

110 STORIES

by

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(pronouns: she/her/hers)

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

MOM, New Yorker leaving voice-mails for her daughter on and after 9/11

NARRATOR, any age, gender, ethnicity

GARRETT FISHER, heading to his job on the 69th floor of the South Tower on 9/11

OFFICER HERNANDEZ, NYPD police officer on patrol near the World Trade Center on 9/11

FF DON CASEY, FDNY firefighter from Staten Island responding to the World Trade Center on 9/11

FF LOU TRAZINO, FDNY firefighter and Lower Manhattan resident, teaches his daughter how to ride bike after 9/11

KAREN SLADE, Lower Manhattan resident looking for her son on 9/11

TERRENCE, a homeless man living in an alley near the World Trade Center on 9/11

LILLIAN, a homeless woman living in an alley near the World Trade Center on 9/11, Terrence's wife

THOMAS, a homeless man living in an alley near the World Trade Center on 9/11

PROBATIONARY FF JASON CASCONI, the new FDNY Proby scheduled to start at Ladder 9 in Lower Manhattan on 9/12

RO SHEFFE (sounds like "chef"), Lower Manhattan resident shepherding her bulldog to safety on 9/11

BOLIVAR ARELLANO (BOWL-i-var ar-e-YA-no), Ecuadorian-American, staff photographer for the New York Post on 9/11

CARY SHEIH (sounds like "Shea" Stadium), Port Authority engineer descending from the 72nd floor of the North Tower on 9/11

PAULA ADAMS, FDNY EMT, responding to the World Trade Center on

9/11 BJ, (AS REMEMBERED) from FF DON CASEY'S story

DR. JIM SNYDER, child psychiatrist volunteering at the World Trade Center site after 9/11

SUSAN FLIS (rhymes with "Miss"), a licensed practical nurse from upstate New York, volunteering after 9/11 at Javits Convention Center and World Trade Center site (child's drawing description by Lynn Eldredge)

NATALIE ROUNDTREE, a licensed practical nurse from New Jersey volunteering after 9/11 at Javits Center, wore make-up and a Stars & Stripes bandana

TONY ESOLA, ironworker (Local 483) from New Jersey volunteering at the World Trade Center after 9/11

MITCHELL PERITZ (PEH-ritz), chiropractor and body worker, volunteering at the World Trade Center site after 9/11

MARILYN DURHMAN (rhymes with "sermon"), firefighter and K9 handler from Colorado, born in New York, volunteering with her dog, Kermit, after 9/11

GLENNA JINKS, telecommunications manager from Texas operating a mobile phone bank for 9/11 families and rescue workers

RESCUE WORKER (AS REMEMBERED) from MARILYN DURHMAN's story

MICHELLE WYLDE WILLIAMS, actor volunteering with the Salvation Army after 9/11

FATHER BOB DEMING, Episcopal priest for the Diocese of Connecticut volunteering as Chaplain after 9/11

ELIZABETH GILBERT, New Yorker and author, sharing her observations of the day in an email sent to friends on 9/11

Key:

-  Take cue here
-  Take cue on this word
-  Take after word is said
-  Take after music is over

ACT ONE

MOM

(leaving voice-mail)

Hi, sweetheart, it's your Mom and I guess I'm waking you up to a horrific day in New York City. I presume you're still sleeping which is a good thing.

(nervous laugh)

If you haven't, if you haven't... if you don't know already, there've been some attacks on New York City. So turn on your cable TV. Ahhh - But I'll be in short, ah, there've been some bombs, there've been some explosions, there've been planes - two commercial planes - that were hijacked ploughed into the Twin Towers at about nine this morning - two different planes - and the second Tower... half hour later another explosion and Kaplatz! We have one Twin Tower still standing and on fire. Of course, the whole city's been closed down, all the subways... I'm gonna try you on your cell. Maybe you're on your way somewhere on your bike - um - but I love you very much, sweetheart, and you're safe and I'm safe and the people we love are safe. So talk to you later. Bye.

NARRATOR

"110 Stories" is based on first person accounts collected in the days and weeks following September 11th.

