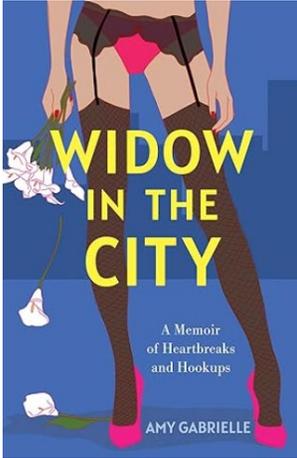




She Writes Press
Summer 2026 Nonfiction

Greg Brandenburgh
Biagi Literary Management



Widow in the City

A Memoir of Heartbreaks and Hookups

Amy Gabrielle

Selling points:

- "Engaging, personal, and sometimes-disturbing recollections of passion and grief."—*Kirkus Reviews*
- "Amy is indeed a great writer. And a beautiful, sexy woman."—**Paulina Porizkova, supermodel and author of *No Filter: The Good, the Bad, and the Beautiful***
- "In her raw, witty debut, Gabrielle details her rediscovery of desire, identity, and self-love after devastating loss."—**BookLife Reviews, Editor's Pick**

Blending the sensual candor of Cheryl Strayed's *Wild* with the emotional honesty of Nora McInerny's *It's Okay to Laugh*, this bold memoir is a tale of love, grief, midlife reinvention, and the unapologetic reclaiming of desire after devastating loss.

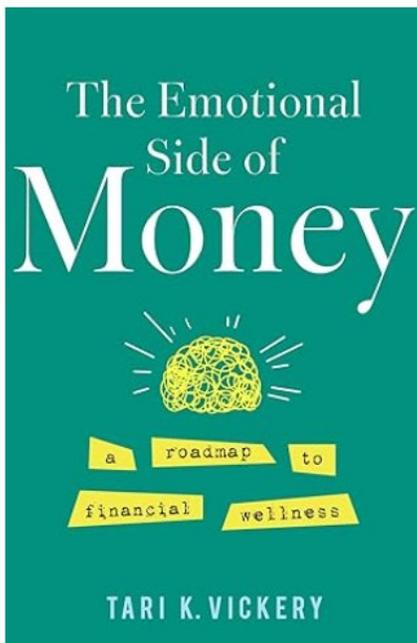
When Amy Gabrielle's husband died from cancer, her carefully constructed life crumbled. After three years of caregiving, the fifty-four-year-old widow found herself raising her neurodivergent son alone—and experiencing an unexpected sensual reawakening that both challenged and invigorated her.

Widow in the City chronicles her raw journey through grief and desire following her husband's death. From exploring dating apps and casual encounters to rediscovering her sensuality through lingerie and creative self-expression, she challenges cultural taboos about midlife female desire while fighting to rebuild her identity. As she grapples with the duality of mourning and loss of her husband while embracing her newfound freedom—she discovers that grief and pleasure can coexist in surprising ways.

This memoir illuminates the messy reality of reclaiming joy after devastating loss. Amy's transformation from a grieving widow to a woman fully embracing her authentic self offers a roadmap for anyone seeking to reinvent their life in response to sudden change.

About the author:

Amy Gabrielle is a New York-based writer and digital creator whose memoir and social media explore grief, desire, and life after loss following her husband's death. She shares her work on Substack's Absolute Pleasure and Medium outlets like The Memoirist and Slackiaw cultivating a vibrant community. She lives in New York. Visit her at <https://substack.com/@amygabrielle>.



The Emotional Side of Money
A Roadmap to Financial Wellness
Tari K. Vickery

Selling points:

- “Readers will find themselves in good hands . . . A sage and caring guide to facing one’s fears about money.”—*Kirkus Reviews*
- “... feels like a wise, compassionate friend, helping us discover why money so often brings stress. With warmth and clarity, she guides us through uncovering lifelong patterns and experiences...”—Julie Lythcott-Haims, New York Times best-selling author of *How to Raise an Adult*
- Uncover hidden beliefs shaping your financial choices daily.
- Learn practical steps to manage money-related stress.
- Build healthier habits for lasting financial and emotional freedom.

For fans of Brené Brown, Suze Orman, or Lynne Twist comes this transformative guide—an essential roadmap to uncovering the emotional roots of money struggles, transforming relationships, and finding true financial peace.

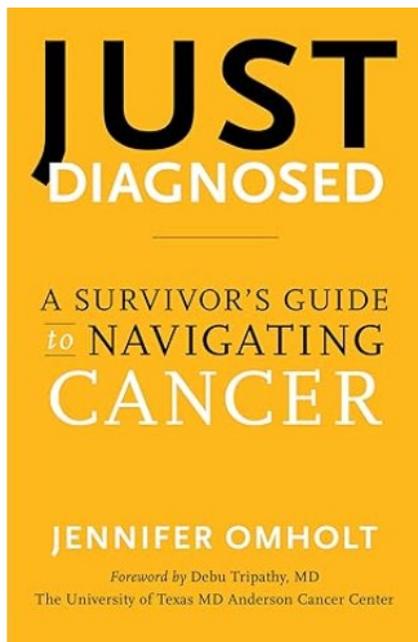
Have you ever wondered *why* you handle money the way you do? Why anxiety creeps in when you check your bank account, or why certain spending habits seem impossible to break?

In this eye-opening guide, author and financial wellness coach Tari Vickery explores the deep emotional currents that shape your financial life, taking you beneath the surface to reveal how childhood experiences, family dynamics, and societal messages silently influence every money decision you make. Through candid personal stories and compelling client experiences, Vickery shows how unresolved money trauma, emotional spending, and inherited beliefs can quietly control your financial reality—often more than income or education ever could.

But this isn’t just about awareness, it’s about healing. With compassion and clarity, Vickery offers a powerful path to understanding your money story and rewrite it. With her help, you’ll uncover the emotional patterns driving your financial behavior and learn how to build a healthier, more empowering relationship with money.

Whether you’re starting fresh or seeking a deeper shift, *The Emotional Side of Money* will help you release anxiety, reclaim your power, and finally feel at peace with your finances—from the inside out.

About the author: Tari K. Vickery, PhD, is a financial coach and founder of Life Matters Financial Group. A Stanford-trained sociologist, she blends research and experience to help readers transform emotional money habits into lasting financial wellness. Visit her at <https://www.tarikvickeryauthor.com>.



