



The Promise: How One Woman Made Good on Her Extraordinary Pact to Send a Classroom of 1st Graders to College

Oral Lee Brown, Caille Millner

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In the bestselling tradition of *The Pact* and *The Freedom Writers Diary*—the inspiring story of one woman’s extraordinary promise and steely determination to make a difference in the world.

One morning in 1987 Oral Lee Brown walked into a corner store in East Oakland, California, to buy snacks for work. A little girl asked her for a quarter, and Brown assumed that she wanted to buy candy, but surprisingly she bought bread and bologna—staples for her family.

Later that day Brown couldn’t get the little girl out of her mind. Why wasn’t she in school? Why was she out begging for money to buy food for her family? After several weeks of not being able to sleep, Brown went to look for the girl at the local elementary school and soon found herself in a first-grade classroom. She didn’t find the little girl, but before she left she found herself promising the kids that if they finished high school, she would pay for their college education.

At the time, Oral Lee Brown made only \$45,000 a year.

But years later, after annually saving and investing \$10,000 of her own money and establishing the Oral Lee Brown Foundation, this remarkable woman made good on her promise: after nineteen of the original twenty-three students graduated from high school, she sent them all to college. And in May of 2003, LaTosha Hunter was the first of Brown’s “babies,” as well as the first person in her family, to graduate from college.

This marvelous and inspiring book is the amazing story of one woman’s unending desire to make a difference. And if once was not enough, in 2001 Brown made the same promise to three new classrooms of first-, fifth-, and ninth-graders. Brown and her foundation are now committed to adopting a new crop of kids to send to college every four years.

Brown’s pledge to the students was not without great personal and public sacrifice. Her promise turned her life upside-down—it strained her relationships, and at times required her to work several different jobs. Brown also developed a strong emotional attachment to the children—for many of these students Brown was the one consistent adult in their lives.

In a world short on heroes, altruism, and dedication, THE PROMISE shows that it is still possible to change lives for the better. This book will encourage, uplift, and inspire every reader.

A portion of the proceeds from the book will go to the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. To learn more about the Oral Lee Brown Foundation please visit www.oralleebrownfoundation.com.

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Book is to be different for each grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important for us. The book The Promise: How One Woman Made Good on Her Extraordinary Pact to Send a Classroom of 1st Graders to College seemed to be making you to know about other knowledge and of course you can take more information. It is rather advantages for you. The book The Promise: How One Woman Made Good on Her Extraordinary Pact to Send a Classroom of 1st Graders to College is not only giving you a lot more new information but also to get your friend when you truly feel bored. You can spend your own personal spend time to read your guide. Try to make relationship using the book The Promise: How One Woman Made Good on Her Extraordinary Pact to Send a Classroom of 1st Graders to College. You never feel lose out for everything should you read some books.

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Spent a free time to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? May be reading a book could be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled The Promise: How One Woman Made Good on Her Extraordinary Pact to Send a Classroom of 1st Graders to College can be very good book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Betsy Haley:

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