?

We all have an interesting and unique story to tell about our experiences on Sept. 11th, 2001. Where were you when the catastrophic news hit the airwaves? What was going on in your head? Invite your reading, viewing and listening audiences to compare experiences with those of renowned media personalities, authors, experts, lawyers - and personalities such as Dr. Robert Schuller, Donald Trump, Lt. Colonel Bo Gritz, and Gloria Allred.

Since the disastrous events of that fateful day in September, it has become somewhat of a phenomenon to record and share the thoughts and feelings of those directly, and indirectly involved in the tragedy. Now, when the events of 9-11 are recollected, one question remains on the lips of every person in the world, "Where were you?" Reynolds writes, "It may be a simple question, but the affect is long lasting and the answers complex."

Why must we record these thoughts? The media is often an excellent record for hard facts - what happened, when, why, who caused it - but it often fails in developing the human side of the story. We all know what happened at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, but can we honestly claim to know what was going on in the minds and hearts of those affected by the bombing?

Janette Reynolds' book, "Where Were You On 9-11?" is considered the single most eclectic anthology of interviews bar-none. According to Reynolds, "I have always felt very strongly that every individual's story bears specific merit, no matter how great or little their position in life."

"'Where Were You On 9-11?' highlights the unique opinion that people possess about the events of that day, and how monumentally key those differences are to the healing process and to regaining and building a wholesome perspective." Therefore, Janette purposely assembled the famous, the infamous, politically correct & incorrect, and the known and unknown together in one book for their oral account of the day that changed our lives forever.

In addition to Reynolds' powerful new book, there are a number of other resources that allow anyone to post their own thoughts, feelings and memories about the horrific tragedy so we all may:

- Begin to heal
- Grow in understanding and tolerance
- Share in a sense of unity

<http://www.wherewereyou.org>
<http://www.angelfire.com/ny5/9one1/>

Here are some personal recollections and reflections by a selection of world personalities:

Sarah Ferguson - The Duchess of York

"We were on tour around America for my charity, Chances for Children, and Weight Watchers. So, I had my team with me. My assistant, Lee, my hairdresser, Josh, my trainer, my publicist Kate Waddington and security. But when we saw what happened, we immediately went 'round to try and find a way to give back and to help, and the first thing I wanted to do was to personally do something. I wanted to go be a nurse at St. Vincent's Hospital, I wanted in some way to give.



I mean you feel so helpless! But actually my security officers had a different idea - and they were right. They said, 'Look, you're going to be of no use to anyone because they need to get on. Get out of the city. Go and re-group and think about what you're going to do.' The only thing I could think of doing was to start the 9-11 Fund, which is for people who lost their jobs as a result of this tragedy."

Dr. Robert Schuller - Pastor, Speaker Motivator

"I had worked most of the night, so I was till sleeping when my wife awakened me saying that a plane had hit a tower in New York. I sat in front of the TV for more than an hour. If I felt total grief...weeping. I could not relate to this tragedy, and after about an hour and a half of watching the news - we saw what was happening, so I called a special prayer service. I mean, I said, 'Let's call our people and tell them that at noon there would be special prayer service.' And I'll tell you some- thing amazing, there is a telephone service that will do that for you. I mean, they called about ten-thousand homes! They called everyone. And at noon on September 11th, we had about a thousand, two-hundred people that showed up."



Pam Houston - Author, Professor

Houston was on a rafting trip in the Crystal Rapids (Grand Canyon), and September 11th, 2001 marked the last day of her excursion. Houston and a group of her friends heard the news first from a river guide. They thought he was joking, and Pam Houston - Author, Professor Houston was on a rafting trip in the Crystal Rapids (Grand Canyon), and September 11th, 2001 marked the last day of her excursion. Houston and a group of her friends heard the news first from a river guide. They thought he was joking, and they were thrown into a state of disbelief and confusion. "I will never forget the time between hearing and not having it confirmed. The mood in the van with the eleven of us was we had no idea what was going to happen next. We were in this weird silence - and so far away from everyone and everything. We felt like we were in this kind of safe place - like the last safe place. Yet, on the other hand the distance made us feel like we didn't exactly have our finger on the pulse of what was happening. We were just driving up out of the Grand Canyon and everyone was dealing with it in their own way."

