

# Luminous Dark

Alain Emerson



MuddyPearl

'Quite simply, one of the most powerful books I have ever read.' Rt Revd Harold C Miller, Bishop of Down & Dromore

Alain Emerson felt like the luckiest man in the world. The talented pastor of a thriving church and national director of a prayer movement, he had found and married Lindsay, the girl of his dreams, his soulmate. He could never have imagined that in a matter of months he would be nursing his beautiful twenty-three-year-old wife through the final stages of cancer, and would find himself as a young widower, distraught and alone...

In *Luminous Dark* Alain walks through the stages of grief, pain and shock, choosing to lean into the pain, and to face God with his disappointment. He experiences the bewildering silence of God, the absence of simple answers, and life in the dark tunnel of despair. Finding great comfort from the Psalms and the work of writers who truly understand – Wiesel, Brueggemann, Moltmann – Emerson wrestles with God and with his grief.

Through this, he emerges with a stronger and deeper faith, and a sense of having seen God's face – the one who walks beside us, suffers and weeps with us, and who ultimately restores our joy.

## Author

**Alain Emerson** is Irish National Director of 24-7 Prayer and a lead Pastor at Emmanuel Church, a thriving young church in Lurgan, Northern Ireland. Alain has a passion to see God do a 'new thing' in Ireland. He is married to Rachel and they have two daughters, Annie and Erin.

Alain is a former Irish league footballer who now enjoys watching sport rather than playing it, especially the mighty Liverpool! He enjoys hanging out with friends, reading and helping his wife run a dental practice.

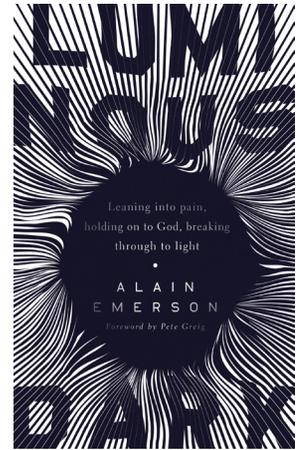
'God doesn't give us answers. In the silence he gives us himself - bigger than our pain, beyond our explanations, closer than our breath.'

## Readership

- Anyone who has experienced or is currently experiencing bereavement, grief and suffering
- Their families and those who are caring for them
- Christians struggling with unanswered prayer and disappointment with God
- Pastoral care teams

## Key Selling Points

- Help for those experiencing loss to fully face and work *through* their grief, and into a deeper understanding of God and a stronger faith in him
- Tackles the difficult question of 'Why God?' in a deeply honest way
- Foreword by Pete Greig, director of 24-7 Prayer
- Told with real honesty, understanding and compassion
- Insight into the Psalms of lament
- Endorsements by John Lennox, Keith Getty, Bishop Harold Millar, Andrea Wigglesworth, Peter Lynas and Helen Warnock



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**Bic Codes:** HRCV (Christian life and practice); VFJX (Coping with death and bereavement); HRCX4 (Christian ministry and pastoral activity); HRCV9 (Personal Christian testimony and popular inspirational works)

**Rights:** World

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