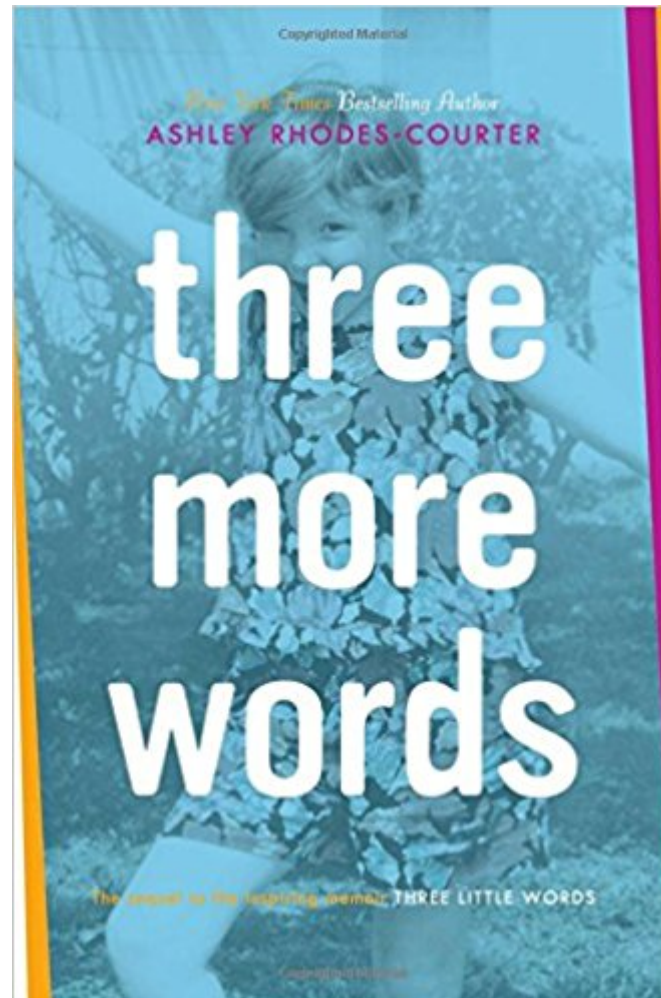




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Three More Words



Synopsis

In the sequel to the >bestselling memoir >, Ashley Rhodes-Courter expands on life beyond the foster care system, the joys and heartbreak with a family sheÃ¢â¬â¢s created, and her efforts to make peace with her past. Ashley Rhodes-Courter spent a harrowing nine years of her life in fourteen different foster homes. Her memoir, *Three Little Words*, captivated audiences everywhere and went on to become a New York Times bestseller. Now Ashley reveals the nuances of life after foster care: College and its assorted hijinks, including meeting Ã¢â¬â¢the one.Ã¢â¬â¢ Marriage, which began with a beautiful wedding on a boat that was almost hijacked (literally) by some biological family members. Having kidsÃ¢â¬â¢ from fostering children and the heartbreak of watching them return to destructive environments, to the miraculous joy of blending biological and adopted offspring. Whether sheÃ¢â¬â¢s overcoming self-image issues, responding to calls for her to run for Senate, or dealing with continuing drama from her biological family, Ashley Rhodes-Courter never fails to impress or inspire with her authentic voice and uplifting message.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Ashley Rhodes-Courter is triumphant in her quest to overcome insurmountable odds. I celebrate her courage to seek out the best in humanity in spite of its failings." --Victoria Rowell, New York Times bestselling author, on *Three Little Words* "The author's ability to form intelligent, open-minded conclusions about her traumatic childhood demonstrates her remarkable control and insight." --Publishers Weekly on *Three Little Words* "Rhodes-Courter pulls no punches; her no-filter depiction of the foster-care system, her biological family, and herself is fiercely real." --Horn Book "CompellingÃ¢â¬â¢ Though Rhodes-Courter has been hurt and disappointed many times, she has

an admirable capacity for love and forgiveness.” --Junior Library Guild --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Ashley Rhodes-Courter has been featured in Teen People, The New York Times, USA TODAY, and Glamour, as well as on Good Morning America. Her first memoir, *Three Little Words*, began as an essay, which won a writing contest for high school students, and was published in The New York Times Magazine. She is also the author of *Three More Words*. A graduate of Eckerd College and a champion for the reformation of the foster care system, Ashley speaks internationally on foster care and adoption. Visit her at Rhodes-Courter.com.

Excellent book. I read the first book, *Three Little Words*, and it truly resonated with me. As a CASA volunteer, it broke my heart while making me more determined to help children. This book completes the story. Ashley Rhodes-Courter writes with honesty and with her passion showing through. She does not sugar coat anything. Everyone should read this book and *Three Little Words* so they can begin to understand the problems of the foster care system in the US. There are many dedicated people working hard for these children with few resources, but the involvement of all of us is needed.

This book is a perfect follow on to the author's "*Three Little Words*" which described her often harrowing life in the Florida foster care system. After being adopted in her teens, Rhodes-Courter goes on to become a high school athlete, graduate from college (and later get a master's degree) and get married, all with the behind-the-scenes support of her loving adoptive family and others. Hers is a success story where many others, including her own brother's, aren't. Having become an advocate for better child-welfare laws, organizations and overall support, Rhodes-Courter ultimately becomes a foster and then adoptive parent. The book details several of these children's times with Ashley and her husband. Sadly, in several cases, the system nearly or totally fails the children, despite all the purported changes since Ashley's time in care. One particular case intersects with headlines in Florida about a young girl returned to the family from which she was removed, only to be brutally murdered by her mentally-ill uncle. Lest the reader think that all is doom and gloom in this book, its author shines through as the strong, courageous woman that she has become, in spite of the "system" and because of the love of others like her adoptive family, her Guardian ad Litem, her husband and his family. Hers is a voice for the children who have none, in a system where case managers are overworked and underpaid, and the state's goals and the best interest of the children

are sometimes contradictory. If you have a heart for children, are involved in child welfare, teach our next generation, or just want to become informed, you need to read both of Rhodes-Courter's books. If for no other reason than to find out what those "three words" are in each of them!

Ashley and her husband Erick are amazing and full of love for children. I read Three Little Words a few years ago and re-read it last year. I was so happy that she wrote Three More Words and I know I'll re-read this as well. Being a mom to our adopted daughter I'm so thankful that there are loving foster parents like Ashley and Erick out there who truly care.

Compelling read. Sometimes as foster parents we get overwhelmed and consider giving up - and we only foster babies/toddlers! Reading her books has really encouraged me to continue and to consider taking older children in the future.

I read her first book and was very surprised that conditions under foster care have not changed significantly. Florida is not the only state with these problems. In the last years people have not taken responsibility for deplorable conditions and mistreatment of people who actually try to do the right thing. The way Ashley and Eric were treated is deplorable. Conditions will not change with all the self-serving bureaucrats who put money ahead of lives.

This is a must read! Ashley has a way of making you feel as if you were really there with her in the book. The fact that she went through everything she did as a child and turned out amazing, is incredible! She's willing to do anything to make a change in Florida's foster care system and willing to help anyone she can. She is truly a role model, and I hope she will write another book in the future! This is the type of book you just can't put down!!!

A fantastic and informative follow up to Three Little Words! I was most interested in seeing how Ashley's story moved forward.

This book shares the reality for so many children that deserve better opportunities. Hopefully after reading Ashley's story many more people will be inspired to advocacy, by fostering, adopting, becoming CASA volunteers and the needed public discussion in every community. Please read and share this thoughtful book. Everyone is able to make a difference. Children are our future, make it a good one!

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