Gerry Spence - Lawyer, Author, Poet

"I did see the second crash live, and I was fascinated by the speculation from television announcers and the sort of inept way in which they were presenting the matter. I mean they were surprised! They were horrified! They did not know what was going on. So, I watched it over, and over, and over, and over, attempting to get some information. And of course, to get the little snippets of information that were coming out one had to watch the towers be attacked again and again! And then both

of the towers collapsed in real-time - and I mean this had changed my life, but it did not affect me like it affected the people that were involved. The people who lost their friends and families, or were close to people who were lost, people that saw the smoke and breathed the fumes! I mean these are memories that will never fade for the them.

Additional sites of specific interest/controversy:

<http://www.9-11commission.gov>

<http://www.pbs.org>

<http://www.infidels.org>

<http://www.islamworld.net>

<http://www.goodnewsaboutgod.com>

<http://www.bogritz.com>

BACKGROUNDER 2: Keeping the Memory Alive

America's memory is at best, short-lived. Turn on TV and surf channel after channel of breaking news stories that are reported every few minutes! Immediately after the events of 9/11, the world seemed to temporarily slow its pace as people began to examine their lives and how they relate to their communities and world. Incite your viewing and listening audience to debate why it is important to keep the memory alive for future generations to come.

Ask any historian, patriot, collector of memorabilia...your grandparents. They will tell you the importance of keeping the memory alive of specific events no matter how traumatic. It's important to remember events because:

- No repeats: So we don't repeat the same mistakes
- Respect: We honor and respect those who perished in the World Trade Center, Pentagon attacks, and Pennsylvania plane crash.
- Humility: Stay in touch with the humble and sober feelings experienced by millions immediately after the attacks.
- Legacy: Passing on the memory, thoughts and feelings onto the next generation.
- Connection: This tragedy immediately made each person realize a connectedness that perhaps never existed before. A rise in community activities and awareness seemed to arise after all of us sharing the same shock and trauma.
- Awareness: Americans have now made it a point to learn more about the Muslim community, the religion of Islam, and the views and opinions shared by our neighbors in the Middle East.

Some specific sites of further note:

<http://www.publicopiniononline.com>

<http://www.unityamerica.com>

<http://www.fema.gov>

BACKGROUNDER 3: Does God Factor In?

Clearly, the hottest controversy is how the events of 9/11, the ongoing war against terrorism and how the shape of politics have made many question their faith. Were the attacks at the root cause of the problem given the disparity of Muslim and Christian beliefs? This argument stands alone as some choose political and religious sides, and others turn away altogether.

<http://terrorismreporter.com>

Where do you stand? Are the events of 9/11 a wake-up call for non-believers living in a secular world? Are these the prophesized "end times?" A survey conducted in 5borough of New York City found that 57% of the people were praying more, and 40% were reading their Bible once again.

Or do we lie in the wake of our own doing - America's quest for world dominion? Have the attacks made America polarize to the extreme of religious and political sides?

<http://theatlantic.com>

Other sites of note:

<http://www.myredeemerlives.com>

<http://www.jewishsf.com>

<http://www.anointed-one.com>

BACKGROUNDER 4: The Top 10 Events that No One Can Forget

You know an event is really significant when you remember every detail - where you were, what you were doing, what you were thinking, who you were with - when you first found out the news. Your viewing, reading, and listening audiences will really want to tune in for a discussion of the top 10 events that etched themselves indelibly into the hearts of people everywhere.

10 - The Beatles' first televised American appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show

It has been written that there were no reported crimes in America during the fifteen minutes that John, Paul, George and Ringo played for Ed Sullivan's popular show. Nearly forty years later, it is still rated as one of the most-watched television broadcasts of all time.

9 - O.J.'s infamous car chase

Months before the "Trial of the Century" became the largest media circus of all time, there was the startling footage of the white bronco racing down the freeway being chased by a string of police cars. It was an image that became burned into the consciousness of millions of Americans nationwide.

