



2019

### Parkland Speaks

Beverly Jones

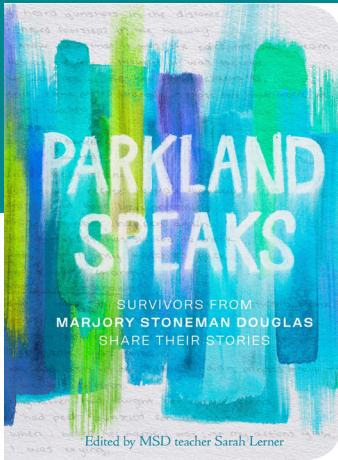
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## Book Review

### Parkland Speaks

#### Author

Edited by Sarah Lerner

#### Illustrator

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#### Reviewer

Beverly Jones

#### Rating

Excellent

#### Level

Young Adult

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#### Pages

192

#### Year

2019

#### Publisher

Crown Books for Young Readers

#### ISBN

9781984849991

“Nothing bad ever happens in Parkland.” This used to be the opinion of most Parkland residents. Parkland was always considered a safe, comfortable place to live. But on February 14, 2018, something bad did happen. A shooter entered the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and opened fire. Tragically, seventeen people were killed and another seventeen people were injured. Countless more students and teachers are forever changed by this devastating event. This book is a therapy of sorts for the school. It’s a collection of writings, art, and photographs from the people who experienced something that should never have to be experienced. This is a heartbreaking glimpse into the Valentine’s Day shooting in Parkland, Florida, and a hope for better days ahead in the future.

While this book is heart wrenching to read, it’s also a necessary and transparent part of the survival of the staff and students of MSD high school. It’s obvious that the writing and art has been a way for them to work through their feelings in a healthy way. The editing of this book is excellent and the book reads like an open diary. The talent of the writers is undeniable. This kind of tragedy is something that no one ever wants to experience, but the fact that MSD is able to find hope amidst their pain is very inspiring. Many students have also made it their mission to try to keep things like this from happening again. The survivors of the MSD shooting are strong and they will prevail. May the memory of the lost live on forever.

\*Contains moderate violence and mild language.