“What a treasure! A blow-up of the cover should be posted by the front entrance of all cancer centers. *Just Diagnosed* is an invaluable gift to people commencing their cancer journey who seek to increase their sense of control and become an active participant on their care team. Incredibly complete, detailed, user-friendly, and empowering!” —
Donald I. Abrams, MD, Professor Emeritus of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco



Just Diagnosed
A Survivor's Guide to Navigating Cancer
Jennifer Omholt
Foreword by Debu Tripathy, M.D.

Selling points:

- **Huge audience:** Over 2 million new U.S. cancer cases are reported annually.
- **Survivor insight, evidence-based advice, and a roadmap for survival.**
- **A companion for caregivers, clinicians, and support communities.**
- “...I have been asked to read and review a great many books on the cancer experience. *Just Diagnosed* is unquestionably one of the best and most useful.” —**Rachel Naomi Remen, MD, best-selling author of *Kitchen Table Wisdom*.**

For newly diagnosed cancer patients, a uniquely comprehensive and empowering guide offering all the information needed to navigate critical early decisions with clarity, confidence, and a greater sense of control.

“You have cancer.” Few phrases hit harder—or leave you feeling more lost.

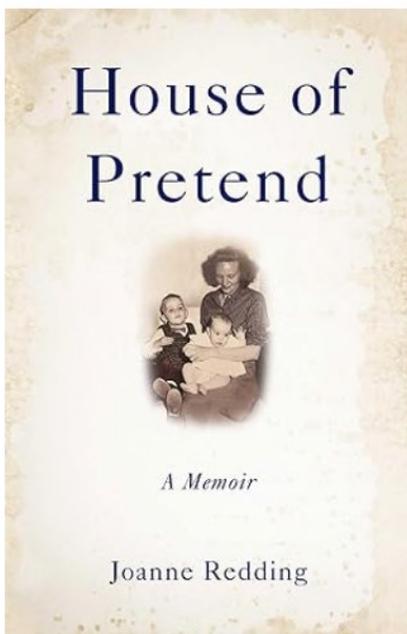
This is a compassionate resource for people reeling from the shock of a life-changing diagnosis. This practical guide empowers patients to take charge of their care from day one. With warmth and clarity, Omholt offers guidance on how to

- Enlist the help of loved ones
- Prepare for appointments
- Ask the right questions
- Build a trusted care team,
- Navigate insurance.
- Share the news.

In addition to logistical guidance, this book offers emotional support and evidence-based integrative therapies that support immune health and ease anxiety, depression, and fatigue. A dedicated chapter on financial resources also offers real-world tools for managing the high cost of cancer care.

With a foreword by Dr. Debu Tripathy of MD Anderson Cancer Center, *Just Diagnosed* draws on lived experience to help readers to feel less alone. ext step.

About the author: Jennifer Omholt holds a B.A. in English from Stanford University and has built a 40-year career in journalism, advertising, and brand strategy across tech, healthcare, education, and finance. Visit her at <https://www.justdiagnosed.com>.



“... immensely satisfying and resonant memoir should be a classic for years ...a good read—rich, unexpected, funny, heartbreaking, and, ultimately, full of grace and wisdom.”—**David Kirkpatrick, former president of Paramount Pictures and former production chief of Walt Disney Studios**



House of Pretend

A Memoir

Joanne Redding

Selling points:

- “a raw, unsentimental, and deeply human—an unmasking of survival, resilience, and self-worth.”—**Laura Munson, *New York Times* best-selling author *Wall Street's high-stakes world through a woman's raw experience*.**
- **Reveals the cost of family secrets—and the power of truth.**
- **Inspires readers to reclaim identity and self-worth after deep trauma.**

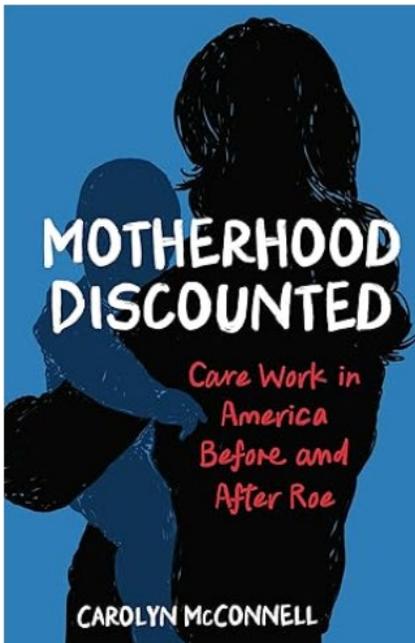
This raw, powerful memoir recounts one woman’s journey—from gritty 1970s Brooklyn to testosterone-fueled 1980s–1990s Wall Street and beyond—to reclaim truth, identity, and self-worth after trauma.

A powerful memoir of trauma, resilience, and female empowerment, *House of Pretend* tells the story of a girl who, raised in the shadow of her father’s death by an emotionally abusive, narcissistic mother, learns early to perform, to please, and to pretend—and spends the rest of her life struggling to unlearn those behaviors.

Determined to escape the silence and neglect of her childhood, Joanne claws her way into the male-dominated world of Wall Street as a young woman—only to find that success means nothing without self-worth. When her boss offers her a million dollars to have his child, she is forced to reckon with everything she’s buried: the deep ache of abandonment, years of chasing love in all the wrong places, and the belief that she’s undeserving of more. What follows is not a transformation into someone new but rather a fierce unmasking—a reclamation of the voice, worth, and identity she has had within her all along.

Offering a gripping blend of raw emotion and biting clarity, *House of Pretend* is about what happens when a woman stops waiting to be saved and instead saves herself—with grit, honesty, and just the right amount of badassery.

About the author: **Joanne Redding** grew up in Brooklyn and eventually made her way to Manhattan, then the suburbs of Westchester County, and finally Greenwich, CT. She holds a bachelor’s degree in French and a master’s in finance from NYU and is a certified Master Gardener with a degree in landscape design; over the years, she’s worked at an airport and an engineering firm, spent over fifteen years on Wall Street, and run her own landscape design business. She lives in New York.



