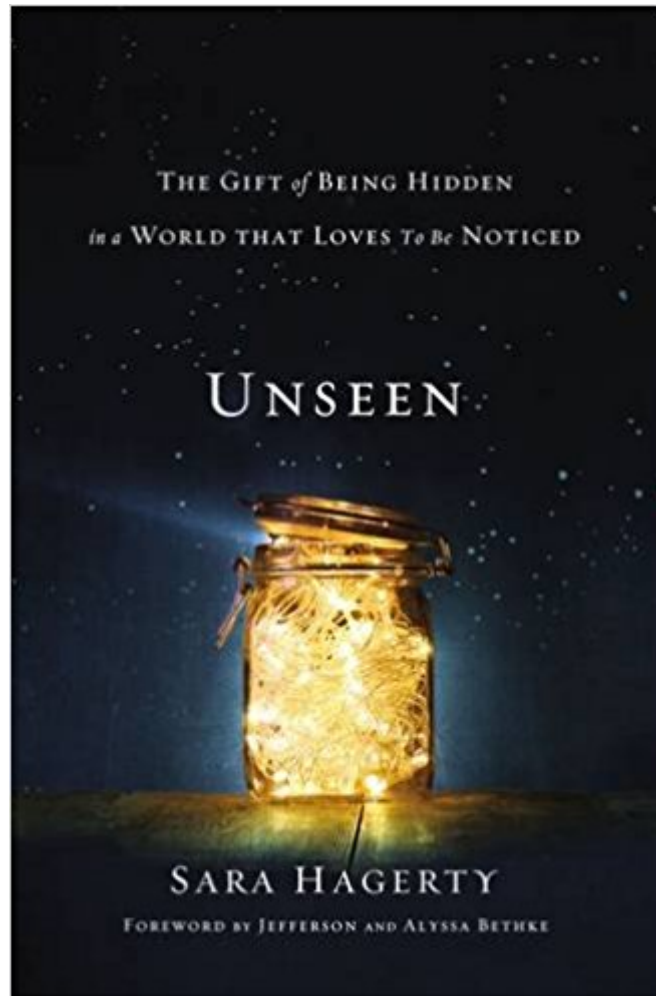




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Unseen: The Gift Of Being Hidden In A World That Loves To Be Noticed



Synopsis

Every heart longs to be seen and understood. Yet most of our lives is unwitnessed. We spend our days working, driving, parenting. We sometimes spend whole seasons feeling unnoticed and unappreciated. So how do we find contentment when we feel so hidden? In *Unseen*, Sara Hagerty suggests that this is exactly what God intended. He is the only One who truly knows us. He is the only One who understands the value of the unseen in our lives. When this truth seeps into our souls, we realize that only when we hide ourselves in God can we give ourselves to others in true freedom—and know the joy of a deeper relationship with the God who sees us. Our culture applauds what we can produce, what we can show, what we can upload to social media. Only when we give all of ourselves to God—unedited, abandoned, apparently wasteful in its lack of productivity—can we live out who God created us to be. As Hagerty writes, “Maybe my seemingly unproductive, looking-up-at-Him life produces awe among the angels.” Through an eloquent exploration of both personal and biblical story, Hagerty calls us to offer every unseen minute of our lives to God. God is in the secret places of our lives that no one else witnesses. But we’ve not been relegated to these places. We’ve been invited. We may be “wasting” ourselves in a hidden corner today: The cubicle on the fourth floor. The hospital bedside of an elderly parent. The laundry room. But these are the places God uses to meet us with a radical love. These are the places that produce the kind of unhinged love in us that gives everything at His feet, whether or not anyone else ever proclaims our name, whether or not anyone else ever sees. God’s invitation is not just for a season or a day. It is the question of our lives: “When no one else applauds you, when it makes no sense, when you see no results—will you waste your love on Me?”

