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“Extraordinary Teens” reveal success secrets

From surfers to singers, inspiring youth share their Chicken Soup for the Soul stories

COS COB, Conn. – Cameron Clapp was a typical teenager until he passed out drunk on the railroad tracks behind his house and lost both legs and one arm to the next train. Now he is a successful actor and competitive athlete who visits injured troops and shows them what is possible for a triple amputee. Julie Marie Carrier was a self-described nerd and loser whose life turned around when she heard a motivational speech at age 14 – she started her own company, was crowned Miss Virginia USA, and became a consultant to the Pentagon by age 23. Kendall Ciesemier is a high school student who has survived two liver transplants and continues to experience health challenges, but has raised so much money for disadvantaged children that Bill Clinton surprised her at a school assembly one day and took her with him to appear on *Oprah*.

In today’s difficult world, teens may need a little help maintaining a positive outlook and reaching for the stars. To help them reach their full potential, what could be better than a collection of stories from successful and “cool” young adults who speak the right language and pass on their secrets to success?

Complete with specific advice and personal stories of determination, *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Extraordinary Teens* (Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, August 2009, 978-1-935096-36-8, \$14.95) highlights the success stories of accomplished young adults in the U.S. and Canada. These impressive young adults stress that any teen can achieve – everyone starts with the same ingredients, and it is a matter of listening to mentors, working hard, and most importantly, always believing in oneself, to stay on the path to success. The book includes personal photos provided by each young celebrity.

Anna Kournikova, Ryan Cabrera, Donald Trump, Jr. and Timmy Reyes as well as other notable teen athletes, actors, writers, filmmakers, motivational speakers, artists, executives, visionaries, activists and humanitarians tell their tales of how and why they do it. A special inspirational story by Sean Covey, author of best-selling *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, leads off the book.

The book’s co-author Kent Healy, a 24-year-old USC student, entrepreneur, and inspirational speaker, started his first business at age 15 and published his first of six books at 19. He has researched the science of success and in 2008 was invited by Jack Canfield to write *The Success Principles for Teens* based on Canfield’s best-selling book, *The Success Principles*. He is a sought-after expert by television and radio shows around the country to share his story and success secrets with teens.

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Extraordinary Teens (Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Kent Healy) released in August 2009. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, publishes all the latest titles in the famous Chicken Soup for the Soul book series which are distributed through Simon and Schuster, Inc. Since 1993, books in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series have sold more than 112 million copies, with titles translated into more than 40 languages. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing also licenses the right to use its famous trademark to high quality licensees through IMG, the world’s premier licensing agent. The company is currently implementing a plan to expand into all media, is working with TV networks on several TV shows and is developing a major Internet presence dedicated to life improvement, emotional support and inspiration. In 2007, *USA Today* named *Chicken Soup for the Soul* one of the five most memorable and impactful books in the last quarter century. For more information visit: www.chickensoup.com.

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To schedule an interview, or to receive a review copy of *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Extraordinary Teens*, please contact Rusty Shelton at (512) 785-4469 or rusty@sheltoninteractive.com.