



Tears of Glass

unique sea glass jewelry design



The top left corner of the page features decorative swirls in shades of grey and teal. The main title, "Tears of Glass", is written in a large, elegant, white cursive font across the top half of the page.

Tears of Glass

Her love so close
yet far away,
she cries her tears
he could not stay.

Her tears they turn
as they flow down,
to glass first sharp
then softened round.

By tides of life
the rhythmic beat,
the colors glow
each one complete.

Her heart is healed
by passing time,
her spirit soars
with love sublime.

Lisa Harvey

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Focusing on hand picked, naturally tumbled glass from the local area, we create beautiful, one of a kind pieces.

Whether you are looking for an already made design, or you have your own favourite piece of sea glass that you would like me to work with, Tears of Glass is a full service supplier of wishes and delights!

We are proud to use 100% original, unmodified sea glass, combined with top quality metals and materials.



Collection - Signature



*"A fascination with the Titanic
and a love of the Victorian-era was all
the inspiration Brenda Reichel needed
to create her new jewelry line."*

Halifax Chronicle Herald

Titanic



A lot of people don't realize the connection between Halifax, Nova Scotia and the Titanic. The deceased were shipped there after the tragic sinking. Some bodies were unclaimed and are buried in unmarked graves. It's a very emotional experience to visit there. I always wondered about those people, what personal trinkets they had on them at the time, what type of clothing and jewelry they wore. I would research that era and always had an interest. Visitors would visit my studio and ask where did the sea glass come from. I would

explain that it could be from shipwrecks and they would get all excited at the thought; maybe the Titanic! That's when I decided to make this collection. Titanic vintage inspired designs that might have been worn on the Titanic. The sea glass is very vintage and it goes well with the 1912 era and by adding feathers, butterflies, dragonflies, leaves, and filigrees, etc ... nature. With Czech beads, pearls and crystals gives them that old world charm.





