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WANNA HANG OUT?



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Hannah Brencher: The Next Chapter

by ELIZABETH SEMKO on Nov 12, 2013 • 12:12 pm

1 Comment

FROM OUR HEART TO YOURS



Hannah Brencher may have graced the screens of Love Twenty readers twice already, but Hannah is not one to stand still. The creator of [The World Needs More Love Letters](#) is on to her next adventure – writing a book – in between speaking engagements, workshops and all that letter writing.

The book, titled “If You Find this Letter,” tells the story of the 25-year-old’s past three years and how she came to create an international organization starting with one simple letter of encouragement to a distraught woman on the New York City subway.

The book follows how Hannah spent the next year writing love letters to anyone who requested one on her blog and how, eventually, she turned that letter writing into an organization.

“I’d written a blog post and the blog post went viral, and so I spent the next year writing 400 letters to strangers and connecting with them and had no intention of starting an organization at all until a *Wall Street Journal* reporter reached out to me and wanted to put me in a piece, and I immediately got shrouded with all this fear of like, ‘Am I going to have to

write love letters to every person at the *Wall Street Journal*?’ I got very nervous, and so I built a website within that week. It blew up in a way that I never imagined, and now it’s about 20,000 people that are involved.”

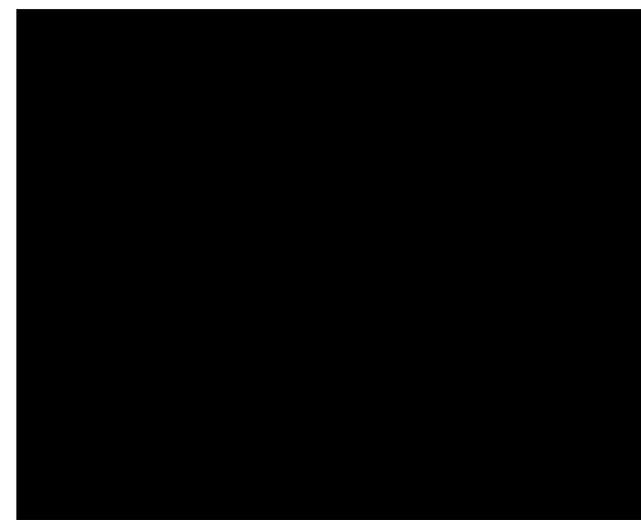
Today, those 20,000 participants and the More Love Letters team spread love and encouragement by writing love letters for others to find all over the world. 49 different countries, to be exact.

It wasn’t until Hannah was featured as a TED Talk speaker, however, that the idea for a book came about.

“I think in everything that’s happened so far, it’s just been a lot of momentum that I never really got to look up and be like, ‘What is going on?’ So once the TED Talk went online, agencies started approaching me saying, ‘You know, you really should think about writing a book and you should get the story out before somebody else does,’” Hannah explained. “That’s really where it got inspired was knowing that the story needed to be out there, especially because if you don’t put the story down on paper, you just share the story over and over again with people speaking, when really somebody could have something to hold in front of you.”

Through the book, Hannah hopes to shed light on how everyone deals with feelings of worthlessness and not knowing how to love themselves.

“We live in a world, it’s like, ‘Learn how to love yourself, or you’re never going to be able to love other people,’ and I think it’s kind of backwards. I think that if we could learn how to love other people, we might fall into rhythm with learning to love ourselves. And so it’s kind of an unconventional love story in the sense of not falling in love with a boy, but learning how to fall in love with the world,” Hannah said.



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