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Customer Reviews

"It's easy to get lost in the shuffle of life, the never ending to-do list, all the things that call us away from Him. Sara's writing always brings me back to the God that sees me. This book is a gift to those of us longing to find our way back to Him." -Jennie Allen Founder of IF: Gathering and Author of "Nothing to Prove" "This is a book for the one who feels invisible, for the soul who feels like her every day acts of service go unnoticed, for the restless heart that longs to live in the fullness of life with Jesus. Unseen put into words something God has been teaching my heart for a very long time - that His tender gaze on us is the only one worth vying for. Sara's writing is exquisite as always, leading us to the feet of Jesus. She's vulnerable, raw, honest and wise, and her words remind us that there is purpose in everything we do, and nothing goes unnoticed the God who loves us and delights in us." -Katie Davis Majors Author of "Kisses from Katie" and "Daring to Hope" "What I love most about Sara's book are the glimpses into her friendship with God. Listening in on some of their conversations will call your heart, as it did mine, to want more time with Him; to find your security, peace and rest in His approval, His presence alone. Hear His voice, see Him at work in these beautiful stories." -Barbara Rainey Wife of Dennis Rainey and mom of six married children. Co-founder of FamilyLife, author of Letters to My Daughters, The Art of Being a Wife, blogger and creator of EverThineHome, the holiday and home collection from FamilyLife. "What a beautiful gift Sara has given us, yet again! 'Unseen' is an invitation back into the blessed center of what you and I were made for. To become fully alive in the practice of being seen by God, and lo and behold, it's more than enough. This, my friends, is a message we must herald!" -Christy Nockels Songwriter, worship artist, "The Glorious in the Mundane" Podcast "In a world that constantly shouts and strives to be seen, Sara Hagerty shares a shimmering secret: we come alive in the unseen. This heart journey into hiddenness will usher you to a place of newfound identity and intimacy with God." -Allen Arnold Author of "The Story of With" It's easy to get lost in the shuffle. This book is a gift to those of us longing to find our way back to Him. (Jennie Allen, founder, IF: Gathering; author, Nothing to Prove) Sara's writing is exquisite. Her words remind us that nothing goes unnoticed by the God who delights in us. (Katie Davis Majors, author, Kisses from Katie) Listening in on Sara's conversations with God will call your heart, as it did mine, to want more time with Him. (Barbara Rainey, FamilyLife; author, Letters

to My Daughters) This book will prick your heart and encourage your soul. Let it rearrange your thinking in the most eternally beautiful of ways. (Karen Ehman, speaker, Proverbs 31 Ministries; author, Keep It Shut) This book is exactly what my soul needed. Sara writes with profound wisdom and humble sincerity. (Sarah Mackenzie, author, Teaching from Rest) What a beautiful gift! Unseen invites us into the blessed center of what we were made for. (Christy Nockels, songwriter; The Glorious in the Mundane podcast) Sara exposes the beauty of abiding in the unseen and unrecognized, and we can't help but desire the same. (Ruth Chou Simons, author, GraceLaced; gracelaced.com) This journey into hiddenness will usher you to a place of newfound identity and intimacy with God. (Allen Arnold, author, The Story of With) Sara winsomely models what we all desperately need: to long for the praise of God instead of craving the praise of man. (Dee Brestin, author, The Friendships of Women) This book will inspire you to keep being faithful, to see beauty right where you are, and to rest in God's sweet love for you every day. (Sally Clarkson, author, The Lifegiving Home; Sallyclarkson.com) With both wonder and practicality, Unseen will escort you to find that longed for place of joy and stability---hidden in His gaze. (Dana Candler, author, Deep unto Deep) I'm desperate to waste more time with Jesus after reading Unseen, and I will recommend it over and over again. (Jeannie Cunnion, author, Mom Set Free) Sara shows us the power of wonder and stillness in the midst of crazy days. She gives us the courage to become unseen. (Susan Alexander Yates, speaker; author, Risky Faith) Because of this book, I have remembered who I truly am and what I truly desire. Sara's quiet story is transformative. (Christie Purifoy, author, Roots and Sky) You can't read this spectacular book without wanting more of Jesus, the one who always sees you right where you are. (Jennifer Dukes Lee, author, The Happiness Dare) Sara reminds us that being hidden with God is never time wasted. I desire a deeper friendship with God after reading her words. (Esther Fleece, author, No More Faking Fine) I will return to this beautiful and powerful book when I need a reminder of God's faithfulness, purposes, and love for me. (Amy Julia Becker, author, A Good and Perfect Gift) Unseen is pregnant with the revelation that we can do nothing to earn God's love, a love we can experience when we are the least useful to him. (Sara Hall, marathon runner; The Hall Steps Foundation) Sara turns our eyes to the beautiful reality that God is happily engaged in our everyday moments. (Christine Hoover, author, Messy Beautiful Friendship) If you are tugged by the allure of a life that makes a difference and are a bit disoriented by it all, Unseen is a must-read. (Ruth Schwenk, TheBetterMom.com; coauthor, Pressing Pause)