8 - John Lennon assassinated

It seemed almost unbelievable. In 1980, one of the most beloved rock stars, and a dynamic advocate of non-violence, was gunned down outside his New York home by a crazed fan. It was one of the saddest reminders that the 'peace and love' idealism of the 1960's was gone.

7 - Hiroshima bombed with nuclear weapons

It marked the end of World War II and the beginning of the age of nuclear paranoia. In the passing year, the existence of nuclear weapons and the rivalry between capitalism and communism would turn into the Cold War - and the bombing in Hiroshima, which killed thousands instantly.

6 - Nixon's resignation

It was the first time in American history when a president stepped down from office in disgrace. Following the discovery of the scandalous Watergate cover-up, Richard Nixon announced that he would rather leave quietly than suffer a lengthy, embarrassment. The result was a defining and troubling moment in the history of the United States government, one that no one would be able to forget.

5 - Martin Luther King Jr.'s classic "I have a dream," speech

MLK's passionate speech on segregation in America became the defining moment in what became known as the Civil Rights Movement. It was more than just another political speech. It changed many people's outlook on race issues in America and opened people's minds to the ideas of unity and peace.

4 - The moon landing

At the time, it looked like a scene from a science fiction movie, but it was real. In 1969, Neil Armstrong was the first man to step foot on the surface of the moon in front of millions of people worldwide who were glued to their television sets. It may have been "one small step for man," but it was an image that would remain burned in the nation's minds forever.

3 - The bombing of Pearl Harbor

Dec. 7, 1941 - a date which will live in infamy - the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan," said Franklin D. Roosevelt in his impassioned speech to the American people before the nation's official entrance into WWII. It was the first time American soil had been deliberately attacked.

2 - The assassination of John F. Kennedy

If you were alive in 1963, then you remember where you were when President Kennedy was shot and killed by assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. It seemed to come out of nowhere, and ignited one of the most controversial conspiracy theories of all time, but the rifle shot will forever ring in the ears of those who lived through the tumultuous event.

More: Discovery Channel

<http://dsc.discovery.com/anthology/unsolvedhistory/dealeyplaza/where/where.html>

1 - The Terrorist Attacks on Sept.11

No one suspected terrorism when the first airplane plummeted into the side of the World Trade Center Building. But when another plane struck the second tower - caught live on television - the course of the world changed forever. Not since Pearl Harbor had a vicious attack taken place on American soil. Those images of the planes, the wreckage, the fires, will truly be remembered by everyone forever.

More: <http://www.wherewereyou.org>

BACKGROUNDER 5: Nations top lawyers speak about September 11

Some say lawyers are nothing more than "hired guns" who can debate anything but feel strongly about nothing. But during and after 9-11, our nation's top attorneys experienced powerful emotions and provide articulate and poignant perspectives. Find out what Gerry Spence, Gloria Allred, Victoria Toensing and other prominent attorneys experienced on 9-11, and how they perceive the post 9-11 world. Here are some of the perspectives provided by our nation's top lawyers:

Gerry Spence: Reynold's writes, "Known nationwide for his powerful victories including that for the estate of Karen Silkwood; White-Separatist Randy Weaver; an acquittal for former Phillipine First Lady Imelda Marcos; and an eight-figure settlement for Miss Wyoming against Penthouse magazine. Spence has not lost a jury trial since 1969, and has never lost a criminal case."

Though he may be a master of the courtroom, he takes pride in being a country lawyer, born, raised and educated in Wyoming. In the mid-1990's he served as legal consultant to NBC during the lengthy and infamous O.J. Simpson trial. In 1995, he created The Gerry Spence Show (CNBC), and used the vehicle as a means to discuss legal and social issues that affect the lives of Americans. Though he is admittedly a "non-TV-watcher," he has hosted and appeared on Larry King Live and the Rivera Show countless times.

He is also the founder and director of the nonprofit Trial Lawyers College where lawyers learn to try cases on behalf of the people, and of the Lawyers and Advocates for Wyoming, a nonprofit public interest law firm.

