

Author Harold Phifer!

2025 Book Release:
My Bully, My Aunt, & Her Final Gift

Genre:
Fiction (Dystopian)

Book:
Sleep Walking out of Afghanistan:
Walking It All Back
Book:
Surviving Chaos:
How I Found Peace at A Beach Bar

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Sometimes The Death Of A Loved One Can Fix Your Pain!
“It’s Far From Being Grim With Laughter Til The End”
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My Bully, My Aunt, And Her Final Gift By Harold Phifer.

In "My Bully, My Aunt, and Her Final Gift", Harold Phifer revisits the complicated relationship he shared with his late Aunt Kathy, a woman who stood as the antithesis of positivity in his life. Despite her domineering and often cruel behavior, her passing left Harold with an unexpected opportunity for humor, healing, and reflection.

As he plans her memorial—a gathering that no one seems eager to attend—Harold's childhood memories resurface, pulling him back into a world shaped by his aunt's unpredictable rules and twisted philosophies. Blending heartfelt truths with laugh-out-loud moments, Harold weaves a tale of resilience, self-discovery, and ultimately, redemption. This memoir offers a lighthearted yet honest look at how even the darkest relationships can leave behind gifts of wisdom and self-awareness.

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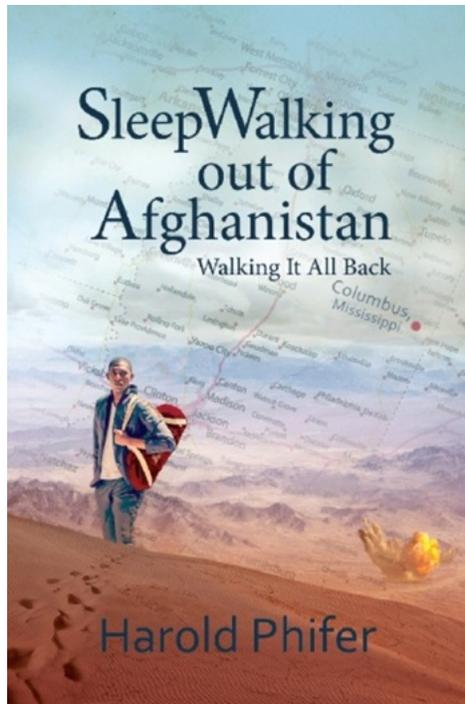
Fiction (Dystopian)

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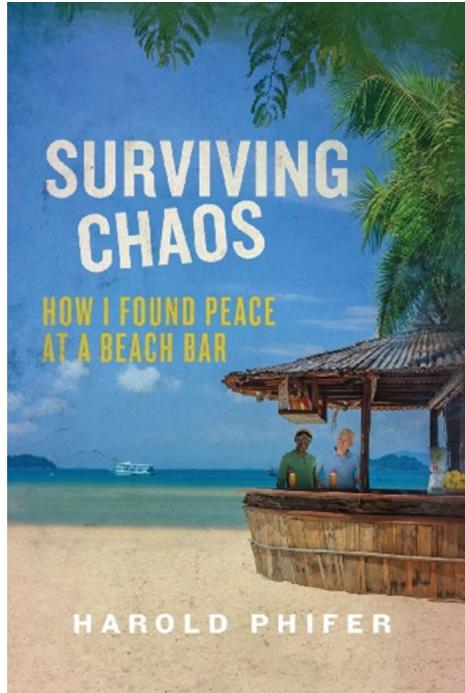
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Sleep Walking Out of Afghanistan: Walking It All Back By Harold Phifer.

https://www.amazon.com/Sleep-Walking-Out-Afghanistan-Back/dp/1478799781/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&sr=



Surviving Chaos: How I Found Peace at A Beach Bar By Harold Phifer.

https://www.amazon.com/Surviving-Chaos-Found-Peace-Beach/dp/057874354X/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&sr=



About The Author: Harold Phifer was born and raised in Columbus, Mississippi. A graduate of Mississippi State University and Jackson State University, Harold served 23 years as an air traffic controller with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). In 2010, he left the United States to work as an international contractor, completing multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan before being reassigned to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Following a near-death experience in Afghanistan, he found inspiration to write his first book, "Sleepwalking Out of Afghanistan: Walking it All Back". He continued his journey as an author with "Surviving Chaos: How I Found Peace at a Beach Bar", a two-part memoir detailing his resilience.

An American Contractor In Afghanistan Reveals How He Overcame A Dysfunctional Childhood: A Schizophrenic Mom, An Abusive Aunt, Bullying, Poverty, and Racism.

