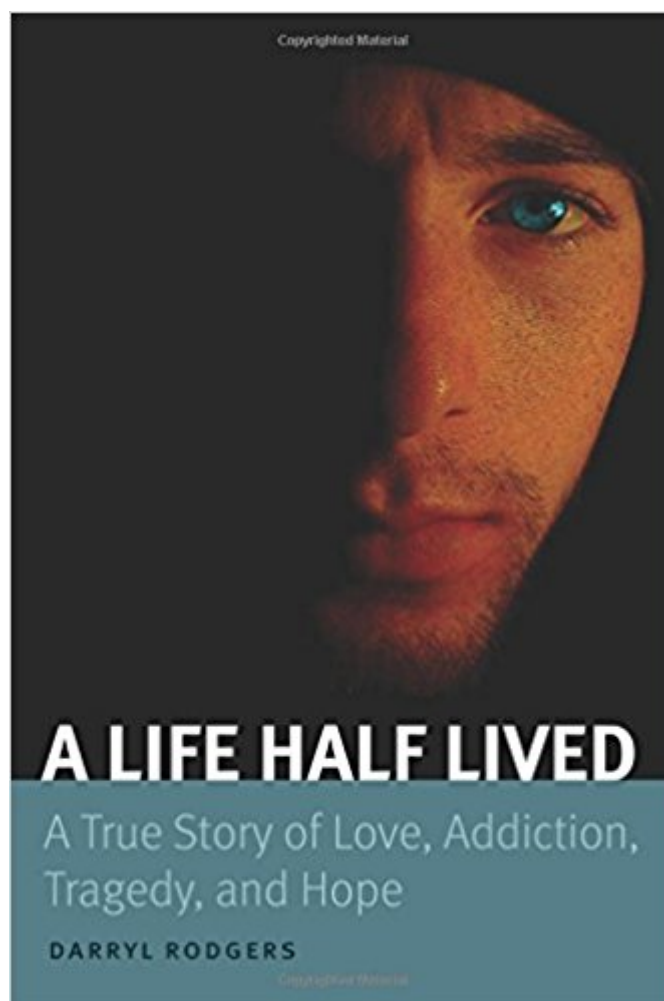


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# A Life Half Lived: A True Story Of Love, Addiction, Tragedy, And Hope



## Synopsis

Twenty year-old Speedy Chase Rodgers seemed to have it all. His family loved him dearly. His generosity and sense of humor made him popular among his peers. His speed, agility, and competitive nature made him a force to be reckoned with on the football field. Young ladies were drawn to his good looks, quiet charm, and spontaneity. How will his family and friends cope when Chase makes choices that ultimately lead to his death in a tragic car wreck? *A Life Half Lived* gives the reader a glimpse inside the modern drug culture and the consequences that come with it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Darryl Rodgers grew up in rural South Carolina hunting, fishing, and playing in the woods near his home. At the age of 19, Darryl began a career as a corporate pilot. He served as a medic in the Army National Guard and later became a Copilot/Gunner on the AH-64 Apache attack helicopter. Darryl has owned several small businesses and had the most fun running an outdoor summer day camp for boys. He also worked with at-risk boys through a non-profit program that he started himself. Darryl has been married to his wife, Kim, for twenty-five years. They are the proud parents of two boys. Unfortunately, their oldest son was killed in a tragic car wreck in 2014. Currently, Darryl writes, shoots and edits video professionally and designs websites.

The other reviews summarize the content of the book. For me personally, the flow of the book was a little awkward. It is my only criticism of this book. If you are reading this to decide whether to buy the novel or not, please do. The message and the love this father has for his son is palpable. He paints a picture of life before drug use and the beginning of Chase's spiral downward. Although Chase was

caught early in his drug use, the tragedy that follows is heartbreaking. For anyone who has dealt with a loved one caught up in the world of drug use, you will identify the signs and the excuses. I was surprised by the willingness of help extended to Chase's friend. After consideration, it shows how the family tried to save another person after their efforts were tragically cut short with their son. They are truly decent people and my heart aches for their loss. Drug use is an epidemic in this country and unfortunately, this is another story that contributes to its saga. Prayers for this family.

