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## Torch (English Edition)

*Von Cheryl Strayed*

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# Cheryl Strayed

BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF

**wild**

# torch

A NOVEL



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Produktinformation -Verkaufsrang: #124316 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2014-06-20Erscheinungsdatum:  
2014-06-19File Name: B00J1JO6R4Anzahl der Produkte: 2 | File size: 60.Mb

**Von Cheryl Strayed : Torch (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Torch (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. If you loved "Wild", chances are you love this one too.Von LCOne might argue that the story is too autobiographic and too similar to what Charyl Strayed already told in Wild. I wondered about that at first myself. So I am, honestly, a little surprised about how much I love this book. Mayby I just like her style of writing. But HOW the author describes the

terrible loss this family finds itself having to go through is beautiful and heartwarming, despite all the heartbreak that is being described as well, of course. I especially like that the experience is - in my eyes in an absolutely believable way - described from the different perspectives of the three surviving family members. Dear Mrs. Strayed, I'm so glad you wrote this book. Thank you!

Kurzbeschreibung "Work hard. Do good. Be incredible!" is the advice Teresa Rae Wood shares with the listeners of her local radio show, *Modern Pioneers*, and the advice she strives to live by every day. She has fled a bad marriage and rebuilt a life with her children, Claire and Joshua, and their caring stepfather, Bruce. Their love for each other binds them as a family through the daily struggles of making ends meet. But when they received unexpected news that Teresa, only 38, is dying of cancer, their lives all begin to unravel and drift apart. Strayed's intimate portraits of these fully human characters in a time of crisis show the varying truths of grief, forgiveness, and the beautiful terrors of learning how to keep living. From Publishers Weekly A family founders after a mother's death in Strayed's beautifully observed debut. Teresa Rae Wood was a teen mother and an abused wife who escaped to Minnesota, fell in love, raised good kids and started hosting a radio program called *Modern Pioneers*. "Work hard. Do good. Be incredible," Teresa tells her listeners, because that's what she does until she's diagnosed with cancer and learns she has only months to live. As her loving common-law husband, Bruce, and her children, Claire (a bright, responsible college senior), and Josh, (a brooding 17-year-old), face Teresa's dying and death, Strayed shows how grief can divide people when they need each other the most. Bruce vows to kill himself, but then stumbles into a marriage with his neighbor; Claire drops out of school, cheats on her boyfriend and stops eating; Josh sells drugs and falls in love with a girl he quickly impregnates. The novel, like the family it portrays, loses its center after Teresa's death, as Bruce, Claire and Josh (especially the latter two) push and pull at each other, reaching and only sometimes finding comfort and connection. Strayed's characters are real and lovable, even as they fail themselves and each other; even tertiary players feel fully realized. Though the subject is sad, the novel is not without humor; it shimmers with a humane grace. (Feb.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Teresa Rae Wood is famous in her small town of Midden, Minnesota, for hosting *Modern Pioneers*, a local radio program that gives tips on living off the land. At the age of 38, she is diagnosed with a virulent form of cancer and dies within months. Her - common-law husband, Bruce, and her children, 20-year-old Claire and 18-year-old Josh, are left reeling. Bruce abruptly marries his next-door neighbor, Josh becomes heavily involved in dealing methamphetamine, and Claire single-mindedly devotes herself to keeping her mother's memory alive. What they learn about grief over the succeeding months gives each of them the strength to both ask for help and respect each other's vastly different coping methods. First--novelist Strayed shows a deep appreciation for the rhythms of small-town life, capturing the sense of community, the struggle to earn a living, and also the disdain for "city apes." In addition, she discerns within one family's crisis the painful, shifting nature of familial relationships, especially Josh's desire to both escape from and acknowledge his need for his dying mother. Joanne Wilkinson Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved