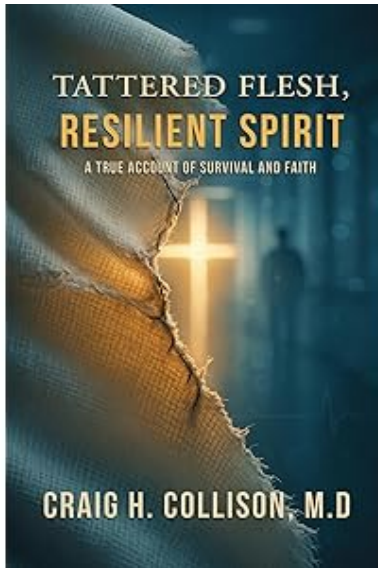




# Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

## Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

**Title:** Tattered Flesh, Resilient Spirit  
**Author:** Craig H. Collison  
**Genre:** Non-Fiction - Memoir



**Appearance:** The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

**5**

**Plot:** The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

**5**

- Development:** 5 Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.
- Formatting:** 4 Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.
- Marketability:** 5 Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.
- Overall Opinion:** 5 The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

**Review:**

Reviewed by Grant Leishman for Readers' Favorite

Tattered Flesh, Resilient Spirit by Craig H. Collison, M.D., is a gut-wrenching, powerful exposition of courage, love, and the strength of the human spirit. Craig was completing his final year as a pediatric resident. Happily married, with two children and a third on the way, Craig was the epitome of a man on the threshold of success and a wonderful life. Then, a simple operation to remove a tumor in his shoulder throws him into a world of pain, chaos, and possibly death. When he is diagnosed as suffering from the often fatal necrotizing fasciitis, 'flesh-eating bacteria', hospital staff swing into action to save the life of one of their own. What followed was numerous surgeries, endless pain, grave doubts, and a difficult rehabilitation from a disease that typically claims the lives of 80-100% of its sufferers. Courage, faith, deep love, and modern medicine stood between Craig and losing it all.

I have read many incredible memoirs, but few have garnered such an emotional response from me as Tattered Flesh, Resilient Spirit did. Craig H. Collison has written a deeply moving and powerfully honest account of his battle with this pernicious opponent. What I loved most was his willingness to be brutally frank about the issues of pain, doubt, and even self-pity. The love of his wife, their steadfast faith, and the incredible support of his extended family and friends played an immense part in not only Craig's survival but also in his long and arduous road to recovery and rehabilitation. I appreciated that even for him, a devout Christian, he was moved to call on God, asking, 'Why me, Lord, why did this happen to me?' As a mother and wife, with two young children under five and heavily pregnant at the time, one cannot understate the incredible courage, positivity, and resilience of his wife, Michelle. This is not primarily a Christian memoir; it just so happens that the people in Craig's life had a deep faith that showed through on every page. The Bible verses gave great illumination and insight into the trauma that this family faced. This is one of the most powerful memoirs I have ever read, offering a feeling of renewal, hope, and pride in humanity's power to overcome adversity through strength of mind, purpose, and no shortage of courage. Everyone should read this book, and I cannot recommend it highly enough.