More: <http://www.gerryspence.com>

Spences' memories of 9-11: "I did see the second crash live, and I was fascinated by the speculation from the television announcers and the sort of inept way in which they were presenting this matter. I mean they were surprised! They were horrified! They did not know what was going on. So I watched it over and over and over and over attempting to get some information. And of course to get the little snippets of information that were coming out one had to watch the towers be attacked again and again! And then I saw both of the collapses in real-time. This has changed my life, but it didn't affect me like it affected the people that were involved. The people who lost their friends or their families, or were close to people who were lost, people that saw the smoke and breathed the fumes! I mean these are memories that will never fade for them. We saw this on television, which is just one step removed from fiction. I've never seen anything like 9-11 before - and nobody else has either."

Spence on the Post-9-11 World: "The whole thing just brings me to the edge of terror! But it's not a terror brought on by the terrorists. What happened was an act of terrorism, but the terror that comes back to frighten one is from our own government. Suddenly, I realized that I no longer live in a country in which I can be sure that the Constitutional rights of its people will be preserved because I see a government that is willing to suspend civil rights. I also see a people who are willing to give up their rights that hundreds of thousands of Americans have laid their lives down to preserve. Let's face it, the people of this country are perfectly willing to give up those rights in exchange for what they hope to be security, and no one has shown

me that you could give up 100% of your rights and be any more secure! These terrorists have won this war because they have so terrorized Americans that they are perfectly willing to give up the thing that distinguishes them from all other peoples on this earth. That is their right as American citizens. They are willing to compromise those rights and freedoms - and even to reject them in exchange for what they hope to be their safety."

Gloria Allred: Reynolds' writes, "Originally from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - Gloria moved west to California after earning her M.A. from New York University. Practicing law for close to 25 years, she is known for her pioneering legal work on behalf of women's rights and rights for minorities. Gloria makes no secret of the fact that she is an active feminist, and is proud of founding the Women's Equal Rights Legal Defense and Education Fund of which she currently serves as President. Gloria is a partner at Allred, Maroko & Goldberg; a highly skilled firm known for their work on behalf of victims in civil rights, rape and child abuse cases. The practice specializes in employment discrimination, including sex, race, age, physical handicap and sexual orientation. Besides being a columnist for the Daily Journal, Gloria co-hosts "Allred & Taylor," a daily radio show on KABC Talk Radio in Los Angeles - and was recently selected by USA Today as one of the 25 most important radio talk show hosts in America." She broadcast her show on the morning of Sept. 11th.

<http://www.gloriaallred.com>

Allred's memories of 9-11: "(All of us at the radio station) went through this crisis together, we told people to keep calm, and let them know that we would be there with them. My feeling, and I think the stations feeling was that September 11th was not the day that people would want to express a lot of opinions. They wanted to know what was happening. They wanted to know who did it? Why was it done? How many people were hurt? Who has died? What might be happening next? What really happened to the plane in Pennsylvania?

How many planes went down? What went on in those planes and why did they go down? How could this happen? It was quite a morning. It was a challenging, frightening, and exciting day all at the same time. There was no down time.

The plane hit. My daughter called. My interview got canceled. I drove to the radio station, and we broadcast live for three hours! Afterwards, we tried to just come down, and process what had happened. After that, I came back to my office, and I think I watched television. The rest of the day was a total blur. I had so many thoughts - like how could life have changed so dramatically in a few hours? Will my grandchildren's life ever be the same?

To have this happen in their lifetime! How do you begin to even explain this to children? One of my first impulses was to go to New York and just hold my daughter and my grandchildren."

Allred's reflections on a Post-9-11 World: "That day brought back memories of other turning points in my life, and the life of our country. I remember the day John F. Kennedy was assassinated - it's that kind of day. I knew on September 11, that I would always remember where I was on that day, and what I was doing at the time - just like I remember where I was on the day that Kennedy was shot, or when Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated. These kinds of things just reverberate in our

consciousness, and the memories just came flooding back to me. In the weeks following the attacks I was really concerned about our nation. This was unlike anything that any of us had ever known. I mean it was an attack on the United States of America! For many of us - it just was unthinkable! You know we can think of it more because of the Oklahoma City bombings, but I guess we live in a kind of optimistic denial, and we have a sense of invulnerability. We never thought it would happen, and of course we can never have that sense again - that we are invulnerable. We know now that we have to take steps for the nations security even more than we did before. Words like homeland security came to mind! I felt as though I was listening to George Orwell! Brave New World - Aldous Huxley. But this is a New World and we have to learn how to live in it. So I remain optimistic, but cautious."

