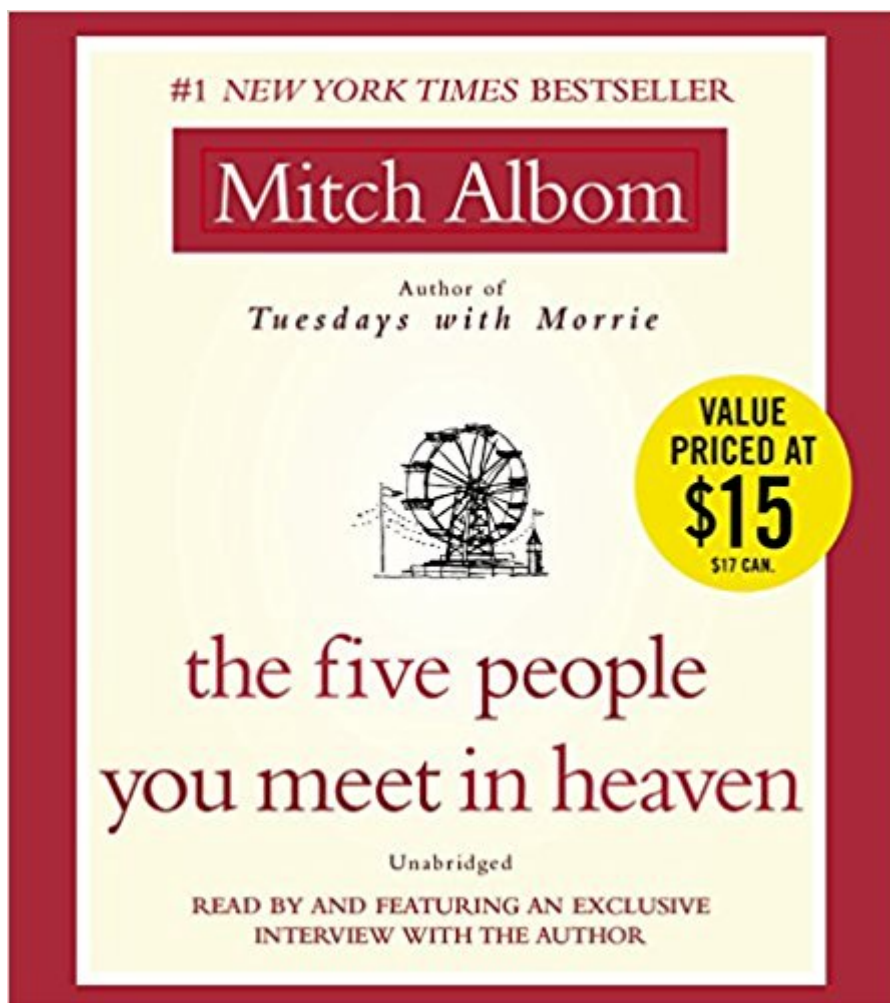


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# The Five People You Meet In Heaven



## Synopsis

THE FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN is a wonderfully moving fable that addresses the meaning of life, and life after death, in the poignant way that made TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE such an astonishing book. The novel's protagonist is an elderly amusement park maintenance worker named Eddie who, while operating a ride called the 'Free Fall', dies while trying to save a young girl who gets in the way of a falling cart that hurtles to earth. Eddie goes to heaven, where he meets five people who were unexpectedly instrumental in some way in his life. While each guide takes him through heaven, Eddie learns a little bit more about what his time on earth meant, what he was supposed to have learned, and what his true purpose on earth was. Throughout there are dramatic flashbacks where we see scenes from his troubled childhood, his years in the army in the Philippines jungle, and with his first and only love, his wife Marguerite. THE FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN is the perfect book to follow TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE. Its compellingly affecting themes and lyrical writing will fascinate Mitch Albom's huge readership.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Part melodrama and part parable, Mitch Albom's The Five People You Meet in Heaven weaves together three stories, all told about the same man: 83-year-old Eddie, the head maintenance person at Ruby Point Amusement Park. As the novel opens, readers are told that Eddie, unsuspecting, is only minutes away from death as he goes about his typical business at the park. Albom then traces Eddie's world through his tragic final moments, his funeral, and the ensuing days as friends clean out his apartment and adjust to life without him. In alternating sections, Albom

