



Sickened: The True Story of a Lost Childhood

Julie Gregory

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A young girl is perched on the cold chrome of yet another doctor's examining table, missing yet another day of school. Just twelve, she's tall, skinny, and weak. It's four o'clock, and she hasn't been allowed to eat anything all day. Her mother, on the other hand, seems curiously excited. She's about to suggest open-heart surgery on her child to "get to the bottom of this." She checks her teeth for lipstick and, as the doctor enters, shoots the girl a warning glance. This child will not ruin her plans.

Sickened

From early childhood, Julie Gregory was continually X-rayed, medicated, and operated on—in the vain pursuit of an illness that was created in her mother's mind. Munchausen by proxy (MBP) is the world's most hidden and dangerous form of child abuse, in which the caretaker—almost always the mother—invents or induces symptoms in her child because she craves the attention of medical professionals. Many MBP children die, but Julie Gregory not only survived, she escaped the powerful orbit of her mother's madness and rebuilt her identity as a vibrant, healthy young woman.

Sickened is a remarkable memoir that speaks in an original and distinctive Midwestern voice, rising to indelible scenes in prose of scathing beauty and fierce humor. Punctuated with Julie's actual medical records, it re-creates the bizarre cocoon of her family's isolated double-wide trailer, their wild shopping sprees and gun-waving confrontations, the astonishing naïveté of medical professionals and social workers. It also exposes the twisted bonds of terror and love that roped Julie's family together—including the love that made a child willing to sacrifice herself to win her mother's happiness.

The realization that the sickness lay in her mother, not in herself, would not come to Julie until adulthood. But when it did, it would strike like lightning. Through her painful metamorphosis, she discovered the courage to save her own life—and, ultimately, the life of the girl her mother had found to replace her. **Sickened** takes us to new places in the human heart and spirit. It is an unforgettable story, unforgettably told.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Alicia Mendes:

Typically the book Sickened: The True Story of a Lost Childhood will bring you to the new experience of reading a book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book to learn, this book very appropriate to you. The book Sickened: The True Story of a Lost Childhood is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

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Catherine Graziani:

A lot of people said that they feel bored when they reading a guide. They are directly felt the item when they get a half parts of the book. You can choose typically the book Sickened: The True Story of a Lost Childhood to make your personal reading is interesting. Your current skill of reading ability is developing when you similar to reading. Try to choose basic book to make you enjoy you just read it and mingle the feeling about book and looking at especially. It is to be very first opinion for you to like to open a book and examine it. Beside that the reserve Sickened: The True Story of a Lost Childhood can to be your brand new friend when you're really feel alone and confuse in what must you're doing of the time.

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