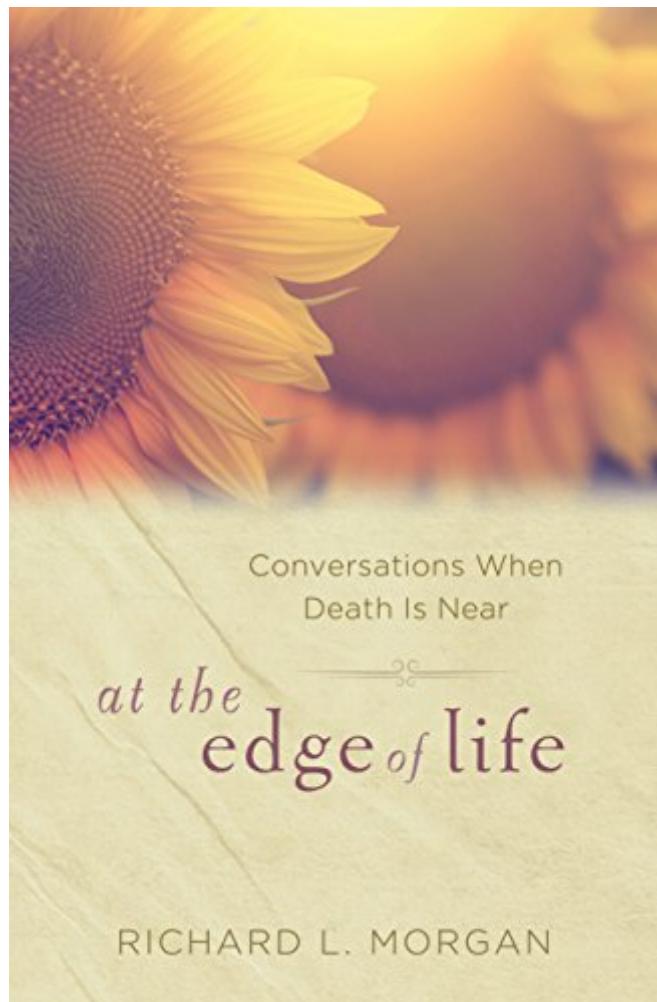


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At The Edge Of Life: Conversations When Death Is Near



Synopsis

Drawing on 60 years of experience as pastor, hospice chaplain, volunteer, and friend to dying persons, Richard Morgan offers perspective and advice to people coping with a family member, friend, or patient who is approaching the time of death. These 30 meditations take us from accepting our own mortality and the impending death of someone we care about through "making preparations," "finding closure," and "dying moments." In each meditation Morgan uses personal stories and scripture to lead into a reflection question and prayer. The result is a sense of peace that gives readers confidence as companions to the dying.

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Customer Reviews

One of the final tasks in life for all people is to fully come to the realization they will die. It is also the hardest tasks to ever complete because it is a task best done in dialogue with others. This dialogue is never easy because there is a public conspiracy of silence about death and many of us have a strong personal denial of death. This quick, easy read makes this task of talking about death not so daunting because it helps a person overcome the conspiracy of silence about death in others and

the denial of it in ourselves. It does this by helping to jump-start the conversation about death. The hardest step in any unpleasant task is getting started. Most of us just don't know how to start a conversations about dying with our loved ones or ourselves. This book eases you into this first step and all steps which follow rather than jar you into them. This book's first step is to help us discover when and how to begin to talk about death with others. It next prepares us for the conversation with loved ones when they die by having us practice talking with them as they die and then gently asks us to imagine our own deaths from someone else's vantage point. Each chapter contains questions like this, and move to exercises designed to give us practice in holding these discussions about death. When we become comfortable with these questions it leads to comfort with our own answers and the answers of others. I wish I had this book when I was a parish pastor. The church's role in it's parishioners lives is to help them to live and die faithfully. Many of our church members are however terrified of death.

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