SCENE 1: alive in new york

GARRETT FISHER

I am alive in New York.

NARRATOR

Garrett Fisher, web applications programmer.]

GARRETT FISHER

I would not say I am alive and well but I certainly am alive. I work - worked - for Morgan Stanley on the 69th floor of the South Tower. I came out of the subway that morning in front of the building at about nine o'clock. People were yelling and sort of panicking and running around. I figured there was a car accident or something so I just kept walking, thinking about the work I have to do and stuff, if you can believe it. Then I saw people looking up at the sky. So I looked up and saw all this smoke and huge amounts of burning paper and junk flying way up in the air. Even though I was certainly surprised and taken aback, I was so confused and clueless, that I sort of still kept walking toward the building. You know, I wasn't on the side where you could see the hole. I just saw the smoke. There were cops and firefighters everywhere so I figured there was just a fire or something. Whatever. There've been fires up there before

2 - Music -
Specials on SR
sideof Bench on
Liv

3- Narrator
DSC

4 - SR Special up

5 - Dim DSC
Special



6 - SL
Special up

OFFICER HERNANDEZ

Well, I was at Federal Plaza, which is just a few blocks away. At first, I thought it was just a military plane, y'know, a missile - breaking the sound barrier. So I didn't think anything of it. I just, y'know, looked up.

NARRATOR

7 - Bump DSC Special

Officer Hernandez, NYPD.

OFFICER HERNANDEZ

I didn't even see it 'cause I was writing in my memo book, y'know, my entries. So I asked people, "What is it?" Y'know - "What was that?" And they said, "A plane." So what happens? I run to the scene. The funny thing is, when you go to The Academy, they tell you when you hear shots fired, you're gonna go towards the shots fired but people are gonna be running away. And that's when it hit me - I was like, "I'm going towards it.

(chuckles)

I'm going towards the flames. I'm going towards the building that is burning." So I was like, "Okay!" Kept on running.

8 - SR Up

GARRETT FISHER

Then about thirty seconds later - all of a sudden - there was a HUGE explosion pretty much directly above me. It was so indescribably loud. Oh my God, I was just like, "What??" And I must have frozen there for a few seconds, I was so completely shocked out of my skull. I swear to God, I thought I was imagining it. You know... you get up, hung-over, have a quiet private morning and then something like that happens and you think you're still in bed dreaming or something. And as I was still walking towards the building - I must have been on autopilot - all of this junk: huge burning junk - started falling and smashing into people right in front of me. And there was this deafening noise.

9 - SL Up

OFFICER HERNANDEZ

People were just hit with the debris - the arms, the legs, the head - stuff like that. All over the place! It was just, y'know, a little... crazy.

10 - SR Up

GARRETT FISHER

People started to really run crazy in all directions. I started to go over to help them but as soon as I got another ten feet, an object, like, an ENORMOUS object - I think it was a piece of concrete with a window attached - I mean, just freakin' huge - slammed right on top of this couple, this poor couple, you know - tourists or whatever. The guy had a backpack on and this girl with a pink sun visor. I just imagine now how she was probably so excited about wearing her little pink hat. And they absolutely without a doubt got completely flattened and killed right in front of me.

11 - SL Up

OFFICER HERNANDEZ

You name it. Like, the lady next to me - she got hit with a piece of the engine, like, this big... in the leg... And it was from here down - the whole thing was wide open.

12 - SR Up

GARRETT FISHER

Fiery pieces of unidentified stuff were totally raining down around me. At that point, I just realized I couldn't help these people, that I just had to start running.

13 - SL Up

OFFICER HERNANDEZ

And that's it, y'know? I saw the explosion of the plane and I just saw pieces of the plane coming my way and I was like, "Time to go!" and started running.

14 - SR Up

GARRETT FISHER

I've never run so fast in my entire life. There were cops running next to me yelling...

OFFICER HERNANDEZ

15 - SL Bump

Get back! Get back! Run! Run!

