



## East Baton Rouge Parish Library

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### NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### ONE BOOK ONE COMMUNITY SUMMER SELECTION

The One Book One Community Summer Selection is *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculée Ilibagiza.

The One Book One Community initiative aims to use a common reading experience as the motivation for intellectual and cultural exchange of dialogue and ideas for the purpose of raising awareness and visibility with regard to a community issue. OBOC organizing sponsors include: Baton Rouge Community College, East Baton Rouge Parish Library, Forum 35, LSU, Hay House, Inc., Redstick Internet Services, Southern University, and YWCA of Greater Baton Rouge.

*Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* is the memoir of Immaculée Ilibagiza. Ilibagiza grew up in a country she loved, surrounded by a family she cherished. But in 1994 her idyllic world was ripped apart as Rwanda descended into a bloody genocide. Her family was brutally murdered during a killing spree that lasted three months and claimed the lives of nearly one million Rwandans.

Miraculously, Immaculée survived the slaughter. For 91 days, she and seven other women huddled silently together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor's home while hundreds of machete-wielding killers hunted them. It was during those endless hours of

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unspeakable terror that Immaculée discovered the power of prayer, eventually shedding her fear of death and forging a profound and lasting relationship with God. She emerged from her bathroom hide-out having truly discovered the meaning of unconditional love - a love so strong that she was able to seek out and forgive her family's killers.

Greater Baton Rouge area residents interested in participating in OBOC are encouraged to visit the program's Web site at [www.ReadOneBook.org](http://www.ReadOneBook.org). There, participants can learn more about the book and its author, download a discussion guide and obtain a complete schedule of upcoming events surrounding the OBOC Summer Selection project. Visitors to the site are also able to download free bookmarks, posters, postcards and Web buttons to use as tools to encourage others to read the book and join the discussion. Image downloads of the book cover and author's photograph are also available under the "media resources" section of the Web site.

Readers of *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* will have the opportunity to meet the book's author and ask her questions during a public event from 7-8 p.m. on Thursday, July 31 at LSU's Cox Communications Academic Center for Student Athletes. The Cox Center is located on the corner of Fieldhouse and N. Stadium Drives on the LSU Campus.

The OBOC project is an outgrowth of LSU's Summer Reading Program, which requires all incoming LSU freshman to read a common book and discuss that book within classes taken throughout the freshmen year. For the third consecutive year, the program was expanded to include the Baton Rouge community.

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