

THOUGHTS FROM THE SHOWER

By Alton Smith

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A TRUTH

Until the age of forty five, I had never experienced real happiness or being deeply in love. That's when I met my wife Crissy. Since then, my life has become an ongoing, wonderful joyride.

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FOREWORD

Scratching athlete's foot, experiencing orgasm or taking hot showers are three of life's great pleasures. Forced to choose one, I opt for the last.

This book is a recollection of my thoughts from the shower. Having been eased into bliss by the soothing spray, I yield to a plethora of memories of events and people spanning the gamut from profound to zany.

Meet my mother whose keen wisdom dissolved into blissful senility at age 96 and my orthodox immigrant grandfather who became a minor movie mogul and then a heretic. Chronicled are episodes from the Fieldston Ethical Culture School and Springfield College, where my education constantly flirted with disaster. There are stories of days as a "porn" movie projectionist, experiences teaching and coaching, sketches of people who, in some small way, made life better or funnier, and a scattering of observations about varied facets of life.

These are true stories told in random order. Some of the names of people and places have been changed. When you've finished, go take a hot shower and enjoy your aquatic reveries. May the spray waterlog and shrivel your skin. May the rising steam peel your bathroom ceiling. May you find your thoughts from the shower more revealing than your hours on the analyst's couch.

All hail! Release the doves and let the stories begin.

A. S.