# Five Reasons Why Bad Things Happen



How to Turn Tragedies Into Triumph

by Brownell Landrum

Preface: Why Look for a Reason Why?

# FIVE REASONS WHY BAD THINGS HAPPEN: HOW TO TURN TRAGEDIES INTO TRIUMPH

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# **CHAPTER 1: MY STORY**

Believe nothing just because a so-called wise person said it.

Believe nothing just because a belief is generally held.

Believe nothing just because it is said in ancient books.

Believe nothing just because it is said to be of Divine origin.

Believe nothing just because someone else believes it.

Believe only what you yourself test and judge to be true.

- Buddha

It shouldn't matter if I have a Ph.D. in Quantum Physics, am a Doctor in Psychology, a world-renowned philosopher or an ordained minister, for if the content of the messages in this book don't resonate with you, it won't help you, no matter who I am. It also shouldn't matter if I am a homeless transient, a spoiled socialite or an idiot savant – if you find meaning on these pages, the source is irrelevant: it's the message that counts.

But if you're curious about who I am and what compelled me to discover the reasons, here's the scoop.

# WHO IS BROWNELL LANDRUM AND WHY IS SHE WRITING THIS BOOK?

I'm none of the above. I'm just a fairly average person who's had her share of doo-doo happen in her life. I guess what might make me unusual is my persistence in finding deeper meaning in life, and my willingness to open up myself – my mind and my spirit – to learning from diverse sources. I've read several hundred relevant books, articles and lectures, to help me formulate and support the information I'm providing in this book, to reinforce the Divine insight I received through my own experience.

Learning and applying the Five Reasons Why have helped me open up to a new level of understanding in my life. I frequently give thanks to the Divine for this inspiration, and for my brain and personality characteristics that have helped the Five Reasons Why be manifested in a clear and distinct way.

When I was going through my challenges, I kept asking "Why?" and nowhere could I find complete definitive answers. I read books, I listened to tapes, I researched the Internet, but couldn't' find satisfactory answers. "Bad things just happen" doesn't suffice, and that's what most of the other books say. I couldn't take that for an answer - I have a lot more faith in my Higher Power than that!

"You Create Your Own Reality" has always been too harsh an answer for me. Although many people's problems may be self-inflicted, this explanation doesn't show enough respect for the individual, and can cause great guilt if taken to heart.

So I prayed and meditated and talked with trusted, respected friends. I have a close friend to thank for engaging in repetitious, exhaustive, lengthy conversations on the subject. He proposed the possibility of one of the Reasons Why. Other friends' suggestions led to another Reason Why – but it wasn't until I started writing in my personal journal one night that the Five Reasons Why came to me clearly as a distinct, complete list.

Even though I hadn't previously seen the Five Reasons Why defined, I believe they will intuitively resonate with you. Although they're unique, in the way they collectively explain some of life's greatest miseries and mysteries, each concept, taken on its own, isn't new or earth-shattering. But I sincerely think that the concepts this book will help readers not only cope, but gain meaning and solace through life's tragedies.

### Your Story

What will your story be? How will you write your ending? It's up to you! Will you learn from your experience? Will you help others? Will you find happiness and bliss? Will you, perhaps, write a book of your own? Or start a cause or change your life in some other positive, profound way?

Will you turn your tragedy into a triumph?

I hope so! After all, that's the goal of this book. For you to get empowered to set your own path forward by understanding the Reason Why your tragedy happened in the first place so you can move ahead in triumph.

Will you be able to control everything that happens to you going forward? I'd like to say yes, but it's unlikely. There are numerous forces that affect everyone's life, many of which are not within your sphere of influence. (Chapter 15 has some insight here). But you can control how you handle it!

Will you actually be able to prevent future bad things from happening? Yes, and no.

There are some "bad things" that are inevitable, like death and dying. Everyone dies sometimes. That's just a fact. (After all, if they didn't, the planet would've died because it couldn't have handled the population!) But you will be able to look at death differently; as change, a new beginning, perhaps even as a gift, for you or the person you lost.

Will you be happy 100% of the time, every day, all day? Again, not likely. Just like we need rain for the flowers to grow, we need challenges to stretch our development muscles, to learn new lessons, to grow, change and improve.

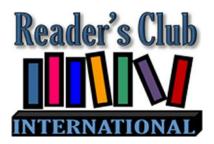
But you should be a lot better equipped to face, feel and free the trials ahead, to get through the oppositions and pass the tests much more easily, enjoyably and meaningfully.

# **COMING SOON...**

# THE REASONS WHY WORKBOOK!



## **AVAILABLE AT...**



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