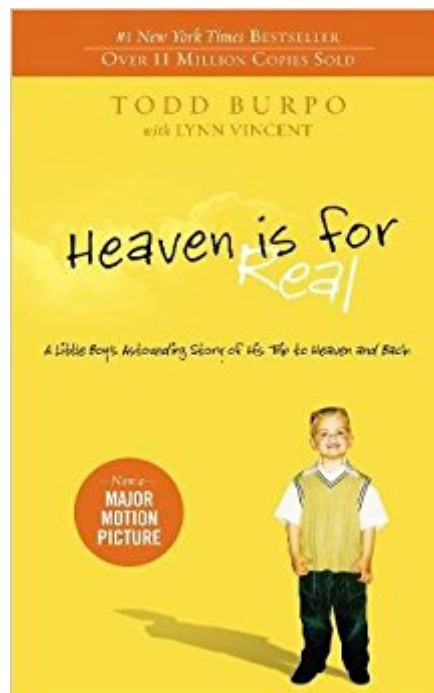




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# Heaven Is For Real: A Little Boy's Astounding Story Of His Trip To Heaven And Back



## Synopsis

A young boy emerges from life-saving surgery with remarkable stories of his visit to heaven. *Heaven Is for Real* is the true story of the four-year old son of a small town Nebraska pastor who during emergency surgery slips from consciousness and enters heaven. He survives and begins talking about being able to look down and see the doctor operating and his dad praying in the waiting room. The family didn't know what to believe but soon the evidence was clear. Colton said he met his miscarried sister, whom no one had told him about, and his great grandfather who died 30 years before Colton was born, then shared impossible-to-know details about each. He describes the horse that only Jesus could ride, about how "reaaaally big" God and his chair are, and how the Holy Spirit "shoots down power" from heaven to help us. Told by the father, but often in Colton's own words, the disarmingly simple message is heaven is a real place, Jesus really loves children, and be ready, there is a coming last battle.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

"Burpo, a Wesleyan pastor in rural Nebraska, recounts the story of his son's mystic vision of heaven while the youngster was suffering from a near-fatal illness in the spring of 2003. Through the course of the work, Burpo recalls conversations he had with his son about what heaven was like. Christians will be encouraged, non-Christians not at all. This work is written in a plain,

conversational style that Dean Gallagher narrates with great skill. Gallagher reads at a pace that is never hurried, even when recalling stressful incidents. He is expressive, but never melodramatic—especially when relating the anguish Burpo and his wife felt at nearly losing their child." M.T.F. © AudioFile Portland, Maine --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Todd Burpo is pastor of Crossroads Wesleyan and a volunteer fireman. He and his wife, Sonja, have four children: Colton is an active teenager; he has an older sister, Cassie; a younger brother, Colby; and a very special sister he met in heaven. Sonja Burpo is a busy mom and pastor's wife. A certified elementary teacher, Sonja is passionate about children's ministry and helping women work through the difficulty of miscarriage. Lynn Vincent is the New York Times best-selling writer of *Heaven Is for Real* and *Same Kind of Different As Me*. The author or coauthor of ten books, Lynn has sold 12 million copies since 2006. She worked for eleven years as a writer and editor at the national news biweekly *WORLD* magazine and is a U.S. Navy veteran.

I've been a student of scripture for over 20 years, and have found nothing in this book to be esoteric, or out of order scripturally. I really like how they list the scriptures that support little Colton's experience in the back of the book. My only problem was that I felt it took too long to get to the heaven part. The first half of the book reads more like the trials and tribulations of the Burpo family than it does a description of what heaven is like. I guess it was necessary because it makes the story more credible. Had it not been for the text to speech function on my Kindle however, I may have lost interest before it got to the good part. Maybe they should come out with a Cliff Notes version, or better yet, a movie for those like me who have short attention spans. Once we got to the second half however, the book really picked up. When I got to the end, I kind of had that "it's over already?" feeling you get when you watch a good movie that ends too abruptly. It almost makes me wonder when the sequel is coming out. Thankfully there will be a sequel coming out. Except I'm not looking for another book, I'm looking forward to the real thing. This book will really make you think about heaven, and will give you that "I can't wait to get there" feeling. FYI, there are lots of interviews with the Burpo family on Youtube. Check them out.

