

## The voice of terrorism victims

This article highlights the voices of victims of terrorist attacks, who tell their stories in different ways. The following is a series of podcasts and writings that allow us to learn more about the aftermath and the difficult reconstruction of these subjects.

A way to keep the victims' voices heard.

« *Aziliz interviews young victims of terrorist attacks* »

Phosphore, 2020

<https://podcast.ausha.co/journaliste-jeunesse/journaliste-jeunesse-phosphore-attentat>



This podcast deals with the subject of young victims of terrorism, who have experienced an attack or lost a loved one at a young age. A journalist contacted the AfVT in order to participate in one of the therapeutic stays for teenagers, the Papillon program. The journalist spent 4 days in the mountains with the medical team, mainly composed of psychiatrists, and with the young people following this program.

She relates her experience, her exchanges and what she was able to conclude: "*these young people have lived through something horrible in their lives, but in spite of everything they continue*".

« *November 13, 2015: 'a small part of me died at the Bataclan', says Arnaud* »

RTL, 2021

<https://www.rtl.fr/actu/justice-faits-divers/13-novembre-2015-une-petite-partie-de-moi-est-morte-au-bataclan-dit-arnaud-7900064040>



This podcast relays the story of Arnaud, the last hostage to be freed from the Bataclan. He talks about what he saw, heard and thought. He also shares how this hostage situation marked a turning point in his life - after thinking he was going to die, Arnaud decided to do what he had always dreamed of doing but had never dared to do, become an art teacher.

This podcast allows us to better understand the trauma of the victims of this hostage taking, by listening to what Arnaud felt during those long hours: "*the feeling of being a lost child*".

« *Words from the survivors* »

France Culture, 2020

<https://www.franceculture.fr/emissions/lsd-la-serie-documentaire/vivre-avec-le-terrorisme-14-les-mots-des-survivants>

This long format podcast retraces the aftermath of the attacks for the survivors. Through the testimonies of Émilie, Nicolas, Catherine and Frédéric, the feelings of the victims are exposed and detailed by those who lived and still live it.

Indeed, it is often a question of the consequences of an attack on the long term. One of the speakers speaks in particular about the suicidal desires that she feels since this night of terror.

## « *Diary of an ex-hostage of the Bataclan* »

David Fritz-Goeppinger, 2021 - ongoing

[https://www.francetvinfo.fr/faits-divers/terrorisme/attaques-du-13-novembre-a-paris/proces-des-attentats-du-13-novembre-2015/proces-du-13-novembre-le-journal-de-bord-d-un-ex-otage-du-bataclan-semaine6\\_4806179.html](https://www.francetvinfo.fr/faits-divers/terrorisme/attaques-du-13-novembre-a-paris/proces-des-attentats-du-13-novembre-2015/proces-du-13-novembre-le-journal-de-bord-d-un-ex-otage-du-bataclan-semaine6_4806179.html)



David Fritz-Goeppinger lived through the Bataclan attack and was taken hostage. At the time of the 'trial of the century', he recounts the days of the hearing in his diary, published weekly by the press.

He immerses us in his long days of observation through the expression of the victims' feelings, and their portraits.

## « *The Flap* »

Philippe Lançon, 2015

This novel written by Philippe Lançon, a survivor of the Charlie Hebdo attacks, talks about rebuilding after such an event. He, who was seriously wounded by a bullet and who saw the horror scene, talks about the aftermath, described as difficult but full of hope.

This book does not invite to reflect on the reasons of this attack but simply to listen and try to understand the experience of a deeply marked victim.

« *You will not have my hatred* »

Antoine Leiris, 2016

This book relates the testimony of Antoine Leiris, who lost his wife in the Bataclan concert hall. As a journalist, he chose to make his voice heard through his pen, to tell the story of a man who lost a loved one. He testifies about his daily life with his son, who he must now raise alone.

A touching story that exposes the suffering of the so-called 'collateral' victims.

« *Chronicles of a survivor* »

Catherine Bertrand, 2018



Catherine Bertrand, whose life was shattered on November 13, 2015, recounts her daily life as a survivor in comics. She addresses many elements that are found in victims of attack on the medium-long term, such as depression or persistent anxiety.

A humorous format that tackles a heavy subject.

« *The voice of victims against radicalization* »

French association for the victims of terrorism (AfVT), 2019/2021

<https://www.afvt.org/la-voix-des-victimes-contre-la-radicalisation/>

This series of videos relates testimonies of 17 victims of terrorism in an interview format. A wide range of attacks is represented, on French soil but also abroad. These victims, who survived or lost a loved one during an attack, come back on the difficult path and put words on the status of victim.

These strong testimonies truly allow the voice of the victims of terrorism to be heard.