



One Simple Text...
The Liz Marks Story

by
Betty Shaw
with **Dave Brown**

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One Simple Text...
The Liz Marks Story

*an evocative rendition of the powerful love of a mother for her child
and the courage demonstrated to return from the brink*

I pushed through the many white-coated and blue uniformed bodies. I went right up to her face, which had sustained visually obvious damage, but nothing stopped me, her mother after all, from speaking to that face, to my beloved daughter. "Don't leave earth," I whispered to her, the words bursting from my very soul. "Stay here with Daddy and me. You are the joy of my life. I love you."

-excerpt from One Simple Text

It was every parent's worst nightmare. On a sunny morning in April 2012, a Maryland state trooper rang Betty Shaw's doorbell and delivered the grim news that her 17-year-old daughter, Liz, had been involved in a horrific car accident and was clinging to life.

Liz recovered from her life-threatening injuries but suffered severe and permanent effects from the accident.

Texting while driving caused Liz's crash, and she and her mother embarked on a mission to educate people about the perils of distracted driving, which gave Liz a reason to live.

In chronicling Liz's inspirational journey, Betty describes

- Liz's pre-accident life as an aspiring model and rebellious teenager who harbored anger over her parents' divorce;
- Liz's painstaking recovery from her accident, which rendered her disfigured and triggered suicidal thoughts; and
- highlights of Liz and Betty's national tour, which included an appearance on Oprah Winfrey's *Where Are They Now?* show.

KOPS-FETHERLING INTERNATIONAL BOOKS AWARDS WINNER 2020
LEGACY AWARD: INSPIRATION/MOTIVATION

**"I just cried and cried when I read this book. I cried at the sad parts,
and I cried at the joyous parts. It really is a story of triumph."**

(Lori Millen, US Department of Transportation)

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Betty Shaw, with her daughter Liz, travels throughout the United States to raise awareness about the dangers of distracted driving. She lives in Easton, Maryland with her family and their dog, Quentin.

Dave Brown is the author of five previous books. He lives in Downingtown, Pennsylvania with his wife and three children.