Victoria Toensing's memories of 9-11: Victoria Toensing, living in Washington D.C., was devastated when she found out a close friend perished in the Pentagon crash. Toensing is a former Deputy Assistant Attorney General with the U.S. Department of Justice, and established the Department's Terrorism Unit. She managed the Federal government's efforts to bring to justice the terrorists responsible for the hijacking of TWA 847, the bombing of Pan Am 83, and the takeover of the cruise ship Achille Lauro.

Her husband Joseph diGenova, supervised the prosecution of attempted Presidential assassin, John W. Hinckley. She and her husband are referred to as Washington's "power-couple" in both legal and media circles. While Toensing, like her good friend Barbara Olson, was a frequent legal analyst on national television programs dealing with criminal justice, national security, and terrorism, the events of September 11th would stun, shock, and fill her with grief: "I was at home working out finishing up on my Nordic Track, when they broke in to the Today Show. They said that a plane had hit the World Trade Center, and I thought, 'What a dumb pilot!' Then they showed the tower, and it was a clear, blue-sky day, and I thought that probably the pilot must have had a heart attack. I really didn't think much of it. I thought it was just a small commuter plane. I thought so little of it that I was going up to get cleaned up before heading for the office. As I went upstairs to shower I saw the second plane crash into the south tower, and for a second I thought it was a scout plane that they were using to take a closer look at the commuter crash - which didn't make sense to me at all.

They would have used a helicopter. And then it just crystallized for me...I knew immediately it was terrorism! I called my daughter-in-law Karla at the hotel in downtown Washington, and her first words were 'Why am I seeing black smoke come up from downtown Washington?' I'll never forget how quiet it was. Beth and I went out to the backyard and everything was so silent, which is very unusual because we are about a mile from the Potomac River and the planes come through this area all the time. Our house is right under the national airport path. But there wasn't a plane in the sky! There were helicopters all over - all over. We kept going back inside the house to watch the TV, which was reporting there were several planes still in the air, and there were six or seven planes still unaccounted for that were supposedly headed toward Washington. Phones stopped working. We tried using our cell phones, but you couldn't get through...And then that's when we got the phone call. CNN called us wanting to confirm whether Barbara Olson, (catches her breath), was on the plane. Immediately, I called [her husband] Ted's house, and his son answered. And I said, 'Is Ted there?' And he said, 'Well, he's in the other

room.' And you try to lead into these things gradually. I said, 'Is Ted okay?' And he said, 'Yeah. He's okay.' And that threw me! So, I said, 'Is Barbara okay?' And he said, 'No.' Then I knew..."

<http://digenovatoensing.com>

Lisa Bloom: Reynolds writes, "Lisa is currently the co-anchor for Court TV's daytime trial coverage program 'Closing Arguments.' She has substantial experience as a civil rights attorney and has practiced both in New York and Los Angeles. Her particular passion is fighting for the rights of the powerless against some of the most powerful forces in today's culture. For example, she took the Boy Scouts of America all the way to the California Supreme Court, suing them for discrimination on behalf of a young girl who wanted to join. Lisa successfully represented a police expert who testified against the officers involved in the Rodney King beating. She won a trial against one of the largest churches in the world for turning its back on a boy who was sexually abused at a church camp. Bloom has published articles in the Los Angeles Times, the National Law Journal, and other outlets on topics such as families of child molesters' duty to warn. She resides in the upper West Side of Manhattan with her husband, and two children."

