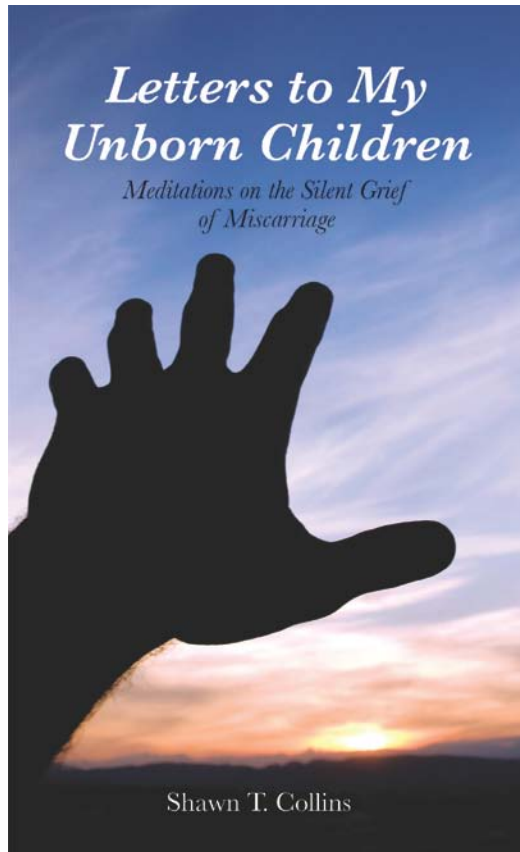


Letters to My Unborn Children

Meditations on the Silent Grief of Miscarriage

By Shawn T. Collins



Miscarriage is a silent grief. It is unexpected before it happens, frequently unexplainable when it occurs, and rarely discussed afterwards. Parents grieve in different ways and at different times from each other. That can complicate and exacerbate their grief.

Shawn and Kristine Collins experienced this when three of their pregnancies ended in first trimester miscarriages. In *Letters to My Unborn Children*, Shawn discusses the tension between cautious excitement and hope for new life with each pregnancy, and the raw grief, vanished dreams and cynicism that accompanied each loss. He describes how recognizing other forms of silent grief helped him and Kristine begin to grieve and heal together. The gentle honesty with which he integrates the miscarriages into his identity invites you into universal experiences of fear, hope, grief, and transformation.

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Praise for *Letters to My Unborn Children*

"In his thoughtful and personable *Letters to My Unborn Children*, Shawn fulfills the silent prayer of every bereaved parent: to discover the strength, courage and hope within ourselves that allows us to carry on in a way that honors the children we lost."

David Fleming, ESPN

Author of *Noah's Rainbow: A Father's Emotional Journey from the Death of His Son to the Birth of His Daughter*

"Intelligent, probing, and compassionate, *Letters to My Unborn Children* candidly conveys one man's theological reasoning in the face of three pregnancy losses and subsequent pregnancies."

Dr. Linda Layne, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Author of *Motherhood Lost: A Feminist Account of Pregnancy Loss in America* and co-producer of *Motherhood Lost: Conversations*

"*Letters to My Unborn Children* eloquently conveys Shawn's passage from raw grief to acceptance and hope following the multiple miscarriages that he and his wife experienced. Shawn shares how his faith and interactions with others throughout his life shaped his reactions to loss and made him who he is today. Insightful, courageous, and sensitive, this is a superb resource for families living through the pain of miscarriage."

Tim Nelson, A Place to Remember

Author of *A Guide for Fathers: When Your Baby Dies*

"*Letters to My Unborn Children* is moving, eloquent, deeply Christian, and unfailingly honest. Parents who have suffered through miscarriage will find that it gives words to their thoughts and feelings. Indeed, it gives words to the thoughts and feelings of anyone who has suffered the death of someone they loved."

Dr. Nicholas Wolterstorff, Yale University
Author of *Lament for a Son*