GARRETT FISHER

You know it's bad when cops are running WITH you. I was passing like, everyone, I was running so fast. People were falling down, getting trampled, grabbing each other, helping each other up. Everyone was on cell phones and dropping their bags - a woman grabbing her baby out of the carriage and taking off. There were five or six car accidents around me - people getting out of their cars - running and screaming.

16 - SL Up

OFFICER HERNANDEZ

The guy next to me - he died on the spot 'cause, y'know, he got hit in the head so... right in the head. Got hit. Dead.

GARRETT FISHER

My plan was to get to the river and swim to New Jersey. I swear to God, I know it sounds ridiculous now - but at the time, you have to remember, I had no idea what was going on. I didn't see any plane; I just saw the explosion. People were yelling that we were being bombed and stuff. It definitely felt like we were being shot at. I really had no clue. I just thought - I was going to get killed. I mean, I'd already seen like, ten people get killed in about five different ways around me. So I figured if we were being attacked and the whole island was going to blow up - which I had every reason to believe given my surroundings - then I would want to be in the water. No? So I took a sharp left on Canal Street and headed for the Hudson.

17 - SR UP

18- Fade Specials

SCENE 2: nine o'clock and 14 seconds

FF DON CASEY

Okay. I'm usually one of the first guys up in the firehouse. I mean, I have a daughter and all, you know, used to that routine and gettin' up early.

19 - Support

Group - Stage

Center - Abs SC

brighter than rest

NARRATOR

Firefighter Don Casey, FDNY Ladder 9.

FF DON CASEY

So I'm sittin' in the kitchen, waitin' for all the guys to start rollin' in, start the day off, you know? We share a firehouse in Lower Manhattan with Engine Company 33. And Jeff Walz...

20 - Effect on Towers

NARRATOR

Lost on September 11th.

FF DON CASEY

... he comes walkin' in and he has a funny story about a cop pullin' him over 'cause his seat belt didn't work in his car? So he goes upstairs to get dressed. And Kevin Pfeifer...

21 - Effect on Towers

NARRATOR

Lost on September 11th.

FF DON CASEY

... he comes in with his bag of fruit, drops it on the table, goes up to get dressed. And that's usually when the guys start wakin' up, start mullin' around. The Engine Officer comes down. And we're just BS-in' around the kitchen table like always. And a run comes in.

PA SYSTEM(female voice preferred)

Engine.

22 - Cyc flash

FF DON CASEY

And it's 8:47. So the Engine officer, says, "Ahhh Mother!" 'Cause officers don't get overtime after 8:45 so he wouldn't get the overtime. It's in their contract, I dunno. So he gives a little like, disgruntled huff. And just then, Bobby Evans...

NARRATOR

Lost on September 11th.

23 - Tower effect

FF DON CASEY

... comes runnin' in - says, "A plane just hit the World Trade Center!" And I'm like, "Get outta here!" He goes, "Yeah, yeah!" So we all run out to the fronta quarters to see this big gaping hole in the World Trade Center. Well, the Ladder Company runs out. The Engine's already on their rig pullin' out. So the Ladder Officer tells us, "C'mon, get your gear on! Be ready for when the ticket comes!" So we're just standin' around the housewatch lookin' at the TV sayin', "Where's our ticket? Don't tell me they're waitin' till nine o'clock to save the city a coupla dollars!" And sure enough, at nine o'clock and fourteen seconds -

24 - PA effect



PA SYSTEM
(female voice preferred)

Ladder.

FF DON CASEY

-- we get our ticket to go down to the World Trade Center.

(beat)

John Tierney - he was our Proby - being the officer says, "Get your gear on. Get ready to go," he figures he should go. Well, Probys only ride till nine o'clock. So when the ticket came at nine o'clock and fourteen seconds, this kid was actually off-duty. But he's standin' in the middle of the street as the rig's pullin' out. He's like, "Should I go?" I tell him, "No! You're not goin' down there! You'd be workin' all day and not even get paid for it! What are you, nuts?" He says, "Well, the officer told me to get my gear on and get ready to go." So I'm like, "Welp, if he told you that, I guess, c'mon."

