

“Heart-wrenching, courageously transparent, fast-paced, and inspiring story of a survivor who becomes a victor and ultimately a warrior in the battle against sex trafficking. The hand of God is on Debra from the beginning.”

Francine Rivers

New York Times, best-selling author

A Powerfully Transforming True Story

Forced into sex trafficking as a teenager, Debra Rush makes a daring escape but struggles for years with post-traumatic stress. A reluctant mentor supports Debra through the healing of her past. A commitment to save her friends leads to unexpected alliances. In forgiving those who betrayed her, she opens her heart and finds real love. Her true story proves no one is beyond redemption. Journey with Debra from despair to success and find a reason to hope.

Forward by Police Chief Jerry Dyer

DEBRARUSH is a co-founder and the Chief Executive Officer of Breaking the Chains. Debra's insight and experience into this dauntless industry is the driving force in which Breaking the Chains was founded. Debra is a survivor of human trafficking. In 1999, she was rescued and taken to a confidential location, which isolated her from the region where she was held captive. Unfortunately, at that time, no efforts were being made to expose human trafficking, and there were limited resources available to help her cope with the specific trauma she had endured. In 2008, after years of guilt and shame, she found the courage and strength to begin her healing journey. This spurred her quest to rescue women who are trapped in human trafficking and believe there is no way out. In the spring of 2014, Debra Rush and Tiffany Apodaca partnered to build the California's Central Valley first adult safe house, which is currently helping women escape systems of sexual exploitation through advocacy, direct services, housing, and education. Debra has a degree in Human Services and extensive experience as an Alcohol and Drug Counselor. In 2018, Debra was named State of California Woman of the Year.

PENELOPE CHILDERS began writing in 2010 and has published short stories in several magazines. *A Cry of the Heart* is her first completed collaborative writing project. Penelope has a heart for writing stories that inspire, transform, and help readers to heal from life's trauma.

Website: www.btcfresno.org

Facebook Page: Debra Rush

A CRY OF THE HEART

RUSH - CHILDERS

A CRY of the HEART



Human Trafficking
One Survivor's True Story

Debra Rush with Penelope Childers