flashes back to Eddie's birthdays, telling his life story as a kind of progress report over candles and cake each year. And in the third and last thread of the novel, Albom follows Eddie into heaven where the maintenance man sequentially encounters five pivotal figures from his life (a la A Christmas Carol). Each person has been waiting for him in heaven, and, as Albom reveals, each life (and death) was woven into Eddie's own in ways he never suspected. Each soul has a story to tell, a secret to reveal, and a lesson to share. Through them Eddie understands the meaning of his own life even as his arrival brings closure to theirs. Albom takes a big risk with the novel; such a story can easily veer into the saccharine and preachy, and this one does in moments. But, for the most part, Albom's telling remains poignant and is occasionally profound. Even with its flaws, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* is a small, pure, and simple book that will find good company on a shelf next to *It's A Wonderful Life*. --Patrick O'Kelley --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This life-affirming fable ironically opens at the end of the life of a seemingly ordinary man. Known as "Eddie Maintenance" to those he works with at Ruby Pier, Eddie led what he saw as a disappointing life working as head of maintenance at a seaside amusement park. Upon his death, he learns that heaven is a place to make sense of his time on earth and that he will meet five people from his life who will help him understand its greatest lessons. Accompanied at times by music that sounds psychedelic rather than heavenly, reader Singer conveys this uplifting story in an earnest manner. However, the soft-spoken intonations he employs for women and the gruff but bashful voices he uses for men add an extra dose of sweetener to this already sentimental tale, as does Singer's plaintive rendition of Eddie and his wife Marguerite's song, "You made me love you." Still, those who turn to this audio book for Albom's (*Tuesdays with Morrie*) musings on the meaning of life will not be disappointed by his message--each of our lives are inextricably connected to those around us--or his compelling vision of how we might view life after death. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Similar in tone and emotion with his novel *Tuesdays with Morrie*. I think that the greatest achievement of this story is the dreamlike, subconscious mood and setting the author creates. He can get a bit syrupy, but not too bad to make this contextually a problem. Albom raises some interesting, thought provoking questions and leaves some unanswered, which makes for a better read, especially considering the subject. I hope my review has been helpful to you. It encourages me

to continue writing and updating my reviews. Please leave a comment if you have any questions, I will be more than happy to answer if I can be of help.

This book is now one of my absolute favorites! Make sure you bring a box of Kleenex because this book is a guaranteed tear jerker! I literally cried with every single chapter I read. If there's a book that stays with you a long time and makes you feel grateful for the people in your life, then look no further!

This was a wonderful novel that makes you want to sit down and reflect on what type of person you are in life. Mitch Albom's intriguing novel *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* is one that is hard to put down. It's a story about a man, Eddie, who works as a ride operator at an amusement park, and gets killed by a ride. He was 83 years old when he died, and didn't have many friends or family left either. But that doesn't mean anything. There are five people in which he encounters once he enters heaven, hence the name of the novel. Each one of these people had some sort of relationship prior to their passing. Likewise, the readers learn that there is often so much connection between peoples lives, and often times, everything is intertwined. That being said, more often than not, there is a time in life when you do not even realize it, but there are so many connections, and everything in and around your life comes full-circle. Albom's novel allows the reader to be able to realize these connections. I would highly recommend this as it is truly a novel of lessons; something from which everyone could gain.

A sweet and compassionate, but wrenching tale of the After Life, and a lifebefore death. A new take on the process of living with no sense of your worth, dying, and having your eyes opened. Opened to your pain, your suffering, your sin, and finally opened to your worthiness.

Recommended to me by my 30-year-old, male manicurist who was born in China and moved to Vietnam where he was raised alone by his Buddhist mother; I agree with him that this was a wonderfully thought-provoking story! Well written and lots of fascinating details to hold your interest tightly.

I initially read another novel by Mitch Albom, the very well known *Tuesday's with Morrie*. While that was a good book to read in high school, I feel that this book really influenced me much more. I was in tears a couple of times while reading this book. All the different scenes and images are described

in great detail and make the book very difficult to put down. If I didn't have other responsibilities at home, I would have finished it at one sitting. I did however, finish it very quickly and loved every moment. Usually I don't like books that shift time periods frequently, but Mitch Albom makes it work well into the storyline. I was in constant suspense at who the next person in heaven he would meet would be. And I am not even a religious person. It is just a great story: very interesting and inspirational. I think the main purpose of the book is to tell readers that during a lifetime, your actions influence a great number of people, whether or not you realize it.

The five people you meet in heaven is by Mitch Albom. It is so interesting that I had to finish reading it even if it meant staying up late. Mitch writes in a profound way about what heaven is. It certainly isn't what most people think. I found it quite interesting. The book is really good. Eddie was the maintenance man at Ruby Pier amusement park for almost all his life. He did join the army and spent time in the Phillipines and then worked elsewhere for a while after marrying his only love Margurite. After his father's death, he moved back to the building he lived in as a child to take care of his mother. He stayed in that apartment until his death. Eddie was well known to all of the children who came regularly to the park. He would ride with them to check out rides, talk with them, make pipe cleaner animals for them, and listen and watch for any problems that might arise with the rides. He never wanted a ride to go wrong and cause someone to get hurt or die. However, one ride did go wrong and two of his younger men managed to get the people out of the car; but it came loose when they tried to restart it, a steel cable broke. Eddie tried to tell them not to start it; but they couldn't hear him. He yelled for everyone to get back, which they did, except for a little girl he had met earlier. He dropped his cane and tried to reach the little girl but his leg gave out and he fell. He felt her hands holding his and then nothing. Eddie died. The rest of the book tells about the five people he meets in heaven. Each played a part in his life or he in theirs. They were there to teach him a lesson and to send him on to the next person. Eddie's life is revealed while talking to these five people. The lessons they impart are lessons everyone should consider in their own lives. One thing that Eddie is taught is that everyone's life is intertwined with many others, even those you may not know or who have lived long before you. They are all intertwined. One question he asks throughout the book is "Did the little girl die too?"

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