"The author makes her case in supremely cogent and delightfully pointed terms, conducting an intensive interrogation of female oppression."—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

As right-wing movements worldwide demand that women embrace motherhood as a matter of national security—while continuing to denigrate support for families as parasitism—McConnell's message can't come soon enough."—*Kathryn Joyce*, author of *The Child Catchers and Quiverfull*



Motherhood Discounted

Care Work in America Before and After Roe

Kristine Rudolph

Selling points:

- **Hard-hitting care-economics analysis for modern moms .**
- **Reproductive-rights history meets personal stories**
- **"...Carolyn McConnell, whose bold and illuminating book exposes the myth of autonomy for what it is: a lie...McConnell offers a path forward, a declaration of dependence that demands we think, act, and count differently."—Robin D. G. Kelley, PEN America Open Book Award–winning author of *Thelonious Monk and Yo' Mama's DisFunktional***
- **Motherhood isn't a side job. It's the backbone of society**

Motherhood Discounted is about the price we all pay when care is treated as invisible. Carolyn McConnell shows how the work of raising children—work that keeps society running—gets ignored in paychecks, policies, and public life.

This book strips away the illusion that independence is normal. Every life depends on care, yet our systems act as if mothers should manage alone. McConnell explains how this myth shapes laws, workplaces, and culture, leaving parents squeezed and undervalued.

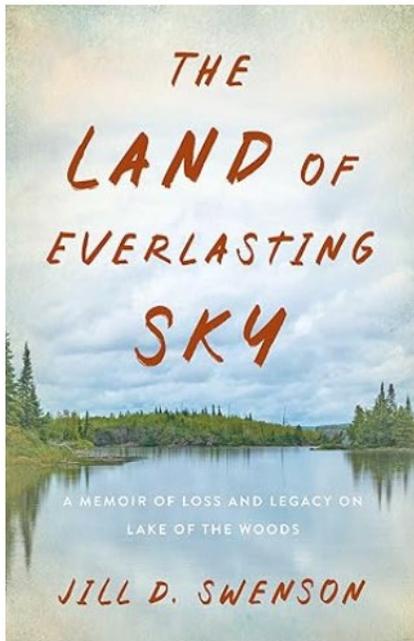
Through clear stories and sharp insight, McConnell reveals the real cost of discounting care: economic insecurity, stalled careers, and stress that ripples through families and communities. It's not just a private problem—it's a public failure.

This book is for anyone who has juggled work and family, wondered why the math never works, or felt the pressure to "do it all" without help. It's for readers who want fairness that includes caregiving, not punishing it.

McConnell doesn't stop at diagnosis. She points toward solutions—policies and cultural shifts that value care as essential, not optional. If you liked *Invisible Women* or *The Price of Motherhood*, this book takes the next step: challenging the structures that keep caregiving invisible.

Motherhood isn't a side job. It's the backbone of society. Until we treat it that way, everyone pays the price.

About the author: Carolyn McConnell is a lawyer and an activist dedicated to resisting attacks on public services. She has published extensively on reproductive rights, feminism, and women's history and holds graduate degrees in philosophy from Johns Hopkins University and nonfiction writing from the University of Iowa. She lives in Seattle, Washington. Visit her at <https://www.carolynmcconnell.org>.



The Land of Everlasting Sky A Memoir of Loss and Legacy on Lake of the Woods

Jill. D. Swenson

Selling points:

- A powerful memoir of land, loss, and legacy—where personal grief meets historical reckoning.
- Perfect for readers of *Finding Your Roots* and fans of memoirs that confront erased Indigenous histories.
- Think *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich—only this time, the history is personal, and the reckoning is real.
- “... Jill Swenson takes us on a uniquely absorbing journey into the past, through her own deeply meaningful relationships to people and place as well as through painful, painstaking research...” —Eleanor Henderson, author of *Everything I Have Is Yours*

For fans of the series *Finding Your Roots*, a compelling memoir about how land connects us all—and how, if we are to mend our relations to each other and the earth, we must first reckon with our past, no matter how distant, shameful, or tragic.

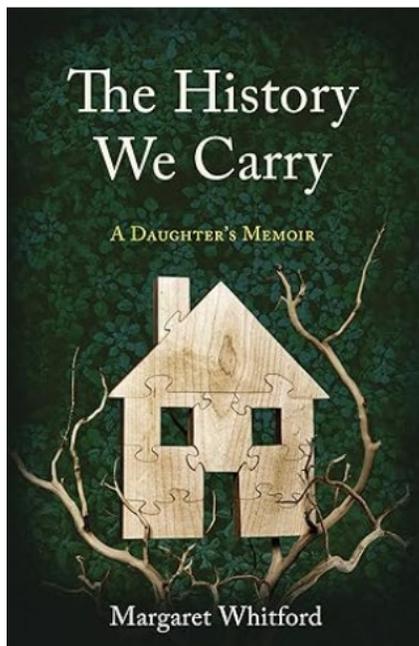
When Jill Swenson returns to her mother’s hometown after her funeral, she finds a new Seven Clans Casino under construction in Warroad, Minnesota, on Lake of the Woods. There, she learns, Red Lake Nation has recently dispossessed descendants of Ojibway spiritual leader Kakaygeesick from their land—land where the family has lived for the last two centuries—and has also denied them tribal membership.

In searching for answers, Jill meets the great-grandson of Kakaygeesick. Over weeks, months, and years, a friendship forms between them, and Jill gradually discovers what allotments, blood quantum, and the history of the Bureau of Indian Affairs have to do with her, the great-granddaughter of immigrants who homesteaded on reservation land. Estranged from her father, still mourning the suicide of her husband and the loss of their farm in upstate New York, and now grieving her mother’s death, Jill has spent decades trying to put the past behind her—but discovers the only path forward is to reckon with history.

Clear-eyed and yet deeply personal, *The Land of Everlasting Sky* is a compelling exploration of the history we inherit and our relationships to land and each other.

About the author:

Jill D. Swenson holds a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and taught journalism at Ithaca College. She's a literary consultant, former tenured professor, and founder of Swenson Book Development. She lives in Appleton, WI.



The History We Carry

A Daughter's Memoir

Margaret Whitford

Selling points:

- Exposes how intergenerational trauma shapes identity-and how to break free.
- Uncovers wartime and abuse histories that explain lifelong emotional distance.
- Daughter uncovers her mother's secrets, healing fractures in family bonds.
- Blends investigative interviews with raw emotion-offers clarity and catharsis.
- Ideal for readers exploring trauma, forgiveness and resilience after grief.
- Perfect for book clubs.

