



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Year in Review:

*Brian Luu's Flashlight in the Ocean
Continues to Illuminate Lives Worldwide*

FRANKLIN, TN — One year after its powerful debut, *Flashlight in the Ocean* by Brian Thuan Luu stands as a movement of remembrance, resilience, and renewal. Since its release on April 30, 2025, the book has traveled far beyond its pages, reaching audiences across the United States and internationally, inspiring readers with a story that began in the shadows of the Vietnam War and continues to shine as a beacon of hope.



Originally chronicling Brian's escape from Vietnam as a thirteen-year-old refugee, surviving ten days stranded on a coral reef before reaching safety, *Flashlight in the Ocean* has resonated deeply with readers from all walks

of life. His journey from displacement to building a thriving life in America has proven to be a universal testament to perseverance, faith, and the enduring human spirit.



Over the past year, the book's impact has been both wide-reaching and deeply personal. From early media features and interviews, including appearances on *New York Trend* and on **WHPC 90.3 FM**, to an expanding series of press coverage across national and international platforms, Brian's voice has steadily grown in influence.



The momentum extended into a national book tour that brought Brian face-to-face with readers in New York, New Jersey, Tennessee, California, Georgia, Virginia, and beyond. Notably, his appearances in Franklin marked a significant milestone, during which he received official proclamations from civic leaders recognizing both the literary achievement and the cultural importance of his story. In July 2025, *Flashlight in the Ocean* was honored with the **International Impact Book Awards**, further cementing its place as a work of lasting significance. The recognition affirmed what readers already knew: this is a story that transcends borders, generations, and backgrounds.



Beyond awards and appearances, the book's influence has extended into community engagement. From veteran organizations to cultural centers and immigrant communities, Brian has used his platform to foster dialogue about resilience, identity, and the meaning of home. His return trip to Vietnam in late 2025 alongside his wife Jennifer, marked a deeply personal full-circle moment, reconnecting past and present in a way that continues to shape his message moving forward.



Reflecting on the year, Brian shares that the journey of *Flashlight in the Ocean* is only just beginning. With ongoing speaking engagements, continued book signings into 2026, and early conversations about a potential film adaptation, the story continues to evolve, reaching new audiences while deepening its impact on those who have already embraced it.

At its core, *Flashlight in the Ocean* remains what it has always been: a light carried through darkness, a reminder that even in the most uncertain moments, hope can guide the way forward.

A Few Memorable Dates

- 03/02/25 Podcast interview with Justin Williams from *New York Trend*
- 03/26/25 Interview with Hollie McKay, a former *Fox News* Journalist
- 04/06/25 Press Release with Hollie McKay from *Substack*
- 04/29/25 *New York Trend* Press Release by Dr. Teresa Williams
- 04/30/25 Live interview on 90.3 WHPC with Marjorie Morales at Hofstra University.
- 05/2025 Press Release from *Nguoi Viet Daily News*
- 05/03/25 1st Book Signing at Vibrance 360, 25 Northern Blvd, Greenvale, NY
- 05/10/25 2nd Book Signing at 1931 Lincoln Hwy, Edison, NJ 08817
- 05/17/25 3rd Book Signing at 90-02 Queens Blvd, Elmhurst, NY
- 05/2025 Press Release from *Nguoi Viet Daily News*
- 06/03/25 Press Release from *PLA Media* (Nashville)
- 06/13/25 *Fox4 News* Press Release
- 06/2025 Press Release from *Vietnam Free Press*
- 06/24/25 Press Release from *Digital Journal Inc.* by Markos Papadatos
- 06/27/25 4th Book signing at VFW Post 4893 Vietnam Veterans Chapter, Franklin, TN
- 06/28/25 5th Book signing at the Williamson County Archives in Franklin, Tennessee, with Dr. Ming Wang of Wang Vision Institute. Received proclamations from:
- **Dr. Ken Moore**, Mayor of Franklin, Tennessee
 - **Rogers C. Anderson**, Mayor of Williamson County, Tennessee
 - **Lee Reeves**, Representative of the 65th House District
 - **Todd Warner**, Representative of the 92nd House District
 - **Jake McCalmon**, Representative of the 63rd House District
 - **Randy McNally**, Speaker of the Senate
 - **Jack Johnson**, Senator of the 27th District
- 07/2025 Winner of 2025 International Impact Book Awards
- 07/10/25 6th Book signing at MGM Grand, Las Vegas

07/13/25 7th Book signing in LA at Pensee Tim Dance 9567 Garvey Ave, S. El Monte, CA

07/14/25 Visited the American Legion Hollywood Post 43, CA

08/30/25 Meeting with Donna Rowe, a Vietnam Veteran nurse at Marietta Diner, GA

08/31/25 8th Book signing in Atlanta, 4545 Timmers Way, Norcross, GA 30093

09/02/25 Live interview at VSAM 1040 Vietnamese Radio Station, Norcross, GA

09/04/25 Press Release from Williamson Herald by Carole Robinson, Franklin, TN

10/04/25 9th Book signing at Crown Dance Studio 2820 Dorr Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22031

10/24/25 10th Chinese book signing at Crown One, 34-20 Linden Pl, Flushing, NY (Arranged by Sandra Wong). Received a citation from **Ron Kim, Assemblyman**

11/19/25 11th Book signing at Hai Hong's office on Prince Street, Flushing, NY

12/2025 Vietnam Trip: Brian takes his wife Jennifer for the first time to visit his hometown

02/08/26 12th book signing at Sheraton Hotel, Flushing, NY

03/01/26 13th book signing at Canton House, 2255 Pleasant Hill Rd, Duluth, GA

About the Author

Brian Thuan Luu is an entrepreneur, musician, and storyteller whose life journey spans continents and cultures. From his beginnings in Vietnam to building a successful life in the United States, his work reflects a deep commitment to resilience, community, and inspiration.

Media Contact

Robbie Grayson III
Traitmarker Media, LLC
traitmarker@gmail.com
www.traitmarkermedia.com

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