



## A Second Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul: 101 More Stories to Open the Hearts and Rekindle the Spirits of Women

*By Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Jennifer Read Hawthorne, Marci Shimoff*



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This latest collection of stories celebrates the shared experiences of being a woman in a 101 new ways. You will be moved by these true accounts of how women like you have embraced life's defining moments by finding love, dealing with loss, overcoming obstacles and achieving their dreams and goals. Like spending time with a trusted friend, *A Second Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul* will put difficult times into perspective, renew your faith in yourself and make you aware of the miracles in your own life.



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## **Editorial Review**

From Library Journal

The "Chicken Soup" folks present yet another anthology of feel-good stories. This cassette is an excerpt from a collection ostensibly for women, though the stories aren't only about them. The finder of a lost wallet locates the elderly owner and also the love of the old man's life; a convalescent learns about the value of life from her hospital roommate. The stories include emotion and drama that bring tears or a smile. The narrators are four of the professional presenters on the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" staff; the reading is clear and well paced. For public libraries. ANann Blaine Hilyard, Lake Villa Dist. Lib., IL  
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### **About the Author**

Jack Canfield and Mark Victor Hansen, , the #1 New York Times and USA Today best-selling co-authors join Jennifer Read Hawthorne and Marci Shimoff, co-authors of the #1 New York Times best-sellers Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul and Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul.

Professional speakers, Hawthorne and Shimoff talk to thousands of women worldwide about personal growth, self-development and professional success.

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### **The Christmas Star**

This was my grandmother's first Christmas without Grandfather, and we had promised him before he passed away that we would make this her best Christmas ever. When my mom, dad, three sisters and I arrived at her little house in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, we found she had waited up all night for us to arrive from Texas. After we exchanged hugs, Donna, Karen, Kristi and I ran into the house. It did seem a little empty without Grandfather, and we knew it was up to us to make this Christmas special for her.

Grandfather had always said that the Christmas tree was the most important decoration of all. So we immediately set to work assembling the beautiful artificial tree that was stored in Grandfather's closet. Although artificial, it was the most genuine-looking Douglas fir I had ever seen. Tucked away in the closet with the tree was a spectacular array of ornaments, many of which had been my father's when he was a little boy. As we unwrapped each one, Grandmother had a story to go along with it. My mother strung the tree with bright white lights and a red button garland; my sisters and I carefully placed the ornaments on the tree; and finally, Father was given the honor of lighting the tree.

We stepped back to admire our handiwork. To us, it looked magnificent, as beautiful as the tree in Rockefeller Center. But something was missing.

"Where's your star?" I asked.

The star was my grandmother's favorite part of the tree.

"Why, it must be here somewhere," she said, starting to sort through the boxes again. "Your grandfather always packed everything so carefully when he took the tree down."

As we emptied box after box and found no star, my grandmother's eyes filled with tears. This was no ordinary ornament, but an elaborate golden star covered with colored jewels and blue lights that blinked on and off. Moreover, Grandfather had given it to Grandmother some fifty years ago, on their first Christmas together. Now, on her first Christmas without him, the star was gone too.

"Don't worry, Grandmother." I reassured her. "We'll find it for you."

My sisters and I formed a search party.

"Let's start in the closed where the ornaments were," Donna said. "Maybe the box just fell down."

That sounded logical, so we climbed on a chair and began to search that tall closet of Grandfather's. We found Father's old yearbooks and photographs of relatives, Christmas cards from years gone by, and party dresses and jewelry boxes, but no star.

We searched under beds and over shelves, inside and outside, until we had exhausted every possibility. We could see Grandmother was disappointed, although she tried not to show it.

"We could buy a new star," Kristi offered.

"I'll make you one from construction paper." Karen chimed in.

"No," Grandmother said. "This year, we won't have a star."

By now it was dark outside, and time for bed, as Santa would soon be here. We lay in bed, snowflakes falling quietly outside.

The next morning, my sisters and I woke up early, as was our habit on Christmas day -- first, to see what Santa had left under the tree, and second, to look for the Christmas star in the sky. After a traditional breakfast of apple pancakes, the family sat down together to open presents. Santa had brought me the Eask-Bake Oven I wanted, and Donna a Chatty-Cathy doll. Karen was thrilled to get the doll buggy she had asked for, and Kristi to get the china tea set. Father was in charge of passing out the presents, so that everyone would have something to open at the same time.

"The last gift is to Grandmother from Grandfather," he said, in a puzzled voice.

"From who?" There was surprise in my grandmother's voice.

"I found that gift in Grandfather's closet when we got the tree down," Mother explained. "It was already wrapped so I put it under the tree. I thought it was one of yours."

"Hurry and open in," Karen urged excitedly.

My grandmother shakily opened the box. Her face lit up with joy when she unfolded the tissue paper and pulled out a glorious golden star. There was a note attached. Her voice trembled as she read it aloud:

*Don't be angry with me, dear. I broke your star while putting away the decorations, and I couldn't bear to tell you. Thought it was time for a new one. I hope it brings you as much joy as the first one. Merry Christmas.*

*Love,  
Bryant*

So Grandmother's tree had a star after all, a star that expressed my grandparents' everlasting love for one another. It brought by grandfather home for Christmas in each of our hearts and made it our best Christmas ever.

*Susan Adair*

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Why? Because this A Second Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul: 101 More Stories to Open the Hearts and Rekindle the Spirits of Women is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap it but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to delay having that book? If I were being you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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