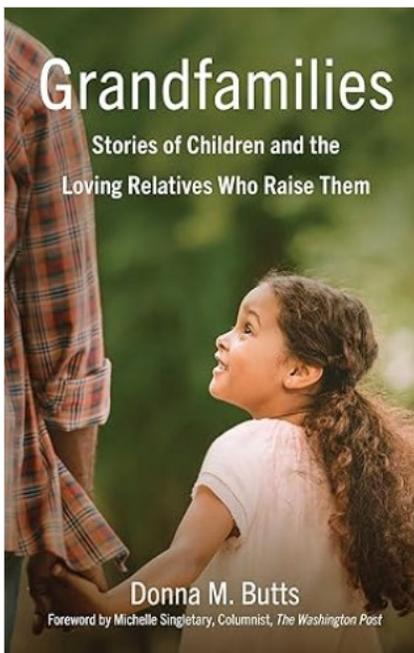
For fans of Jennette McCurdy's *I'm Glad My Mom Died*, a memoir for daughters who recognize that to truly understand themselves and the patterns of their lives, they must first understand their mothers and the forces that shaped these women.

When Margaret Whitford's mother was dying, she told those present that her daughter "had her history." This was true; Margaret had conducted interviews with her mother during the last decade of her life. But this didn't end their estrangement, and Margaret chose not to return to her mother's side during her final days.

In this memoir, Margaret confronts this decision by unearthing in her mother's traumatic history the roots of the emotional distance between them. She explores how a history marked by the devastation of World War II in Europe, a violent childhood home, and sexual assault accumulated into complex PTSD that shaped her mother and the way she parented Margaret as her firstborn and as a daughter—and, in turn, how Margaret carried her mother's trauma forward in her sense of self, in her relationships to others, and in the ways she navigated her world. Indeed, Margaret not only *had* her mother's history—she embodied it.

Whitford confronts the legacy of intergenerational trauma with wisdom and compassion, revealing how familial history shapes each of us but need not be wholly determinative of whom we become and how we choose to live.

About the author: Margaret Whitford spent twenty years championing social justice causes before turning to writing. She blends investigative rigor with emotional depth, exploring resilience and identity. She lives in Concord, Massachusetts, and southern France.



Grandfamilies

Stories of Children and the Loving Families Who Raise Them

Donna M. Butts

Selling points:

- **Essential guide for grandparents raising grandchildren in today's complex world.**
- **Offers practical strategies, emotional support, and legal resources for caregivers.**
- **Addresses challenges of kinship care with empathy and actionable solutions.**
- **Empowers families to build stability, resilience, and strong intergenerational bonds.**
- **Comparable to *The Kinship Parenting Toolbox* for practical advice and community focus.**
- **Over 6.5 million grandparents are raising their grandchildren.**

A powerful firsthand look into the lives of grandparents and other relatives stepping in to raise children—and the people and policies that help them thrive.

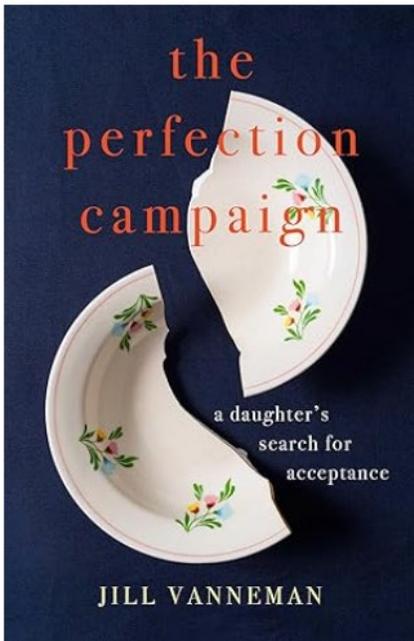
Today in the US, more than 2.4 million children whose parents are unable to care for them live in grandfamilies, where they are raised by grandparents or other loved ones. Until recently, their experiences have been all but invisible.

These relative caregivers do time in waiting rooms and court hearings, put themselves at financial risk, and sacrifice their own health, all with the dream of making a better life for the kids they love.

In *Grandfamilies*, Donna M. Butts, longtime executive director of Generations United, sheds light on the ongoing fight for the recognition and resources these families deserve. Through heartfelt personal accounts, grandfamily members of all ages and backgrounds share their experiences, giving voice to the millions across this nation who have come together in the spirit of hope and resilience to imagine a better future for their loved ones.

About the author:

Donna M. Butts, Marylhurst College alumna and Stanford Nonprofit Leaders graduate, led Generations United (1997–2025), testifying before Congress and UN panels, authored intergenerational policy works, won Eisner Prize (2015) and Jack Ossofsky Leadership Award (2004), named top nonprofit influencer.



The Perfection Campaign A Daughter's Search for Acceptance

Jill Vanneman

Selling points:

- Unflinching memoir about erasing flaws, embracing queer identity.
- Born with cleft, raised under ruthless perfection campaign.
- Triumphs through therapy, integrity, and unwavering self-acceptance.
- For fans of *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?*
- 1980s conservative backdrop intensifies conflict, liberates coming-of-age journey.

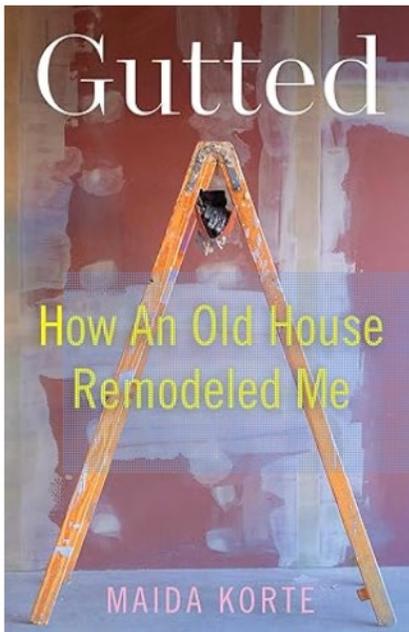
For readers of *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?*, a debut memoir about a woman born into a conservative family who spends decades grappling with self-acceptance and her parents' conditional love—until she finally learns how to love herself.

Born with a cleft lip into an upper-middle-class, conservative family obsessed with image and success, Jill Vanneman was subjected early to a “perfection campaign” aimed at erasing flaws.

Told with unflinching honesty, moments of wit, and emotional depth, this coming-of-age story unfolds against the backdrop of 1980s America—a time and place where being a lesbian could cost you your job, your family, and your sense of self. As she grows into adolescence, college, and early adulthood, Jill begins to question not only her place in her family but also her sexual identity. Her journey leads her through turbulent relationships, professional achievements shadowed by internalized shame, and a heartbreaking attempt to reconcile with disapproving parents. Gradually, through therapy, spiritual exploration, and painful introspection, Jill learns that healing doesn't come from perfection but from embracing the flawed, fierce truth of who she is.