25 - Shift to yellow

NARRATOR

Firefighters David Arce, Gerard Baptiste, Michael Boyle, Robert King, Jr., Keithroy Maynard and Probationary Firefighter John Tierney - all lost on September 11th.

26 - Partial Black out

Music

SCENE 3: the most beautiful day

FF LOU TRAZINO

My daughter'd been after me to take the training wheels off her bike. Well, you know, she's still five - gonna be six in December - so I didn't really think she was capable. So I kept telling her, "Jill, you're gonna have to wait. Wait till Daddy thinks you're ready." "No Daddy, I'm ready."

Support Group - SC - Most stage right chair

27 - Up Support

NARRATOR

Firefighter Lou Trazino, FDNY Engine 33.

FF LOU TRAZINO

So we sat down, looked at my schedule. "Okay on Tuesday, Daddy's going to be off." And we drew, up on the calendar, a bicycle. And that little bicycle was the day we'd take her training wheels off. That morning, we stepped outside and said, "Aww, what a great day this is. This is the most beautiful day!" Jill, of course, goes, "Daddy, you're going to take my training wheels off my bike today!" I said, "Sure. Absolutely! It's a great day. It's a great day for it."

Dim support - fade table - US

28 - Quick fade up on table - slow fade down on Support Group

KAREN SLADE

It was such a beautiful day. And my son, Ian, was so excited to be going back to his school. So we're back to our normal life, back to all the little things we love about New York. We'd just moved to the financial district 'cause, you know, Tribeca had out-priced us years ago.

NARRATOR

Karen Slade, writer.



KAREN SLADE

That morning - we're not usually "on time" people - but that morning, we woke up early so I could walk Ian to school. So we walked through the World Trade Center - past that statue of the man on his laptop. And Ian leapfrogged over these brass sculptures - these little brown balls he used to leap over every day. We walked under that sky-bridge that connects World Trade 7. There's a Jasper Johns inside and Ian said, "Oh Mom. We've never been in there." And I said, "Well, let's go this afternoon." When we got to school, I kissed him good-bye on the forehead and headed to the Farmers' Market 'cause I needed to like, stock the house. I stopped in a "99 Cents Store" and bought a pack of sponges. And thought I heard a car accident. I went out and saw this woman running. Her face looked... she was terrified and she was on her cell. But nobody else on the street was running - just this one person. So I thought, "Oh my God. She's having like, a really bad day or something." Then I saw all these papers flying in the sky and I thought, "Is there a ticker tape parade today?" You know, "Today's September 11th. Was there a Yankees game?" I'm not much up on sports.

29 - Back to Support

FF LOU TRAZINO

We were in Jill's schoolyard when I heard that plane roaring down. It went from this gigantic airplane - it looked so huge over the city - to this... so small up against that building, then just went in... the nose, the fuselage, the wings, the tail... disappears. And as it was going in, the building lit up like a jack-o'-lantern. I knew we'd all be going to work that day, that this was gonna be the most enormous rescue operation the city had ever seen. I also knew I had to get my family home. But before I could work out a plan, I saw Engine 33 flying by. I could see all the figures in there - I couldn't make out who - but I knew they were going down pretty cockily, like they always were, to put that fire out.

30 - Out

SCENE 4: crying crazy

TERRENCE

Well, I witnessed the whole thing. It totally crippled us, the homeless people, totally crippled us 'cause World Trade Center was like, base.

31 - Up Bench

NARRATOR

Terrence, Lillian and Thomas, residents of an alley near Wall Street.

TERRENCE

We'd go down there - four-thirty, five o'clock in the morning - take care of our personal hygiene... clean up, wash up n' get our meals. Now it's no more. Some of us go to Beaver Street but it's so crowded, by the time you take a shower, your whole day's shot! Now we got nothing. Got nothing! I will say this to you - my friends here saved a lot of lives. People just raced into this alley, went up against that wall and it was pitch black. My friends here got 'em out, took 'em to the hospital and came back and gave out masks. I was on Church Street coming out of a bookstore - me and my wife here.

(MORE)

Support
Group - Most
Stage right
chair

Shift w/ music

Homeless - USR
Dim on bench

In front of USC
support chair-
bump