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*The following speech was delivered by **Joshua Mentz** at the book launch of 'Enter'. You can read a report of the book launch [here](#). You can view Josh's speech [here](#). You can gain a sense of the presentations seen as a whole [here](#).*

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And so I was a very young child when I learnt that my father, Hendrik, is pretty eccentric [*laughter*]. It took me quite a few more years to discover he's actually quite a wise guy. I've got a friend, Louis, who called Hendrik the wise man and I think that there is some wisdom in him and it has developed in him over the years - I think, as well – that he's wired differently from other people and I think people find this quite intriguing. People are attracted by it. And, ja, communities do tend to form around him. Hendrik's definitely had a very hard life. He's had some really dark years. Generally I haven't known about them when they're happening. I hope they're not happening now [*laughter*]. Ja, he's certainly been through a lot and he's also a brave man to have faced that head on and gone through it on his own without support from his family. He's also brave in that he's laid himself bare in the form of this book. He basically describes the whole process: what he went through, how it felt and the result. And I think that it's quite an intimate read. One really gets to know him quite well. Aside from the autobiographical aspects of the book, I think the main thrust is there's a narrative in the book of where we as a society are in association with our psyches and how that plays out and how that impacts, how we treat each other, how we treat ourselves, how we treat our planet, how we treat animals and so on. I think it's an important book, and it will be good for a lot of people to read it because it will have a positive effect on the readers. I appreciate that the book is highly coherent. Hendrik put a lot of effort into writing this book. He spent many, many, many years writing the book and many years of experience went into the book so in many respects it is his life's work. It's also an engaging read. I enjoyed it. I read it remarkably quickly - twice and I'm sure you will enjoy it too. Based on all of that I want to say that I highly encourage you to buy yourself a book, buy one for everyone that you know and we're selling them at the table at a R100 a pop.