I began very skeptical and even a bit bothered by some of the flowery descriptions of time, place, scenery, etc...I think I was hoping or expecting more of a clear and linear description and story. But I

stuck with it, and came to see that the details were quite helpful in the end. Who knows, maybe it was bad pizza that made my initial perspective so negative, but in the end, I see the description and reporting of what Colton saw in heaven as a truly encouraging reminder, and nothing less than completely validating of my faith. The Bible is NOT just a story. It is THE story...a true reporting of our history. Heaven (literally) knows that thousands have tried unsuccessfully to prove the Bible to be false. No wonder God appreciates the pure and open mind of a child. I encourage you to read this book...if it gets slow, stick with it. And remember ... Heaven IS for REAL!!

This little boy has seen the true heaven! I should be dead by all rights.. I knew there was a higher power "God" when I was at my worst, I wanted to die so bad because of the pain I was in.. My faith today is so strong!! My sister was born and lived for three hours, I believe thru Colton's story, that she is in heaven, I kinda always believed it, but that little boy reassured me.. My mom has recently passed away from cancer, but somehow I know that she is with my sister in heaven! My faith in God will always be strong.. Why? So much has happened in my life to make me understand that heaven and God are real..I have two diseases, MS and Crohn's, but it's ok because I look at my life as a blessing and not a curse! I know that God has always been there for me and one day, I hope to live in his kingdom.. This book just proves that there is and always will be faith in our hearts! Colton, thank you for the "magic" of your journey! Stay Strong little one, you are one of Gods children!

I have never been so convinced ever before that heaven is real. This book solidifies my belief. I always thought of the holy spirit as white like a dove but after reading this book I know he is not. The book tells me I have to change, to acquire the gentleness of a child not the harshness of an adult. I believe now that even though we all do some bad things that God loves us, really loves us. I also believe that Jesus is more beautiful than I ever thought. Reading this book has made me concretely believe there is a heaven and it is more beautiful than I ever imagined in my wildest dreams. This book gave me an inner peace and contentment I never knew I could feel. This book gives me the direction I have always prayed for. I believe in God the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

Heaven is for Real is a book for believers. It is the story of a little boy, who enters heaven while undergoing emergency surgery. Over the course of months and years after the surgery, certain comments are made by the boy, that make his dad (a pastor) wonder if his son truly went to heaven. The boy, Colton, points out a series of things that he could have otherwise never known about had he not visited heaven, such as meeting a sister who he never knew his mother had previously

miscarried, and meeting his dad's Pop. Though these, and other things presented in the book are interesting, and may be "proof" of heaven, I'd be interested to see this book from a non-believers viewpoint. As someone who already believes in heaven, the boy's experience seems to have been for real, however, I do not believe this to be a book that non-believers would suddenly read and "see the light." It's also kind of a slow read, though quick at the same time. The story seems VERY drawn out, narrated by the viewpoint of Colton's father. It is more like he is giving a presentation, than trying to engage the reader in the story. It goes in circles, from talking about a vacation that the family goes on, where Colton first makes a comment, then back to before that event, and then back again up to the event. Still, despite the weird style of the book, it's something that one who believes in God or heaven may enjoy.

I was taught that before we are born an angel puts a finger above our mouth and whispers "Shhh, forget.." and that's where the groove under our nose comes from (it has a name, but I forget what it is). I have known several people who have had near-death experiences -- all report that while the vision is vivid at first, it fades fast. The vision is "set" in our memory by telling the tale. Later it is the re-telling that we remember. So, when the child keeps remembering more new details over time, I find that not credible. I remember an actress, Angie Dickenson I think, who had an NDE and woke up knowing the purpose of life. She thought to herself "Oh, it is so simple. And how wonderful that I am in the communications business! I can tell the world!" Intrigued, the witness asked "Wow, what is it?" Ms Dickenson replied "I have no idea, I forgot!"

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