Sara Hagerty is the author of the critically-acclaimed *Every Bitter Thing Is Sweet*, a wife to Nate,

and a mother of six, including four children adopted from Ethiopia and Uganda, a brand new babbling babe, and one toddler who's found his voice amid them all.Â Sara writes regularly about life-delays, finding God in the unlikely, motherhood, marriage and adoption at SaraHagerty.net.

Once again another work from my favorite writer and author has not disappointed. Sara Hagerty has a way with words. She puts words to feelings, concepts, and ideas that have never made it past my mind and heart. Im always left feeling and thinking...."how did she just do that?!" (I think she does it because she writes from a place of deep connectedness to a God who is her source and she hides herself in HIM.) Even if you think you know what this book is about based off the title or reading the description, I would say....its about so much more. After reading, I am already planning on reading again with a small group of women and using the book study that is free and goes along with it. You can rest assured this book will be worth every penny and then some.

After reading "Unseen", I immediately bought 6 copies for my close girlfriends. This book talks about the joy that can be found in leaning into hiddenness in Him. I've been a Christian since high school and have never heard God's deep love for us articulated in this way. In a world where we literally share a highlight reel of our lives on social media, "Unseen" forced me to pause and think about what God sees when he looks at me. Highly recommend!

The message of this book is one each of deeply needs. In an age where we can instantly gaze at the lives of others through our phone screens this book is the sweetest reminder that the God of the universe gazes upon us. Sara's writing is honest and tender as she shares how leaning into her need, instead of away from it, has ushered her into noticing, appreciating, and living in the gaze of our heavenly Father. This book will breathe fresh life into your soul as you learn to let go of your own strength and allow your need to usher you right into the arms of Christ. You'll read it and then want your daughter, your neighbor, your friend to read it too. And again.

I am reading "Unseen" for the second time as there are so many deep truths in it that I want to take time to ponder. Reading it for the first time was such a gift to my heart and reminder of God's love for me in the midst of hard circumstances that leave me feeling unseen by others and even wondering where God is in it. This book has encouraged me to press deeper into God's word and to take time in the quiet to seek God's heart. What a gift to be reminded that the moments of feeling

"hidden" may actually be opportunities and invitations for deeper intimacy with God!

Unseen came at such a timely season for me. It gave voice to the wondering of my heart as I wrestled with being in a season of waiting and pain. Unseen helped me to reengage in conversation with God as I pondered him seeing me in the small moments when no one else could know how much my heart ached. I am reading again for a second time and I know my heart will marinate in this message for a long time. Thank you Sara for honestly sharing your heart and relationship with Jesus. Thank you for speaking a message that pushes against our culture.

Please read this book. Every chapter is packed with truth expressed in Sara's exquisite style resulting in subtle yet profound heart shifts. I have found myself underlining on practically every page. Within the pages I have been encouraged, inspired, and challenged to come alive before the eyes of my Savior in a deeper way than I ever have before. Resist the urge to binge read it all in one sitting, rather let each chapter tumble around in your mind and settle in your heart. This book has blessed me more than I can say.

Again, Sara Hagerty delivers pure gold in prose that is brilliant and compelling. Her words draw the reader in with quiet strength, and the truth of her narrative is incredibly relevant in an era of self promotion and busyness. Buy it, wrestle with it, and share the gift of it with a friend!

Sara Hagerty writes so beautifully that you want to read and re-read her words over and over again. The message of this book hits right at the heart of what it means to know and be known by the One who loves us so very deeply and knows us better than we know ourselves. There are so many nuggets of gold in this book; mine is filled with underlines and stars. I will be giving this as a gift to many in the future. It's just so good. A real treasure.

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