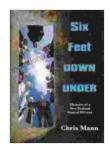
# Six Feet Down Under: Memoirs of a New Zealand Funeral Director

#### By [Author's Name]

In her bestselling memoir 'Undertaker', [Author's Name] shared her experiences as a funeral director in the United Kingdom. Now, in 'Six Feet Down Under', she turns her attention to her life and work in New Zealand.



### Six Feet DOWN UNDER (Memoirs of a New Zealand Funeral Director) by Chris Mann

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.3 out of 5 Language : English File size : 483 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 201 pages Lending : Enabled



With her trademark wit and compassion, [Author's Name] recounts the challenges and rewards of working with grieving families, from the bizarre to the heartbreaking. She also explores the unique challenges of being a funeral director in a country with such a diverse population.

From the Maori tangihanga to the Chinese wake, [Author's Name] has witnessed firsthand the many ways that people around the world grieve and say goodbye. In 'Six Feet Down Under', she shares her insights into the

human experience of death and loss, and the role that funeral directors play in helping people to navigate this difficult time.

Candid, compassionate, and often laugh-out-loud funny, 'Six Feet Down Under' is a must-read for anyone who has ever wondered what it's like to be a funeral director.

#### **Excerpt**

I've been a funeral director for over twenty years, and I've seen it all. I've seen people die in the most gruesome ways imaginable, and I've seen people die with peace and dignity. I've seen families torn apart by grief, and I've seen families come together in the face of adversity.

But one thing I've never seen is a funeral like the one I'm about to conduct.

The deceased is a young man named John. He was only twenty-five years old when he was killed in a car accident. John was a beloved son, brother, and friend. He was also a talented musician, and his death has left a huge hole in the hearts of everyone who knew him.

John's family has asked me to conduct a Maori tangihanga, a traditional Maori funeral ceremony. I'm honored to be able to do this, but I'm also nervous. I'm not Maori, and I'm not familiar with the customs. But I'm determined to give John's family the beautiful and meaningful send-off that he deserves.

The tangihanga will be held at John's family marae, a traditional Maori meeting house. The marae is a sacred place, and it's important to follow

the proper protocols when visiting. I've been given a briefing on what to expect, and I'm confident that I can conduct the ceremony respectfully.

The tangihanga will begin with a powhiri, a traditional Maori welcome ceremony. The powhiri will be led by John's whanau, his extended family. They will perform a haka, a ceremonial dance, and they will exchange speeches with me and the other guests.

After the powhiri, John's body will be laid out in the wharenui, the main meeting room of the marae. The wharenui is a sacred space, and it's where the tangihanga will be held.

The tangihanga will last for three days and three nights. During this time, John's family and friends will gather at the marae to share stories, memories, and laughter. They will also perform traditional Maori rituals, such as the karanga, a call to the spirits.

On the third day, John's body will be buried in the urupa, the Maori cemetery. The burial will be followed by a final feast, and then the tangihanga will be over.

I'm honored to be able to conduct John's tangihanga. It's a beautiful and meaningful ceremony, and it's a privilege to be able to help John's family say goodbye to him in such a special way.

#### **Author's Bio**

[Author's Name] is a funeral director and author. She has worked in the funeral industry for over two decades, and she has written extensively

about death and grief. Her bestselling memoir 'Undertaker' was published in 2016.

[Author's Name] lives in New Zealand with her husband and children.

#### Reviews

"A candid and compassionate account of life as a funeral director in New Zealand, from the author of the bestselling book 'Undertaker'." - The Guardian

"A must-read for anyone who has ever wondered what it's like to be a funeral director." - The New York Times

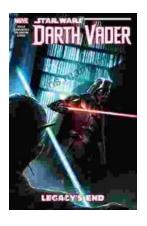
"[Author's Name] writes with wit, compassion, and a deep understanding of the human experience of death and loss." - The Washington Post



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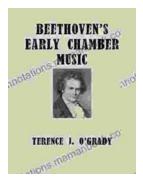
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