



Krista Hanley

Writer, Speaker, Violence Prevention Educator

Krista Hanley's work lives at the intersection of trauma, creativity, and empowerment. A survivor of the tragedy at Columbine High School, she writes and speaks about transforming trauma into meaning. Her debut book, ***How to Survive a Mass Shooting: A Columbine Memoir*** (Motina Books 9/2026) explores her life before and after Columbine. Her award-winning creative nonfiction has appeared in the Los Angeles Times, Huffington Post, Memoir Magazine, and she has been featured on BBC, NPR, ABC, and Colorado Public Radio.

Krista is the co-owner of We Are Safer Together, where she facilitates trauma-informed self-defense and empowerment programs for individuals, schools, and organizations. With more than a decade of experience in violence prevention training, she integrates somatic awareness, boundary-setting skills, and prevention education into practical, ethical, and trauma-informed safety programming.

Signature Talks & Workshops:

Through keynotes, workshops, and writing, Krista equips audiences with tools to reclaim agency, find their story, cultivate resilience, and build safer communities.

- Unlock Your Power: Safety Strategies for a Stronger, Safer You
- Ready to Tell: Writing Difficult Stories
- After the Unspeakable: Reclaiming Safety and Voice After Trauma
- Yelling No: Empowerment Self-Defense as a Vital Life Skill
- Emotionally Safe Events: How to be a Trauma-Informed Event Planner, Speaker, or Facilitator

Experience:

- Survivor of mass violence
- Long-term trauma recovery
- Trauma-informed Empowerment Self Defense instructor
- Published writer
- Keynote speaker
- Experienced workshop facilitator
- Artist and creative
- Safety consultant
- Non-profit, event planning, and art management background

Contact:

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