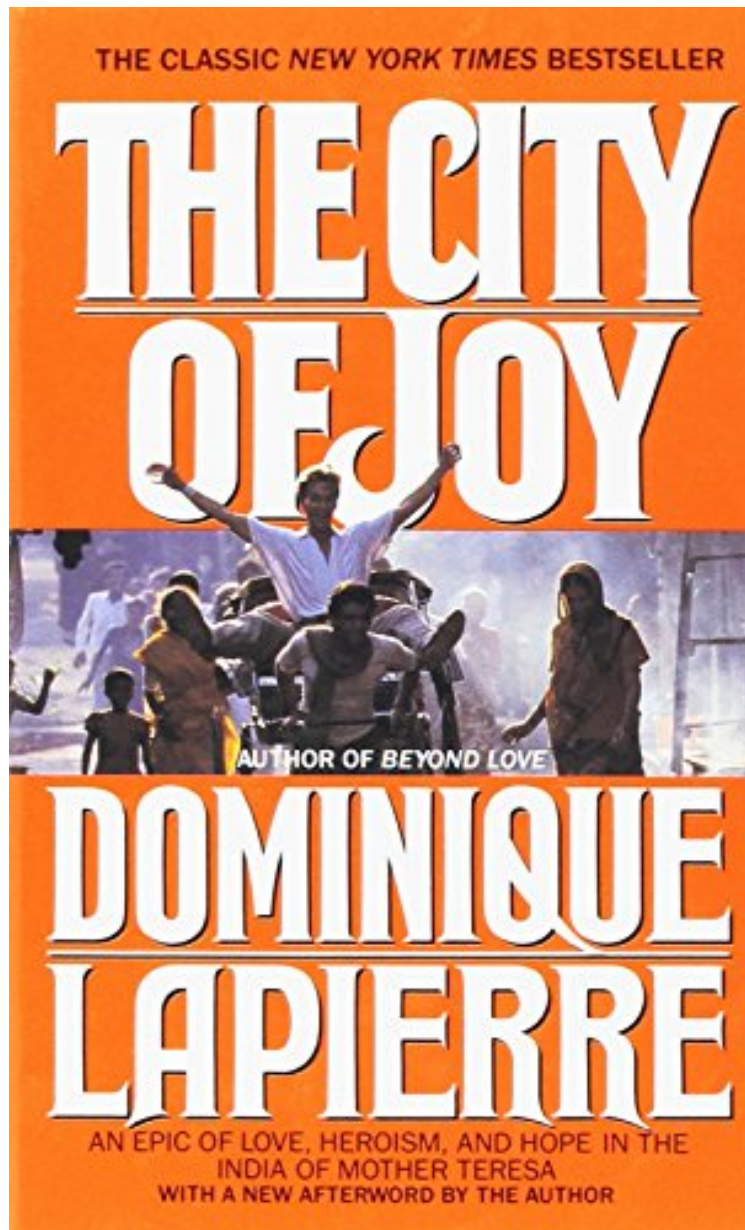


## The City of Joy

*Dominique Lapierre*

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**Dominique Lapierre : The City of Joy** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The City of Joy:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. LaPierre documents every word with real facts By Nancy

Fabrizio LaPierre helped to write *O Jerusalem* and *Is Paris Burning?*--both great books that are documented by facts. In *The City of Joy*, LaPierre tells the stories of families and priests and others (haven't finished it yet) and gives a truthful feel for Calcutta with its sadness, its greatness, its smells and feels. Our church has a mission there in the city. I am enjoying "seeing and feeling" the city even though I cannot physically go there. I will share it with my pastor, on the board of the mission and his daughter who is there as a missionary. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Strange name for such a desolate place, but, then again, maybe not. By M. Darcy This book told the story of a city, its inhabitants and their coping strategy. The "city of joy" is at the bottom of the list of wealthy places to live. A priest goes to live among the poorest of the poor and this is the tale of how he adapted and what he learned. The book was totally mesmerizing. You really become involved in the lives of everyone. It was an emotionally exhausting journey but well worth it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Buy This Book! By Jim A. A great book. Fast read. Very entertaining.

Made into a movie starring Patrick Swayze, this is the inspiring story of an American doctor who experienced a spiritual rebirth in an impoverished section of Calcutta.

About the Author DOMINIQUE LAPIERRE has touched many people through his life and work. His first taste of fame followed the summer when he was 17 years old and left Paris with US\$30, worked aboard a ship, disembarked in the United States and managed a 30,000-mile jaunt around North America. This adventure led to Lapierre's first best-selling book, *A Dollar for a Thousand Miles*. Since then, he has continuously searched for new messages and stories. While completing military service in 1954, Lapierre met an American soldier named Larry Collins. An everlasting friendship-and a valuable partnership-sprang from this meeting. Years later, they would collaborate on some of the century's most memorable books including *Is Paris Burning?*, which was made into a major motion picture boasting 30 international stars;...*Or I'll Dress You in Mourning*, *O Jerusalem*, *Freedom at Midnight*, *The Fifth Horseman*, books read by millions of readers in more than 30 languages. Lapierre's solo work have been equally impressive. His book *Freely on the Soviet Roads* was another best-seller, and he followed with *Chessman Told Me*, a book about the famous convict Caryl Chessman, who confessed to Lapierre before meeting his death at San Quentin. Lapierre's book, *Beyond Love*, a reconstruction of the discovery of the AIDS virus, was another world best-seller. In 1981, Lapierre founded a humanitarian association rescuing leper children from the slums of Calcutta, which is supported by half the royalties from his literary successes. Lapierre's time in Calcutta gave him still another best-seller, *The City of Joy*. This book, which was made into a major motion picture starring Patrick Swayze, has sold over seven million copies. It tells the epic survival story of the population of one of India's poorest slums. It was rewarded with the prestigious U.S. literary Christopher Award. While researching in Calcutta, Lapierre became a close associate of Mother Teresa who gave him the exclusive authorization to write a film on her life and the work of her sisters, the Missionaries of Charity. With Geraldine Chaplin playing the role of Mother Teresa, the film *Mother Teresa-In the Name of God's Poor* was aired, at prime time, on the Family Channel in the U.S. and several European channels. Lapierre's script has been nominated by the prestigious Humanitas Prize for communicating the best values. Lapierre's last book *A Thousand Suns* is currently a huge best-seller in Europe. It appeared in March 1999 in the U.S. With its royalties, the author has been able to expand his humanitarian action in India to eradicate tuberculosis in over 1,200 villages of the Ganges delta.