A raw, deeply personal memoir of family expectations, social shame, and a relentless drive for perfection, *The Perfection Campaign* is a compelling testament to resilience, identity, and the high cost—and ultimate liberation—of living authentically.

About the author: Jill Vanneman is a former prosecutor and police legal adviser, and legal consultant. She holds a BA in American studies from Whitman College, a master's in journalism from Northwestern University, and a JD from the University of Puget Sound. Her short fiction has been featured in *True Stories* and *Oaxaca: A Wayfaring Writers' Anthology*; her nonfiction work has appeared in the *Citizen Patriot*, *Miles City Tribune*, and elsewhere. Visit her at <https://jillvanneman.com>.



Gutted

How an Old House Remodeled Me
Maida Korte

Selling points:

- **Memoir meets home renovation.**
- **Author is an authority:** an interior designer, a repeated guest on HGTV's *New Spaces*, and has written for the *Chicago Sun-Times*, *Chicago Home Magazine* and *Parenting Magazine*.
- **"Maida Korte writes with frankness, humor, and a keen observant eye...A thoughtful delightful book."**—Jane Brox, author of *Silence* and in the *Merrimack Valley*.

Fans of *The Dirty Life* and *House Lessons* will be charmed by *Gutted*, a witty, big-hearted tale of trading city lights for leaky pipes-and discovering that sometimes the most profound renovations happen within.

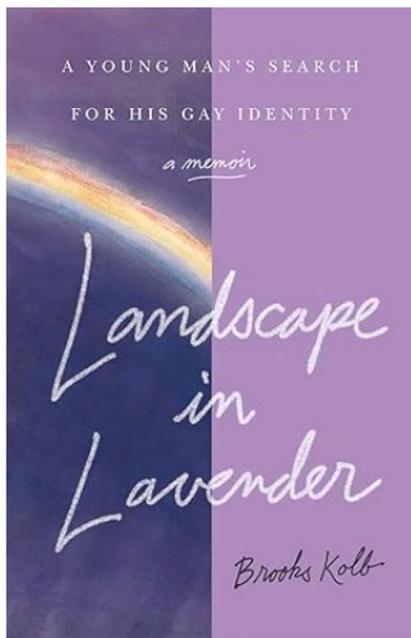
What if rebuilding your life meant tearing down more than just walls?

When a successful designer, entrepreneur, and lifelong urbanite reluctantly follows her husband's dream of country living, she doesn't expect to be undone by a sagging Victorian farmhouse and the wind whistles through its uninsulated bones. But as the plaster crumbles and the rooms slowly take shape, something unexpected happens as the space opens-not just in the house, but in her heart.

Told with humor, vulnerability, and the insight of a woman reconstructing more than just a home, *Gutted* is a love story-not only between a wife and her husband, but between a woman shaped by fast-paced ambition and a slower, quieter way of life. With each creaky floorboard and stripped layer of wallpaper, Maida Korte uncovers buried dreams, unexpected beauty, and the strength passed down by generations of women before her.

For anyone who's ever wondered what lies beyond the edge of control and timelines, this is a warm, wise, and deeply human invitation to slow down, dig deep, and make peace with change-one shingle at a time.

About the author: Maida Korte holds a bachelor's degree in interior design and an MFA in Creative Nonfiction from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Her professional background spans decades of interior design, project management, and writing, with a focus on transforming both physical spaces and personal narratives. Visit her at <https://maidakorte.com>.



Landscape in Lavender
A Young Man's Search for his Gay Identity
Brooks Kolb

Selling points:

- For readers of LGBTQ+ memoirs
- **Feel the human heartbeat: Discover resilience and hope where survival is a daily fight.**
- Perfect for book club discussion.
- A snapshot of LGBTQ life in the time of AIDs.
- "No matter who you are, you'll see yourself in this wonderful, entertaining, and inspiring memoir."--William Kenower, author of *Fearless Writing* and *Everyone Has What It Takes*

For readers of Armistead Maupin's *Logical Family*, a heartfelt coming-out and coming-of-age story of a young man uniting his divided self and finding proof of eternal love's existence.

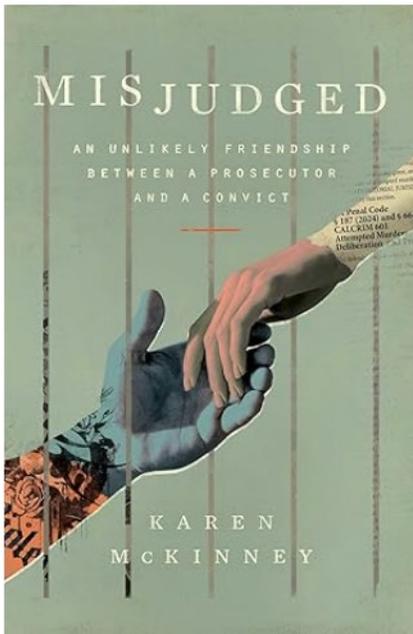
When society is primed to regard you as an outcast even before a sexually transmitted disease starts killing your gay brothers, coming out of the closet is hard enough—but even that is only the first step. Afterward, it can be challenging to cultivate self-respect, let alone find the lasting love you deserve and the home you crave.

In this earnest, hopeful memoir, Brooks Kolb explores the conflict between his personal and professional identities as he traces his round trip journey from Seattle to Paris, Philadelphia, London, and San Francisco against the backdrop of the 1970s sexual revolution and the devastating AIDS pandemic that followed. During his travels, Brooks becomes a landscape architect, comes out of the closet, crosses racial barriers to win lasting love, loses that love, and finds belonging. Along the way he learns that freedom demands that one construct their own morality in the face of social ostracism, that loss is an inherent attribute of love, and that the need to belong can be just as urgent as the need for love.

Heartbreaking but ultimately inspiring, *Landscape in Lavender* will charm readers across generations—LGBTQ+, cisgender, and straight alike—who struggle, or have struggled, to live a truly authentic life.

About the author: Brooks Kolb was educated at the American College in Paris, University College London, and the University of Pennsylvania. At Penn he trained under Ian McHarg, famed author of *Design With Nature*. The principal of Brooks Kolb LLC Landscape Architecture and an avid swimmer, Brooks lives in Seattle with his husband.





