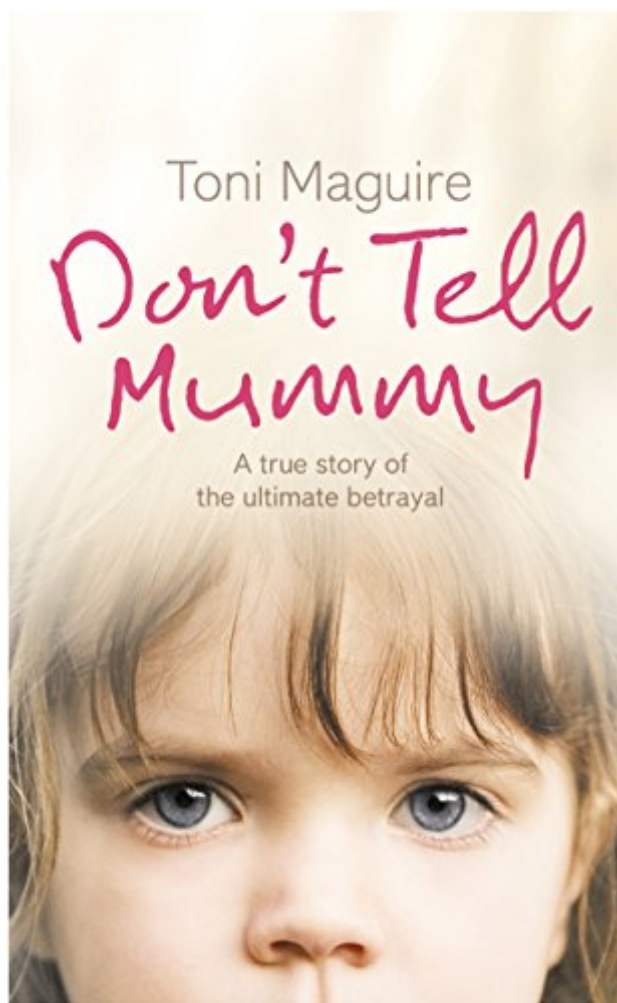


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Don't Tell Mummy: A True Story Of The Ultimate Betrayal



Synopsis

This heart-wrenching memoir from Toni Maguire tells the deeply moving story of an idyllic childhood that masked a terrible truth. Underneath her mother's gentility and her father's roguish charm lay horrifying secrets, which eventually led to their only child's near destruction. The first time her father made an improper advance on Toni, she was six years old. Her father warned her not to tell her mother, or anyone else, because they would blame her and wouldn't love her any more. It had to remain a secret. When she finally built up the courage to tell her mother what had happened, she was told never to speak of the matter again. With no one to turn to, isolated and alone in rural Ireland, the abuse continued unhindered. At fourteen Toni fell pregnant by her father, and when her state was discovered she was made to have a late abortion which almost killed her. The truth of her childhood could no longer be kept hidden but, just as her father predicted, Toni found herself judged and rejected by her family, teachers and friends. The blame and anger she was treated with only worsened when her father was sent to prison as a result of his actions. This is the compelling story of her struggle to put the ghost of her childhood to rest, and emerge ultimately triumphant.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An emotional, heartbreaking journey through Antoniette's childhood, molested and raped by her very own father. A string of crimes perpetrated repeatedly for several years under her very own mother's nose, who deliberately chose not to see, adding to the psychological side of the torture. The bottom line is, how could it all be? Unfortunately, it just was. Strictly speaking about the narrative, I believe that the sense of helplessness and hopelessness conveyed by the voice of the child Antoniette, combined with her solitude, innermost feelings, fears and desperation are very well depicted. I can only hope that Ms. Maguire found it therapeutic to write down her memories. One would hope that by reading her book the awareness of the general public becomes higher and that victims and abusers of similar crimes find the courage to face and speak about it, and get the necessary help.

I started reading this book on an out of town trip. It literally made me sick to my stomach. It was horrible reading how a child of 7 was brutalized by the people that were supposed to protect her from the monsters. What made it even worse was that when she finally did open up and tell about the abuse, she was outlawed by her family, her teachers, and her friends. It broke my heart to see how cruel someone could be treated. What made this book brilliant is that she not only survived it, she got thru it. I would definitely recommend this book, although it's not for the faint of heart.

This story blew me away. The treatment Toni had to endure during her abuse and after is appalling. Although sickening, Toni was able to express what happened without making you feel ill. I'm shocked at the loyalty towards her mother. Goes to show you what a child will 'ignore' to feel loved. Well written.

What a sad story. Just makes you sick when you read how a father treated his daughter and mom goes along with it. I know many children have suffered abuse of all kinds and shame on adults for letting that happen. Very good story, sad but true...

This is a really sad story but a book that needs to be read. I believe that some people in this world don't have any clue about what goes on in some children's lives and it is sad that the adults in this book turned a blind eye to what was going on to Toni. I don't understand the grandmother not

talking to her own granddaughter for the rest of her life because her son violated his own daughter. She was just an innocent child. I can't believe adults in that town isolated and treated a child that way. Makes me sad to know that we live in that kind of world where the very people who should help this child is turning on her and blaming her. It is not right to say it was her fault for not telling. She did tell her mother and even if she did not tell her mother, she was a child for crying out loud and she was scared! In this story, there is a grown man raping his own daughter and continues this sickness for 7 more years until she becomes pregnant and then when he is caught, the town blame this child. Adults, including family stand by this grown man that violated an innocent child. To me, the town that supported her father is no better than the perpetrator. It seems to me that the people that turned on this child are sick in the head. I feel so bad for Toni but I read your second book as well and happy to know that you have found happiness. God loves you.

Very sad but true story about a little girl who was mistreated in the worst possible way throughout her childhood. It's hard to believe a father could be so cruel and so hateful to his own flesh and blood. Her mother was no help and put her love or neediness for her husband ahead of the safety and well being of her daughter. I will never understand women who do that. Our job as mothers is to protect our children and to put their needs first. This sweet little girl survived the life of hell she was handed and triumphed in spite of it. Be sure to read the sequel "When Daddy Comes Home". Both books were very well written and the story so compelling I couldn't put it down.

This true story was heart wrenching, I felt both sorry and angry that a father could do this to his child, sorry that this child couldn't tell anyone and angry that a father thought it was his right to do this to a little girl, he should have been locked away forever. Very well written but I couldn't read it again, too sad.

A story so enraging that reading it makes you thankful it happened so long ago. Unfortunately the truth is it still happens to this very day. Sickening to think, but gratefully some do overcome such trauma to lead a decent life despite the obstacles of childhood

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