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Advance Praise for Anna Quindlen's LOUD AND CLEAR

“In her first retrospective essay collection since **Thinking Out Loud** (1993), best-selling author and Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Quindlen continues to unscramble gnarly social issues with splendid clarity and pithiness, wit and compassion and uncommon common sense.... So true is Quindlen's moral compass, and so lucid, vital, and forward-looking are her insights, that her opinion pieces not only stand the test of time but also provide an invaluable gage of where we've been and where we're going....

Quindlen is a tonic for mind and soul.”

--*Booklist*

“Quindlen . . . couldn't have picked a more apt title . . . Whether readers agree with Quindlen's opinions on everything from youth culture to gun control, these razor-sharp musings will open avenues of debate and discussion long after the book is closed.

Quindlen is at the top of her game . . .”

--*Publishers Weekly*

In **LOUD and CLEAR** (Random House; On Sale Date: April 6, 2004; Publication Date: April 13, 2004; \$24.95), Anna Quindlen, one of America's favorite novelists and a Pulitzer-Prize winning columnist, once again gives readers opinions, insights and reflections about current events and modern life.

With her trademark insight and her special ability to convey the impact public events have on ordinary lives, Quindlen here combines commentary on American society and the world at large with reflections on being a woman, a writer, and a mother. In these pieces, first written for *Newsweek* and *The New York Times*, **LOUD and CLEAR** takes on topics ranging from social change to raising children, from the political and emotional aftermath of September 11 to personal values, from the impact of global events to the growth that can be gained by spending summer days staring into the middle distance. In **LOUD and CLEAR**, as in **Living Out Loud** and **Thinking Out Loud**, Quindlen is one of today's most important communicators on social and cultural matters, and prompts readers to look at themselves and the world, serving as a catalyst for both social and personal change.

About the Author: Anna Quindlen is the bestselling author of four novels (**Blessings**, **Black and Blue**, **One True Thing**, and **Object Lessons**) and four nonfiction books (**A Short Guide to a Happy Life**), **Living Out Loud**, **Thinking Out Loud**, and **How Reading Changed My Life**). She has also written two children's books (**The Tree That Came to Stay** and **Happily Ever After**). Her *New York Times* column, “Public and Private” won the Pulitzer Prize in 1992. Her column now appears every other week in *Newsweek*.