“Karen McKinney is telling an urgent story about reconsidering our own convictions and taking a second look at people we have dismissed as hopeless.”—**Kelly Corrigan, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Tell Me More* and PBS podcast host**



Misjudged

An Unlikely Friendship Between a Prosecutor and a Convict

Karen McKinney

Selling points:

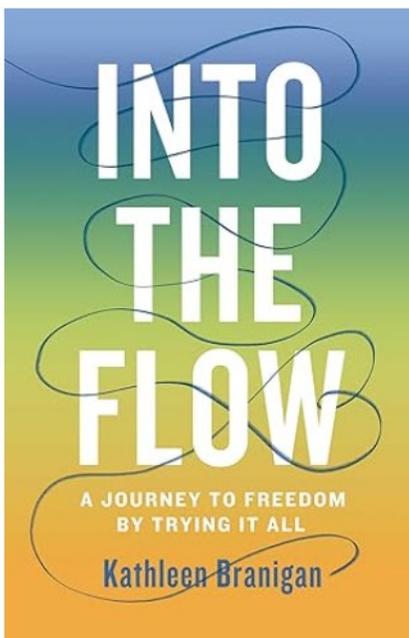
- For readers of criminal justice and redemption memoirs.
- “...an urgent story about reconsidering our own convictions and taking a second look at people we have dismissed as hopeless.”—**Kelly Corrigan, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Tell Me More* and PBS podcast host**
- “Raw, riveting, and unflinchingly honest, *Misjudged* reminds us that forgiveness isn’t a weakness but a radical act of seeing.”—**Lara Love Hardin, *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Many Lives of Mama Love*, a pick for Oprah’s Book Club**

For fans of *Just Mercy* and *What My Bones Know*, the story of a gang prosecutor who reunites with the man she sent away for life twenty years after the fact—and learns the true meaning of justice, compassion, redemption, and connection.

Born to Holocaust survivors and trained in the black-and-white world of law, veteran gang prosecutor Karen McKinney believed in justice, punishment, and moral certainty—so when she was asked to oppose the parole of a man she sent away for life twenty years earlier, she expected to confirm his ongoing danger. Instead, she was confronted with something she had never encountered: true transformation.

Misjudged chronicles McKinney’s radical rethinking of justice through her evolving friendship with Joseph Herrera—a man she once believed to be irredeemable. Woven with personal reckonings, family trauma, and courtroom tension, this powerful memoir of healing and self-discovery reveals how the silent burdens of inherited trauma, family shame, and generational judgment shaped McKinney’s worldview—and how, through great effort, she began to break free and learned that the stories that shape us don’t have to define us. For anyone who has ever felt stuck, spiritually hungry, or disconnected from their true self, *Misjudged* is a compelling and hope-filled exploration of what it means to understand another person’s capacity for change and how to drop our fear-forged narratives in order to find true connection and humanity in this polarized world.

About the author: Karen McKinney is a career prosecutor and former public defender who rose to lead the gang unit in Orange County, California. She holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Villanova University’s Charles Widger School of Law. She lives in Newport, California



Into the Flow

A Journey to Freedom by Trying it All

Kathleen Branigan

Selling points:

- A midlife freefall sparks bold adventures—Amazon trek, skydiving, and ayahuasca ignite radical change.
- A raw, fearless memoir proving reinvention is possible at any age.
- Step inside real-life risk-readers witness courage tested and identity rebuilt through gripping, true experiences.
- Not theory, but action-wild stories deliver practical lessons on resilience, choice, and self-trust.
- A page-turning journey from burnout to boldness—adventure and insight collide in unforgettable ways.

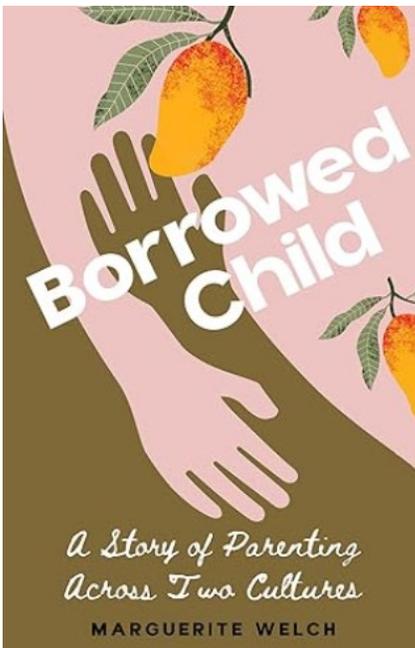
For fans of *Untamed* and *You Are a Badass*, a bold and hilarious memoir of seeking and striving with a profound message: True awakening and fulfillment isn't found in chasing "more" but in coming home to ourselves.

What would you let go of to be free—to live a life that feels truly yours? When personal loss, burnout, and divorce upend her world, Kathleen Branigan launches a quest for transformation that takes her places she never imagined—devouring self-help books, jumping out of airplanes, earning a master's in religious studies, and venturing into the Amazon for a life-changing ayahuasca retreat.

This is an irresistibly funny, soul-baring spiritual memoir for anyone seeking answers to life's Big Questions, healing from heartbreak, or craving deeper purpose in a world where the old maps have stopped working. Through entertaining encounters with metaphysical teachers, therapists, and shamans—plus a few wild adventures—Kathleen discovers that true awakening and freedom aren't about miracle cures or doing "more." They're about finally coming home to yourself.

If you're navigating fear, uncertainty, identity crisis—or simply want a real story about reinvention and manifesting an authentic life—*Into the Flow* delivers honest reflection, laughter, and a powerful reminder: clarity, fulfillment, and love arrive when you stop searching, connect with your own inner wisdom, and trust the flow of life.

About the author: Kathleen Branigan holds a master's in psychology from Georgetown. Former Managing Director at Shannon & Manch, she directed programs at NAFSA and Interel. Certified behavioral coach since 2010, she has guided hundreds through career transitions.



