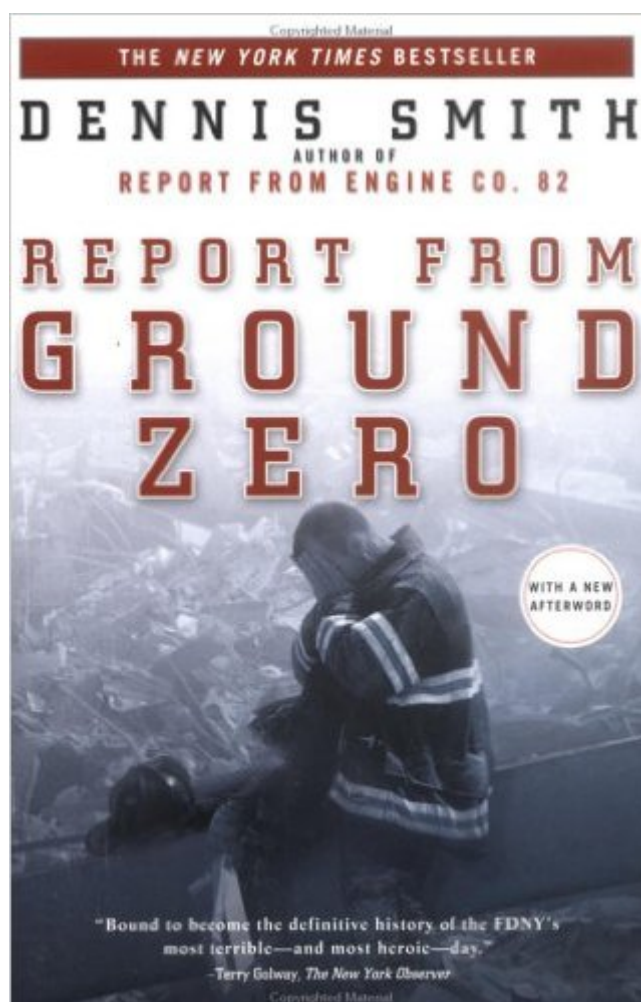


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# Report From Ground Zero



## Synopsis

The tragic events of September 11, 2001, forever altered the American landscape, both figuratively and literally. Immediately after the jets struck the twin towers of the World Trade Center, Dennis Smith, a former firefighter, reported to Manhattan's Ladder Co. 16 to volunteer in the rescue efforts. In the weeks that followed, Smith was present on the front lines, attending to the wounded, sifting through the wreckage, and mourning with New York's devastated fire and police departments. This is Smith's vivid account of the rescue efforts by the fire and police departments and emergency medical teams as they rushed to face a disaster that would claim thousands of lives. Smith takes readers inside the minds and lives of the rescuers at Ground Zero as he shares stories about these heroic individuals and the effect their loss had on their families and their companies. "It is," says Smith, "the real and living history of the worst day in America since Pearl Harbor." Written with drama and urgency, *Report from Ground Zero* honors the men and women who "in America's darkest hours" redefined our understanding of courage.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (31 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I commute into DC everyday and I like to spend my time listening to audios. I am one of those people that have not been able to hear or see anything about 9/11/01 that doesn't bring tears to my eyes or makes my heart ache. I work at a bookstore and happened to read the inside jacket of the hard-cover edition and I thought, "This sounds like something I can handle." Dennis Smith, a retired FDNY firefighter, wrote the book with compassion, respect and love for not just the victims, but also

their families, the rescue workers and for everyone who was affected in one way or another. The audio contains personal accounts from people who were directly involved. Most of the stories are from firefighters and they are told so eloquently it's amazing. I believe there are approximately six different readers for the CD edition and the emotion they infuse into it is incredible. This story talks about the wonderful "brotherhood" amongst firefighters and the emotional and physical toll they went through as humans. The stories made me grin in parts and made me cry in others. It helped me to begin to deal with my feelings about that day and gave me, I don't know if hope is the right word, but a warm fuzzy feeling. I do believe that if you are personally familiar with the "brotherhood" of firefighters (my father is a volunteer firefighter in our community) this will strike a chord of understanding. I just can't say enough good things about this. You won't be disappointed in this cd.

"Report from Ground Zero: The Story of the Rescue Efforts at the World Trade Center" by Dennis Smith provides a poetic-journalistic look at a tragedy which still continues to shake America. You'll find the book stronger in intensity than many of the photographic collections of September 11, 2001. Why? Dennis Smith was a fireman who understood tragedy from an experienced viewpoint. Like all of us, he saw the worst of humankind crash into the World Trade Center. Then, he saw the best of humankind enter those same buildings to save the victims. Now, three years later, after many in America have preferred to see terrorism as a political event and not one of evil and hate, it is important to remember the violent images, and the tender responses to the hurting and scared. America was in one of its greatest moments in those torrid days, and we should never forget. Smith's descriptions are more than photo-realistic versions of what he saw, but brings forth the anguish and passion, and the smell of wet ash and burning debris. Smith manages to connect with the reader beyond the hype and politics. You will not be able to read this unaffected. The people in the high-rises, on the planes, and the policemen and fireman all were real people. Even the foolish young men who hijacked the planes, the ones who believe Bin Laden -- all real people who died for another man's lie. Smith draws out the real, draws out the essence as well as the actual accounts of the awful events. I fully recommend "Report from Ground Zero: The Story of the Rescue Efforts at the World Trade Center" by Dennis Smith. Anthony Trendle, editor, HungarianBookstore.com

It takes a lot to get 5 stars out of me. If you are looking for the first hand account of what this day was like for those who were directly affected, this book is a must. It really shows the cost and sacrifice of the men and women who put their life on the line for all of us. Dennis Smith brings this story to life in his writing.

Dennis Smith, author and retired firefighter, seeing the reports of the attack on the World Trade Center, put on his old fireman clothes, and reported for rescue duty. Throughout the days that followed, he worked tirelessly at the site, and at various charities. Then, using his abilities as a writer, he sat down to tell the story of September 11th, and the three following months, from the view of the New York City firefighters. Brimming with first-hand accounts of firefighters who were involved, he tells the story from every angle. There are stories from rescue workers who saw it all, and even from some who were inside the buildings and actually survived. The stories are all wonderfully moving, and will bring that day back to you, alive as never before. This book is incredibly moving. Like so many Americans, that day is etched clearly upon my mind. Mr. Smith's book brought back so many memories, and told me so much that I didn't know. He is an excellent author, and I found this book more moving than any I have read in a long time. This is a great book, one I highly recommend to everyone who is interested in the World Trade Center attack.

I bought this book for my brother who is a firefighter, who in our own home city, every September 11th does a stair climb with a picture of a deceased firefighter in his helmet, in honor of the firemen and civilians who lost their lives on that day. I knew that my brother would be touched by this story. Just by skimming through the book I know it is going to be a book that my brother will enjoy.

I bought this book for my husband who is a volunteer firefighter. He loves this book, could not put it down until it was finished. It is a very detailed book of the surrounding events of 9-11. Some pages are graphic, I do not recommend this to a young child or tween to read.

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