Bloom's memories of 9-11: "We had just moved to New York that summer, and my children were scheduled to begin at their new school on Tuesday, September 11, 2001. That morning I'd just walked my son to school, come home, and turned the news on. They were showing reports that the first tower of the World Trade Center had been hit, but like a lot of people I thought it was a random accident. My husband was sleeping, but I woke him up, and told him that a plane had just hit the World Trade Tower. As Alex sat there watching the report, he saw on live television the second tower being hit. I immediately called over to my kid's school to see what they were going to do, whether they were going to send the kids home or what? The school is uptown - nowhere near the World Trade Centers - and they had made the decision to just keep going with the school day because they felt that everybody was fine. So, I wasn't particularly worried. But because I work for a news organization, I knew that I had to get into the office because when there's a big breaking news story or a big trial; they put us on at different times. I knew this was a situation where they needed me to be there earlier. As we were driving south toward midtown I saw the second tower fall. It was around 10:00 am or so. The first one had already fallen.

It fell in a huge cloud of smoke! I mean, as I watched the second tower fall - they were talking about it on the radio in the taxi! They had been talking about the first tower falling, and how they couldn't believe it, and then they were saying that the second tower had just fallen. As I was listening, in that moment, I was thinking that thousands of people are dying right now! It was just the most incredibly horrible thing I'd ever experienced. Then, the taxi hit a wall of traffic, and I just got out."

Bloom's reflections on a Post-9-11 World: "In the days following 9-11, the one thing I wanted to do was to talk to older people. I thought these people would have a lot of wisdom to offer. I would ask, 'What do you think about what's happened and what should we do now?' The closest analogy I could make about 9-11 was to Holocaust survivors, or people who lived through World War II. You know with Pearl Harbor - all of a sudden we are attacked and at war!

I don't have any grandparents left but my grandmother Louise had a big influence on my life. She'd lived through World War II, and it just struck me that she would have taken out her flag and hung it outside. I also thought she would probably tell us to stay calm, and think about what you have to do. You got to do what you got to do!"

More: http://courttv.com/anchors/lisa_bloom.html

BACKGROUNDER 6: Historians take on 9-11

It is the job of historians to discuss and write about world-changing events from an unemotional and objective perspective. However, the tragic events of 9-11 were so close and disturbing that many historians could not help but react emotionally. The full historical importance of the terrorist attacks is yet to be determined, but find out how renowned historian Shelley L. Davis responded to the events and what is being done to preserve the events of 9-11 historically. With the vast resources in technology we now have at our immediate disposal, historians are allowed the luxury of piecing together a far more complete picture of what happened on that fateful day in September 2001. Here is a brief overview of some of these historical societies and what they are currently doing to ensure 9-11 is not forgotten.

The New York Historical Society:

In keeping with its founding vision, the New York Historical Society has taken a leadership role in the collection, safekeeping and interpretation of historical materials related to the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center and the uncertain weeks that followed.

The project is called History Responds: Its goals are to collect, preserve, document, contextualize, and make accessible an archive of objects and documents from September 11 (and its aftermath) that will be available for study and contemplation at the Historical Society and on the Internet to researchers and, through interpretive programs, to the general public, students, and teachers. Open a public dialogue about the events and implications of September 11 through exhibitions, school programs, teacher workshops and public panels that offer historical perspectives on the World Trade Center attack, and on how New Yorkers have faced and conquered extraordinary challenges in the past.

For more information visit: <http://www.nyhistory.org/>

The September 11 Digital Archive:

This site uses digital media to collect, preserve and present the history of the September 11, 2001 attacks on New York, Virginia, Pennsylvania and the public's response to them. They are working with the Smithsonian, the Behring Center, The Museum of the City of New York, and other organizations.

See: <http://911digitalarchive.org>

H-Net and September 11:

H-Net's many on-line communities are offering diverse and informed perspectives on the meaning of the events of Sept 11th.

See <http://www.h-net.msu.edu>

There is also an extensive web archive online that collects a wealth of newspaper articles, personal documents and other resources that offer insight and information on the events of September 11.

