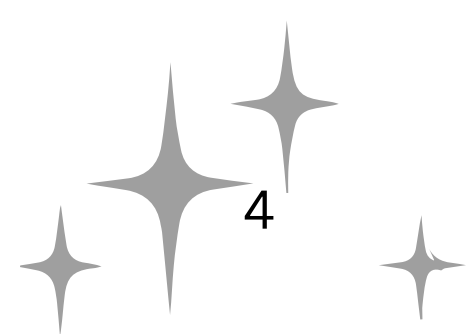


TOUCH OF HEAVEN

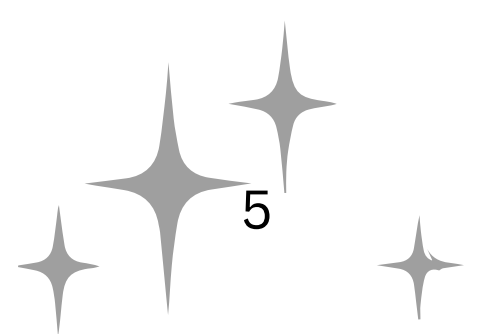


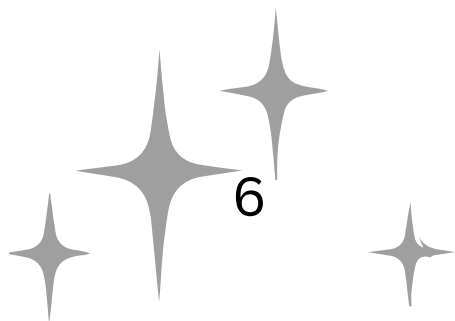


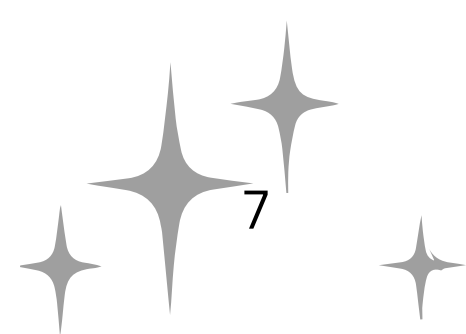
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THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO:

Take a moment and ask yourself this:
Can you name three people who love you unconditionally?
Are you sure?

It sounds simple, but in life, the answer isn't always as clear as
we'd like it to be.

I've asked myself this question more times than I can count —
sometimes with confidence, and sometimes through tears. Life
has a way of teaching us who's truly there, not when things are
easy, but when everything around us falls apart.

This question — this hard truth — sits at the heart of the story
you're about to read.

Let me introduce you to Ellen, the soul of this book. She is the
main character, but she is also a reflection of many of us. Ellen
learned the answer to this question in the most painful way
possible — through betrayal, heartbreak, and almost the loss of
her own life. Her story is not just fiction; it's stitched together
from real experiences, drawn from the deepest corners of my
own journey, and shaped by people I've loved, trusted, and lost.

I wrote this book because I believe stories have power — the
power to heal, to reveal, to connect, and to make sense of what
often feels senseless. It's filled with laughter, tears, tough
questions, and moments that may mirror your own. It will ask
you to think. To feel. To examine the motives of those you've let
into your life. And most importantly, I hope it inspires you to
cherish the people who truly, deeply love you — the ones who
show up, hold on, and never ask you to earn their love.

Because love, real love, doesn't demand perfection — it simply
stays.

So as you turn these pages, know that this isn't just a story.
It's a conversation.

It's a mirror.

It's a hand reaching out, saying: You're not alone.