Borrowed Child

A Story of Parenting Across Two Cultures

Marguerite Welch

Selling points:

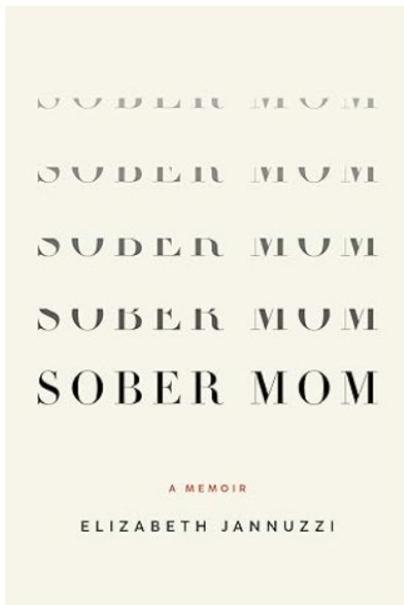
- “...With gorgeous writing, Welch subverts expectations and gifts us a nuanced view of prejudice.”—Melissa Scholes Young, author of *Flood* and *The Hive*
- **A powerful novel exploring identity through cross-cultural caregiving and belonging.**
- **For readers who love layered family dramas with cultural complexity.**
- **Offers an intimate look at bridging worlds through care and connection.**
- **Comparable to *Americanah* for its nuanced take on identity and culture.**

For fans of *Little Fires Everywhere*, a novel that explores the ambiguities of motherhood and salvation through the anguished relationship between a troubled, undocumented Mexican teenager and the grieving, upper-middle-class mother who takes her in.

After the drug overdose of her teenage son, Helen, a privileged white woman, takes in Mia, a troubled and undocumented Mexican teenager.

Although they initially fill each other’s voids, Helen’s lofty expectations of Mia eventually test that bond and Mia, tortured by guilt and starved for affection, runs off with Diego, an MS13 gang leader. While Helen, bereft over losing another child, tries to reconstruct her life, Mia’s life with Diego spirals into a nightmare: Just after she has his baby, he goes to jail for multiple murders. As each woman moves forward through her own challenges, Helen confronts her deep-seated prejudices, while Mia battles her own demons in search of self-identity and meaning in her life.

About the author: Marguerite Welch, PhD (California Institute of Integral Studies), is Adjunct Associate Professor and former program director in the MA Leadership program at Saint Mary's College of California. She co-edited *The Palgrave Handbook of Learning for Transformation* (2022), and her award-winning travel memoir, *Waterborne*, chronicles a 14-year global circumnavigation. An accomplished writer, photographer, and sailor, her essays and short fiction appear in *Wanderlust*, *Bay Weekly*, and various art journals. Visit her at <http://margueritewelch.com>.



"With candor, wit, and unflinching self-awareness, Elizabeth Januzzi invites us into the messy middle of addiction, motherhood, and recovery—not as a morality tale, but as a mirror...a celebration of what happens when a woman stops pretending and starts telling the truth."—**Lara Love Hardin, *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Many Lives of Mama Love***

"*Sober Mom* is a courageous and moving portrait of a woman who, against all odds, reclaims her life. With honesty and tenderness, Januzzi shows the reader, step by step, that anything is possible"—**Mary Beth Keane, author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Ask Again, Yes***



Sober Mom
A Memoir
Elizabeth Januzzi

Selling points:

- "... a bracingly honest account of one woman's journey toward sobriety...Sari Botton, bestselling author of *Goodbye to All That*.
- Perfect for readers of *The Sober Diaries* and *Blackout*.
- A candid look at motherhood, addiction, and finding yourself again.
- Empowering, real-life journey for women seeking strength without the bottle.

When Liz Januzzi's life spiraled—three young kids, a failing marriage, and hidden vodka bottles behind the coffee maker—she didn't just hit rock bottom ... she clawed her way back. *Sober Mom* is her unvarnished, everyday-mom survival story, told with raw honesty, unexpected humor, and hard-won hope.

This candid memoir is for women who've whispered, "I can handle it ... until I can't." It dives deep into the world of mommy wine culture and recovery, revealing how a suburban mom used AA's Twelve Steps to face family trauma, rebuild her marriage, and reconnect with her kids—without liquid courage.

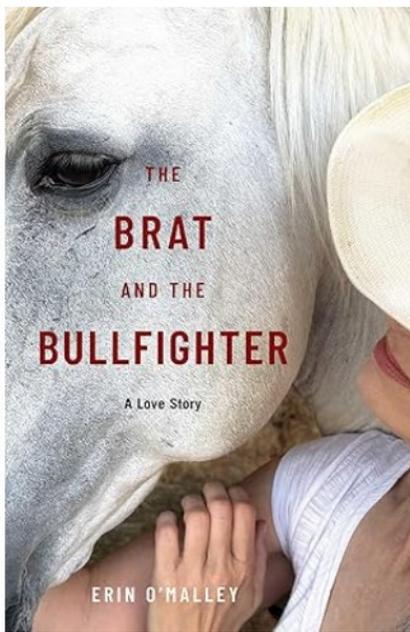
Think *The Sober Diaries* meets *Wine Mom Fallout*: it's unfiltered, hopeful, and real. Alongside nods from the recovery canon—*Blackout* by Sarah Hepola and *We Are the Luckiest* by *Laura McKowen*—this lively memoir stands out as a guidepost for those craving transformation.

Ever felt like you needed a drink just to drive the minivan ground-to-pick-up? This book is your lifeline. Filled with small victories, stubborn setbacks, and the truth no one dares to say, *Sober Mom* proves that recovery isn't just possible—it can be the start of a fuller, freer life.

"Here are the 12 steps for encountering *Sober Mom*: 1) Buy the book. 2) Read this brave, authentic, and moving account of battling alcoholism. 3) Wish you were this strong. 4) Read it again. 5) Know you are this strong. 6-10) Repeat steps 2-4 as needed. 11) Keep it nearby, preferably now decorated with passages you've underlined and highlighted for inspiration. 12) Recommend *Sober Mom* to someone else."—**Sue William Silverman, author, *Selected Misdemeanors***

About the author:

Elizabeth Januzzi, Program Manager at Project Write Now, is an award-nominated nonfiction writer and recovery advocate. She lives in Shrewsbury, NJ. Visit her at <https://www.elizabethjannuzzi.com>.



