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The Death Of A Family



The Death of a Family

....A Tale of Financial Elder Abuse and Greed

By Karen Nichols Shields



Synopsis

Ryan, the eldest son of four children, systematically and lethally murders his family, without remorse or conscience. He abuses the trust placed in him by his dementia-afflicted mother and steals her lifesavings, leaving her a penniless pauper. More tragically, he robs her of her lifelong dream to have a perfect family and never be a burden to her children. This story is unique in its message and its form. It is narrated from Tessaâ™s viewpoint at the age in which she remembers her experiences. It begins with family vignettes that insert the reader, often times with humor, into the heart of the family. The second part of the story is set in present day and is narrated through dialogue, emails, and legal documents that accurately detail the workings of our judicial system. This story is a cautionary tale. It is the hard truth about the justice system, how it works and how it falls apart. It is about the worst kind of thief and a police detective that sanctions his actions. It is about how the system views elder abuse. It is about two sisters who fight for three years to right a terrible wrong, even after they were called squabbling siblings, were told to give up and were told to go away. In the end, their unshakeable bond rises like a phoenix from the ashes. This novel is timely, in that there are millions of baby-boomers to whom it will speak. Unfortunately, many have already experienced this familial crime. Our family was a victim. It can happen to you. Others, who may be put in these conditions, can use this novel as a reference and a guide as well as enlightenment.

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Customer Reviews

Although this book was free, I was disappointed after I started reading to find that at intervals some of the pages, the words were chopped off at the ends of lines. Made for interrupted reading. Possibly there's a function on the Kindle to change the font size to alleviate the problem but I haven't been able to find it. Some words were spelled incorrectly and some words used incorrectly. I'm not sure I'd recommend this book until it's edited!

The negative review notwithstanding, this book is a very good source of information about a growing issue in this country--elder abuse in one of the most insidious ways. Taking advantage of a parent by stealing their financial security is a reprehensible act. Even if the perpetrator is caught the damage can't be undone. Bringing about awareness of the problem and a way to navigate through it if you find yourself in a similar situation in your own family is the purpose of this book and it accomplishes that very well.

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