Gloria

Rare Sea Glass Collection



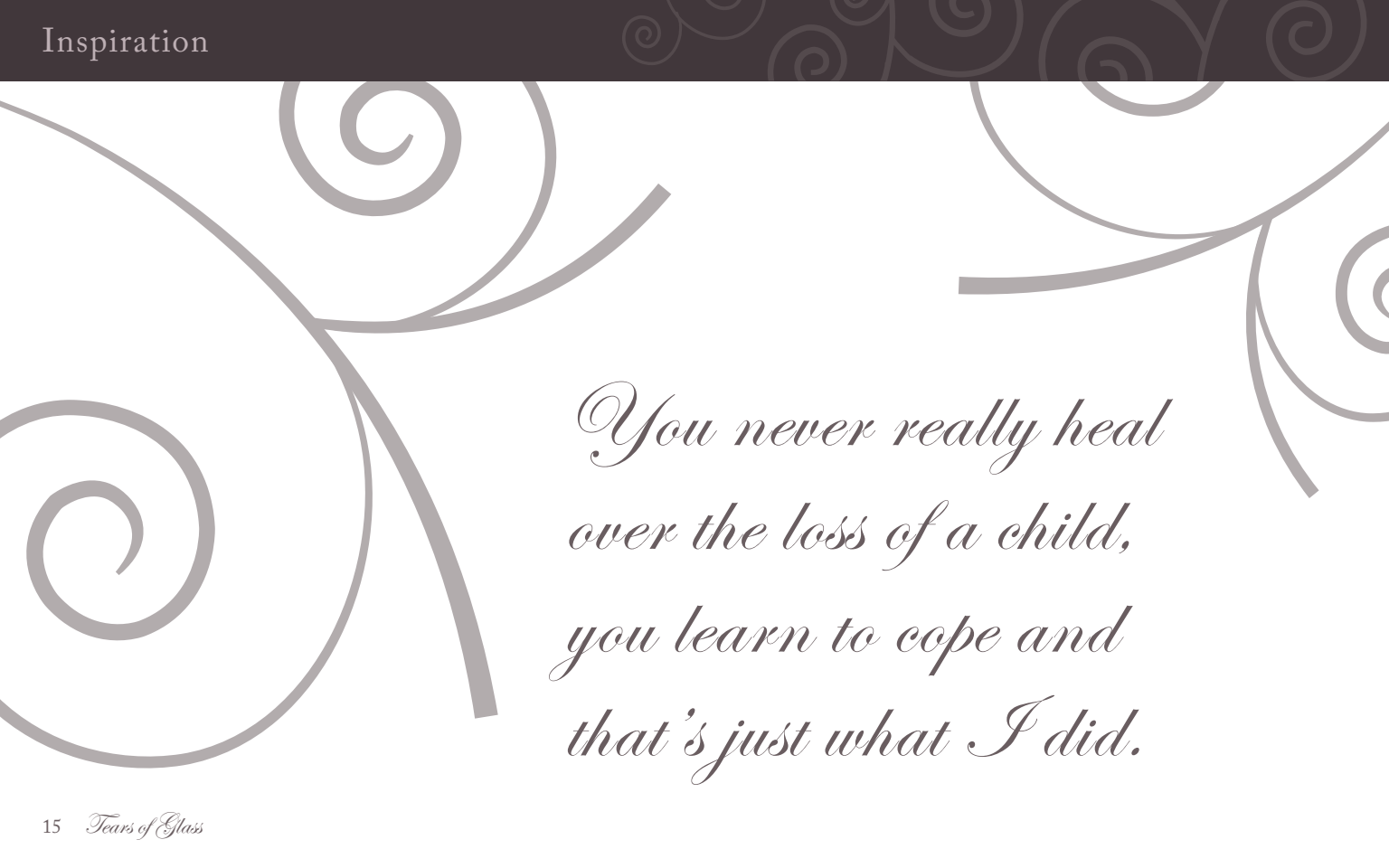





*G*loria was a great friend who had a passion for collecting sea glass along the shores of Inverness. She fought a 26 year battle of cancer that took her in the spring of 2012. She had a beautiful rare collection of sea glass that she admired. She would visit me in my studio and I would design jewelry for her daughter, granddaughters, and sisters with some of her very rare sea glass finds. She was a very classy lady and I bring that into my designs for this collection. Using cultured and Swarovski pearls, crystals and silver plated chains adding “Gling”

as my aunt would say, along with rare sea glass finds with colours of blues, mauves, olives, pinks and unusual shapes and markings.





*You never really heal
over the loss of a child,
you learn to cope and
that's just what I did.*



*T*here is something about walking along the shores of Cape Breton and picking sea glass along the way that has helped me. I've met so many people that also find their peace in this way, like the sister who lost her schizophrenic brother to suicide, or the mother of a bipolar son who lives on the streets; the woman who is fighting breast cancer and the lady whose husband found another younger woman. Everyone has a story walking on the beach looking for answers to cope with their tragedy. It can be very spiritual. I started making jewelry out of the very

thing that helped me cope with my son's drowning. That is how I came up with the name "Tears of Glass" – sea glass has a folklore meaning of mermaid's tears as well. I shed many tears walking the beach and so have many others. When I make my jewelry it takes my mind off everything else and I just concentrate on making that piece. Sometimes you will see a butterfly or a glass tear drop bead in my designs. These are just little reminders.



Collection - Signature

At the age of 15 I moved to Inverness, N.S. I was enamored with sea glass and was always collecting it. It was everywhere in my house, spilling over glass bowls and filling jars, but I never made anything with them.

A few years ago my husband and I moved up North. I took my sea glass with me, and began wondering how many other Cape Bretoners were living away, accompanied by their sea glass.

*T*ears of Glass is a jewelry studio and gallery that specializes in creating unique one of a kind jewelry pieces using local, hand combed sea glass. Inverness, Cape Breton is the picturesque backdrop for my studio and my life. The community and the local beaches inspire my creations and fuels my imagination.

I have designed pieces for 4 month old babies to 94 year old ladies. I am proud to use 100% original, unmodified sea glass, combined with top quality metals and materials to produce

gorgeous jewelry. I am very happy to say that I am a member of “The Cape Breton Centre for Craft and Design”.

People from around the world visit my studio who are greeted by my two adopted dogs Gunnar a greyhound and Mandy a cockapoo.

Unique Sea Glass Jewelry is currently being sold in shops and galleries throughout the maritime provinces. To view my work please log on to www.tearsofglass.com and facebook.

*W*hat do you want people to feel when they wear your designs?

I want women to feel as if they were wearing the most rarest and most precious gem which has been tossed around in the ocean for centuries, off the shores of Cape Breton Island. Each piece of sea glass is unique and tells a story. "Elegance is the only beauty that never fades" –Audrey Hepburn. I want to take them where they can feel the sand between their toes, smell the ocean air, hear the crashing of the waves. Take them to a very peaceful place of relaxation and rejuvenation. I saw so many visitors come to our

Island from a big city and you can see the stress on their faces. They are so wound up like a clock and after spending time on the beach they are transformed similar to how the ocean transforms the sharp raw edges of the glass into a smooth elegant gem. A glass, broken, discarded, unwanted, gets in the ocean tossed around weathered, rounded, smooth and then becomes beautiful again. We can relate to this because like the glass we get smoothed and molded overtime after going through life's difficult situations that are thrown at us. So many people have survivor stories through sea glass. Either battles with an illness,

divorce, or losing a loved one. They can relate, picking sea glass helps them spiritually .

What inspired you to make jewelry?

I've always loved jewelry as long as I can remember. I couldn't wait for Halloween when I would get the chance to be a gypsy and wear all of my mother's costume jewelry. When I was a teenager, I would babysit and pick fruit so that I could go to this bead store called the purple door and buy beads to make rings and sew beads on my denims. Later on my mother owned a clothing store and I would

make chokers and earrings on the spot for customers to match their outfits. I love playing with colour and get inspired by my surroundings. My studio overlooks the ocean. In a given day I may see whales jumping, foxes playing, and bald eagles swooping down for fish and eels. We have the most gorgeous sunsets, every night there is a new pallet of naturally coordinated colours to inspire me!



Contact

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Pictures in high resolution are available on the website

Studio Hours

Most days:
10 am to 7 pm

Tears of Glass

Tears of Glass donated to:

Breastfest Silent Auction for Breastcancer

Inverness Tourism and Recreation

Inverness Art Centre

Stella Maris Parish

Inverness Cottage Workshop

Christmas in July

Jewelry Designer: *Brenda Reichel*

Assistant: *Betty Walker*

Model: *Laura Walker*

Photographer: *John Ratchford*

Francis MacDonald

Graphic Designer: *Julia Lerche*