See: <http://web.archive.org/collections/sep11.html>

Shelley L. Davis: Reynolds writes, "Besides being a gifted author, Shelley Davis will probably go down in history known as the last, official historian for the Internal Revenue Service. She spent 16 years as an historian for the federal government. Nine of those years were with the Department of Defense, and the final seven working for probably one of the most dreaded governmental agencies. After resigning from her federal career (in 1995) in protest over the unwillingness of the Treasury Department Inspector General to investigate her complaint of abuses inside the agency - she decided to write about her experiences. In 1997, she published "Unbridled Power: Inside the Secret Culture of the IRS." Labeled a whistle-blower, Davis' book exposed the corruption and buried mistakes that she uncovered within the I.R.S., after being hired to provide them with a written record of its past."

Davis on the morning of 9-11: "I am one of those people that are usually up pretty early, and on September 11th I was up by 6:00 am. I was sitting at my kitchen counter working on a rather mundane article with the Today Show on in the background. You know? Your typical morning TV. They were droning on and on about some movie star, and it was just turning into monotonous dribble, so I just shut it off. I really needed to focus on my work and it was a particular distraction that morning: "About fifteen minutes later, around 8:50 am, I remembered that I needed to make a dental appointment so I called my dentist's office. I got the receptionist, and she said, 'Did you hear that a plane just hit the World Trade Center?' I said, 'Excuse me? I was just calling for a dental appointment. What are you talking about?' She said, 'Well, we just turned the TV on and,' I had just turned my TV off because I was tired of listening to the lack of news! It's just bizarre that I found out about the attacks by calling my dentist."

Davis' impressions on the terrorist bombings: "Because of my experience having worked for the government for so many years - my thoughts were stuck between how could this have happened, and how could it have slipped through our fingers? I went through a number of emotions, along with angst, fear, concern, horror. I was angry too, because I knew that at least from my perspective once again, our government had completely failed us. With all of the thousands of people they employ, and the billions of dollars spent on intelligence in this country - it was absolutely shocking that people could take airplanes and fly them into buildings. And so, to this day, I have anger. That hasn't gone away."

BACKGROUNDER 7: Sarah Ferguson speaks on 9-11

The Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson, like so many of us, experienced the loss of co-workers and loved ones during the terrorist attack. Her beloved charity, Chances for Children, was housed on floor 101 floor of One World Trade Center. In Reynolds's book of interviews and personal impressions, she talks with "Fergie" - up close and personal. Reynolds writes, "I've always admired Sarah Ferguson's ability to be her own person. She has always stood out amongst the Royals as someone with a sense of casualness and fun.



Sarah's title does not make her, she makes her title. She is dauntless in her pursuit to meet every one of life's challenges head on, again, and again, each time evolving into something more beautiful than before." Ferguson was handed a great challenge on September 11, when she watched the office of her beloved charity Chances for Children tumble with the rest of One World Trade Center.

Chances for Children is a charity organization established to help provide safe shelter, support and mentoring programs to children that are in unsafe or unprotected living conditions. Like many charities, the ensuing economic repercussions as a result of 9-11 in Manhattan had a serious impact on the finances of Chances for Children. It is estimated that they lost 54 percent of their anticipated revenue due to the cancellation of annual fund-raisers and the general decline in donations. Chances for Children is currently supporting a pilot program to address the educational needs of the estimated 13,000 homeless and disadvantaged children in New York. Fergie says in her interview with Reynolds, "'Lil Red, the doll, is the symbol for Chances for Children. The money raised goes to giving children a chance in life in the United States of America. It was my way of giving back to the American people. There was a 'Lil Red' doll that survived the World Trade Center, and I do believe it is a sign! It was an amazing and extraordinary story. She symbolizes that children all over the world must continue to stand up and fight for survival."

<http://www.chancesforchildren.org>

Ferguson's story and reflections became an inspiring and poignant addition to Reynolds' book. Ferguson said in the interview, "What happened on September 11th from my particular point of view is that it opened the world's eyes to the fact that we must now work even harder with compassion, and to keep fighting for compassion. I think we should also fight for peace and for world unity." Like many Americans, Ferguson went to great lengths to try and find some sort of good from the whole catastrophe. "[Before Sept. 11] people had no idea that the women of Afghanistan were in such a terrible way - walking around with Burkas on and being treated with such disrespect. Since September 11th, the women are allowed to walk down the street without being hit or beaten. Women can take off their Burkas. And so therefore, I look at it, that yes, it was a terrible disaster and yes, many, many lives were lost, but now a whole country is being opened up to freedom. I'm trying to look out of the negativity. The gift of negativity, I call it. Which is when there is something very, very negative surely there must be a lesson we can all learn from it, which if we can look at it with compassion we can find an answer."