Excellent book, I admit that when it arrived, I read 1/2 way through, without stopping. The rest of the book called to me, to finish. This is not an easy story, but it is life. And the message needs to be shared. There is no escape from drug addiction, without knowledge, understanding, patience, and love. I suspect everyone has an opinion on drug addiction. However, opinions require no knowledge, and no accountability. The writer, put his ego aside and showed extreme empathy, and put himself in others' lives that was uncomfortable, the ultimate in compassion and love for another person. I bought another copy for a close friend, who has a son on the precipice of drug induced troubles. I hope this can provide some understanding and guidance. I'll share my copy with others as well. While not drug related, I personally lost my brother (cardiac disease), and have seen what a toll it has taken on my mom. My big brother was my life teacher. I'm sure everyone can connect to this story in your own lives. Highly recommended.

A Life Half Lived is the powerful story of young Chase Rodgers and his struggle with addiction, growing up, and life. Darryl portrays his son (and himself) with such compelling honesty that I feel as if they are both old friends. Chase is not an aberration but a very real and not uncommon product of societal tragedies today. His dad doesn't hold back, but bravely talks about the wonders and weaknesses of Chase and the mistakes he feels he made as a dad who wanted only the best for his beloved son. As I read this gripping story, I smiled, laughed, wept and occasionally sobbed. All of our lives have been touched in some way by addiction. We all know someone who, beside ourselves, would be helped in some way by this book. I highly recommend it to everyone as addiction crosses all socioeconomic and racial barriers. For Chase's family I have this to say; Chase packed much life into his twenty years. None of his choices were your fault. Celebrate your awesome son, I'm honored to know him through your writing.

Have just finished reading "A Life Half Lived" by Darryl Rodgers. Gloria and I have lost a child in an auto accident, and this book really hit home. It almost describes every moment and emotion that

we've experienced ourselves. It hits home the very nightmare that ALL parents fear....that visit from the Police or, in our case, the early morning phone call from the hospital. A very interesting read about the travails of teen drug use and a parents helpless feelings. Darryl describes, in very vivid detail, a promising life destroyed by drug use. From early, promising adventures with the Boy Scouts through bully problems in grade school, and on to a promising football career in high school and college, Darryl's Son, Chase, has shown us the effects of drug use. A very sad ending to a parents hopeful success of his child. A very easy read, which keeps you involved with this book and not wanting to put it down. Would liked to have read about Darryl's life in the military before he had his family. That would be a book in itself!

One of this author's most heart-felt desires is for something positive to come out of his son's tragic death. This book is definitely one positive thing. The transparency with which he shares Chase's story is admirable, and I believe his insights and perspective will benefit many. I was moved by the video I watched on YouTube where Mr. Rodgers spoke at NC Vision Zero about the four superpowers we each possess -- the powers of choice, association, love and intervention. I can't imagine anyone of any age who would not benefit from examining these four areas in his or her life. How powerful to teach their importance to our youth! Perhaps his speaking engagements where he shares this will be the most positive outcome from the loss of his son. I wish we had all heard this or something like it during our young and developing years. Scripture instructs us to guard our hearts (spirits). That certainly involves choice and discernment regarding associations...

I am not good with words so please give me some leniency. Mr. Rodger takes you on a journey no parent should have to take. He takes you on the journey of his oldest son's life from birth, to school, to the beginning of drug addiction, to his battle with addiction, to sadly his death. Finally Mr. Rodger takes you on his healing process. Mr. Rodger uses his faith & words to find his healing. While reading this book I felt like I knew Chase & my heart ached for him & his family. If you learn nothing else from this book learn that drugs suck & destroy life. Marijuana is not a, "soft" drug, it is an opening to an evil that grabs hold, pulls you down & doesn't let go. It will take your soul & destroy you & all you love. Mr. Rodger shows you the destruction it cause his family. I recommend this book to everyone & would love to see schools use this book to help fight the drug epidemic. Please read & share.

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