"I dare anyone to resist falling in love with this book. Rich in serious humor, honest self-doubt, and tender ferocity, *The Brat and the Bullfighter* grabs you from its first pages and holds on tight. As a truly original love story, it's also a timely reminder to listen with our hearts and to find our teachers in unexpected places."—**Elizabeth Rosner, author of *Third Ear* and *Survivor Cafe***



The Brat and the Bullfighter A Love Story

Erin O'Malley

Selling points:

- **A memoir packs and emotional wallop through horse and human voices.**
- "A magically lyrical memoir..." **Patricia Wood, author of *Lottery***
- **Horse lovers drawn by sensitive purebred stallion focus.**
- **Fans of *The Ride of Her Life* crossover ready audience.**

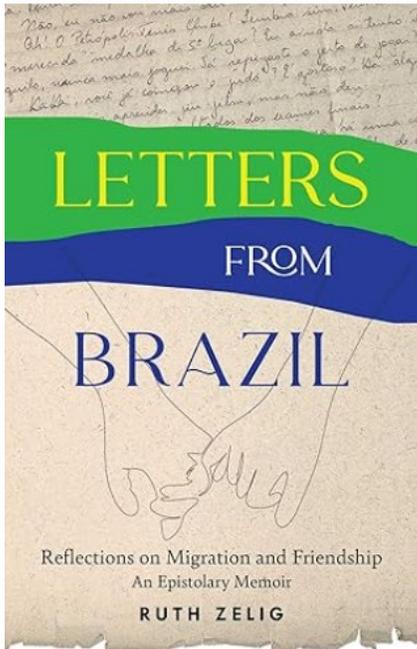
For readers who love heartfelt animal stories and transformative journeys, *The Brat and the Bullfighter* delivers a powerful dual-perspective memoir about healing, trust, and belonging.

When a fiery Lusitano stallion bred for bullfighting loses his confidence, and an uprooted Army brat struggles to find home, fate brings them together. Their bond becomes more than companionship—it's survival. Through setbacks, self-doubt, and unexpected loss, Erin and Arty discover that some horses don't just change your life—they save it.

Told from both human and horse perspectives, this memoir invites readers into a world of resilience and redemption. Perfect for fans of *The Ride of Her Life* and *Horse Crazy*, it offers:

- An intimate look at the horse-human connection that heals wounds both seen and unseen.
- A relatable story of belonging for anyone who's ever felt misunderstood or uprooted.
- Emotional depth and hope for readers navigating grief, change, or self-discovery.
- A dual coming-of-age journey proves that trust and love can rewrite destiny.

About the author: Erin O'Malley is a USC Cinema-Television graduate, former Peace Corps volunteer, journalist and seasoned leadership consultant who has trained over 10,000 professionals worldwide. A Boston radio personality turned podcast host, she blends storytelling expertise with resilience coaching. Visit her at <https://www.erinomalleyfrequency.com>.



Letters from Brazil Reflections on Migration and Friendship An Epistolary Memoir

Ruth Zelig

Selling points:

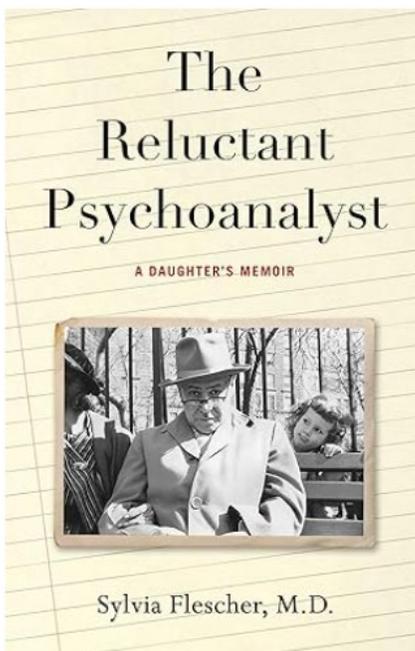
- Evocative letters reveal love, loss, and cultural awakening.
- Immersive Brazilian setting transports readers to vibrant landscapes.
- Celebrates resilience and hope through intimate personal correspondence.
- Perfect for fans of *The Paris Library's* epistolary charm.
- A poignant journey of identity, belonging, and rediscovered dreams.

An epistolary memoir about two young women's friendship across continents and decades—an enduring connection kept alive by the simple act of written correspondence.

When Ruth's family migrates from Brazil to North America in 1964, she and her best friend, Elana, are forced to separate. They decide to keep in touch via written correspondence—an exchange that ultimately persists for twenty years. From São Paulo, Elana writes candidly with warmth, dedication, and support, easing Ruth's assimilation to first Canada, then the United States. Lonely and uprooted, Ruth derives solace from the friendship and the correspondence. As both girls mature and embark on a life in different countries and cultures, their bonds transcend their differences. They remain friends for life.

Fifty years after parting, Ruth and Elana re-read aloud the letters that they exchanged as young women. The experience of hearing their words written in letters and sent like a bridge across the continent and half a lifetime is a revelation that stuns the friends: the antecedent voice spoken in the concrete voice of the present.

About the author: Ruth Zelig is an accomplished educator and cultural historian with advanced degrees in literature and Latin American studies. She has taught at leading universities, published scholarly articles, and brings decades of research expertise to her evocative storytelling in *Letters from Brazil*. Visit her at <https://www.zeligova.com>.



The Reluctant Psychoanalyst
A Daughter's Memoir

Sylvia Flescher, M. D.

Selling points:

- Follow a reluctant analyst through gripping, real-life therapy cases.
- Explore ethical dilemmas and emotional risks behind closed doors.
- Witness breakthroughs that challenge both patient and analyst beliefs.
- Discover how humor and honesty reshape the healing process.
- Perfect for fans of *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone*.

In this candid and revealing memoir, a psychoanalyst struggles to free herself from the influence of her overbearing, Holocaust-haunted father.

It is said that every memoir is an exorcism.

With a Jewish psychoanalyst father who'd lost his entire family in the Holocaust and a non-Jewish, emotionally repressed mother, where did that leave author Sylvia Flescher? For years Sylvia struggled with writers' block, worried that her own story paled in the shadow of her parents' enormous losses. However, after a powerful ceremony in Jerusalem that honored her mother for her courage in hiding her father in Rome during the Nazi occupation, Sylvia began to write—and she finally found her voice.

In *The Reluctant Psychoanalyst*, Sylvia describes how trauma can pass into the next generation. A devoted daughter, for decades she did not feel free to deviate from her father's agenda for her. Failing to recognize his narcissism and toxic boundary-crossing for what it was, she complied with his demand that she join him in his mission to "save the world from another genocide" by spreading his version of the gospel of Freud. With this memoir, Sylvia fulfills her duty to memorialize her parents' lives—and claims the right to tell her own story.

About the author: Sylvia E. Flescher, MD, a graduate of Barnard College and New York Medical College, trained in psychiatry at Mount Sinai Medical Center and in psychoanalysis at the New York Psychoanalytic Institute. She is on the faculty at Mount Sinai and is past president of the New Jersey Psychoanalytic Society. A retired film editor, Sylvia has two daughters and one grandson. She lives and practices in Bergen County, New Jersey.