BACKGROUNDER 8: Health

In a post 9/11 world, few would argue that American citizens have suffered emotional, physical and mental health. As the eve of the 2nd anniversary draws near people continue to experience Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, anxiety, alcoholism, depression and joblessness...even suicide.

ABC News Article - Anxious? You're Not Alone

http://www.abcnews.go.com/sections/GMA/DrJohnson/GMA010918Post_traumatic.html

With an estimated 27% of people losing their jobs after the attacks and a steady decline in employment - has this nation begun to heal yet? How has this affected our well being.

Other sites of interest:

<http://www.laborresearch.org>

<http://www.twocupsofjoy.com/worldtradecenter.html>

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Janette Reynolds, author of the new anthology, "Where Were You On 9-11?" highlights the differences within each of us, and shows how monumentally key those differences are to the healing process and to regaining and building a wholesome perspective. According to Reynolds, "I have always felt strongly that every individual's story bears specific merit and insight - no matter how great or little their position in life." Therefore, Reynolds purposely alternated her stories between newsmakers and everyday people - movie stars and homemakers.

1. How were you personally affected by the terrorist attacks on 9-11?
2. When did you first get the idea to compile a book of personal reflections on the terrorist attacks and the post-9-11 world?
3. Did you have any trouble getting people to agree to interviews?
4. How have you seen the world change in the year since the attacks?
5. What are your thoughts on the post-9-11 world?
6. What were the most compelling interviews you conducted?
7. How is the sharing of memories important to national healing?
8. Where were you at the moment you heard the news of the terrorist attacks?
9. What went through your head after hearing the news?
10. Did you encounter any negative backlash when trying to get your project started?
11. What was your visit to Ground Zero like?
12. What was going on in your head as you walked through the wreckage?
13. How many interviews total did you conduct for this book?
14. Do you have any future projects in the works?
15. Have you ever faced a more challenging task than to compile this book of personal memoirs?

AUTHOR: Janette Reynolds

"I like people, and their stories. How they got from point a, to point b, is ultimately fascinating for me."

Feeling drawn to the interviewing process...and the art of conversation - Janette has always held an acute appreciation for human interest stories.

As founder of a national women's magazine, and Umbrella Publishing; Janette first made a humble mark in her corner of the literary universe as entertainment editor for her high school newspaper with a monthly byline, "Reynolds Wrap."

Though originally never formerly employed in the writing arts, over the years she developed a keen sense for the written word and a love for media as a highly creative outlet. And after spending several restless years in automotive engineering in the Motor City, she moved west in 1994 to what some consider the writer's mecca - Montana.

Never one to shy away from a challenge, Janette immediately landed a job in broadcast journalism at a local radio station and developed a daily interview talk show (Montana Woman). Within 6 months Janette received her first nomination for "Radio Program of the Year" after interviewing such luminaries as Gloria Steinem, John Bradshaw, Debbie Reynolds, Garth Brooks, Shaquille O'Neal, Charlton Heston, Dr. Helen Caldicott, Lea Thompson and hundreds more.



Some of her story:

- Conducted more than 800 interviews of well-known celebrities, newsmakers, politicians, and local people. Covered and developed stories across the US and Europe including Oxford, London, and Paris.
- Published 87 issues of Montana Woman
- Keynote speaker at the University of Montana Center for Leadership Development Conference, October 2000.
- Author of "Where Were You on 9-11? - An Anthology of Intimate Interviews"
- Soon to be released: Janette's semi-autobiographical account of leaving the big city for rural life, "Don't Fence Me In." An insightful and often humorous account of chucking it all, moving west, and starting over from scratch.
- Keynote speaker at the Mind, Body, Business Women's Conference sponsored by the US Small Business Administration in Bozeman, Montana, September 2003.