"Each poignant recollection offers another part of his childhood and how it irreversibly shaped his future strategy for a better, more exciting life. The book is a definite page-turner and keeps the reader wanting more from the author. It's a lively, energetic tale that reads like a conversation as if you're hearing the story first-hand from a friend or acquaintance." Literary Titan on *Surviving Chaos*

"His narratives are interesting, and often much fun. ... his tales are entertaining, sprinkled with humor, drama and sadness. Readers will discover an intriguing life, one of turmoil and finally, thanks to a stranger on a beach, inner peace." Blue Ink Review on *Surviving Chaos*

"*Surviving Chaos* is light and gripping. It's jam-packed with intriguing events that happened during the author's childhood, teenage-hood, and adult life" Online Book Club on *Surviving Chaos*

For over a decade, Harold Phifer served in a warzone as a contract air-controller in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Guantanamo Bay. He even survived a suicide bombing by the Taliban. But none of that was as dangerous or stressful as his upbringing.

Phifer was a black kid growing up in the south during the tumultuous 1960s, dealing with racism and bullying in the streets, and abuse at home from his schizophrenic mother and dysfunctional, violent aunt. He felt like an outsider in and out of the house.

He tells a moving story in his newest book, *My Bully, My Aunt, and Her Final Gift*. It comes on the heels of publishing his earlier book, *Surviving Chaos: How I Found Peace At A Beach Bar*, which exposed a lot of people that affected the life of the author. Besides his problematic mother, Aunt Kelly left a lasting imprint.

“She was the opposite of all things positive,” says Phifer. “At the end of her twisted life it was painfully obvious to me that she deserved a book of her very own. The death of my evil aunt, allowed me to see myself while operating a door for my brothers and me.”

Most of the contents in this story are recreated from real-life experiences of a lost and misguided kid. Some things have been changed for the sake of a better read. Even though a tiny bit is pure bullshit, it's all inspired by the events lived by a "lonely and determined little boy."

“Yes, you will be shocked and amazed by the darkness and behaviors of a close blood relative,” says Phifer. “Look at it this way: Logic and Aunt Kathy never coexisted, whereas her philosophies and arbitrary enforcements, kept me off-balanced for much of my young life. Somehow, I survived the chaos, abuse, and despicable treatment then found another way. This story pulls back the covers to that sick, twisted, and formative relationship that I had to endure.”

Phifer, in an interview, will share the following:

- How a contract air-controller serving in war-torn Afghanistan, Iraq, and Guantanamo Bay found that experience more peaceful than his dysfunctional childhood.
- What surviving a Taliban suicide-bombing taught him.
- How he survived a household run by a schizophrenic mom and an abusive aunt while being bullied at school and confronting racism in the 1960s South.
- He uses humor to sustain himself where logic did not apply.
- The cathartic experience to write about his brutal childhood.
- How he ducked, dodged, and went unnoticed for so many years.

“After experiencing the devilish deeds of my aunt, it was a challenge to give her a good send-off when she died,” shares Phifer. “I had grown apart from her clutches, so I had to find the decency to bury her with a matter of dignity that she didn’t deserve.”

Sometimes the death of a loved one can fix one’s pain. Her funeral turned into a bit of a comedy show. “The death of my evil aunt taught me a lot about grief, love, loss, resentments, and redemption,” says Phifer. “After her death, I was tasked with the job of putting together a memorial that no one wanted to attend.”

In *My Bully, My Aunt, and Her Final Gift*, Phifer revisits the complicated relationship he shared with his late Aunt Kathy, a woman who stood as the antithesis of positivity in his life. Despite her domineering and often cruel behavior, her passing left Harold with an unexpected opportunity for humor, healing, and reflection.

As he plans her memorial, Phifer’s childhood memories resurface, pulling him back into a world shaped by his aunt's unpredictable rules and twisted philosophies. Blending heartfelt truths with laugh-out-loud moments, he weaves a tale of resilience, self-discovery, and ultimately, redemption.

This memoir offers a lighthearted yet honest look at how even the darkest relationships can leave behind gifts of wisdom and self-awareness.

“The peace-seeking memoir *Surviving Chaos* revels in the cathartic power of storytelling after a lifetime of challenging circumstances.” --Foreword Reviews on *Surviving Chaos*

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Amazon Author's Page:

https://www.amazon.com/stores/Harold-Phifer/author/B07JFPTWVR?ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_2&qid=1738605460&sr=1-2&isDramIntegrated=true&shoppingPortalEnabled=true

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