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Mother's Day



Synopsis

The true story of Theresa Knorr, the twisted child abuser who murdered her daughters— with the help of her sons— told by a former New York Times reporter. In June 1985, Theresa Cross Knorr dumped her daughter Sheila's body in California's desolate High Sierra. She had beaten Sheila unconscious in their Sacramento apartment days earlier, then locked her in a closet to die. But this wasn't the first horrific crime she'd committed against her own children. The previous summer, Knorr had shot Sheila's sister Suesan, then ordered her son to dig the bullet out of the girl's back with a knife to hide the evidence. The infection that resulted led to delirium at which point Knorr and her two sons drove Suesan into the mountains, doused her with gasoline, and set her on fire. It would be almost a decade before her youngest daughter, Terry Knorr Graves, revealed her mother's history of unfathomable violence. At first, she was met with disbelief by law enforcement and even her own therapist. But eventually, the truth about her monstrous abuse emerged—and here, an award-winning journalist details the jealousy, rage, and domineering behavior that escalated into homicide and shattered a family. A former reporter for the New York Times and Los Angeles Times and the author of true-crime classics including *Angel of Darkness*, about serial killer Randy Kroft, and *Blood Cold*, about Robert Blake and Bonny Lee Bakley, Dennis McDougal reveals the shocking depths of depravity behind a case that made headlines across the nation.

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Customer Reviews

Wow, what a story. OK, I will say it, Theresa Knorr Cross is a horrible, horrible person. She treated everyone who loved her like her own personal slaves, that everyone should always be at her beck and call and do her bidding. She screams at you if you did anything wrong. She had to always make herself look good. She even did this to her own children, or rather, especially to her own children. And husbands. This book is about the murders of 2 of her daughters, caused by her in so many ways. These girls deserved so much more. The book itself is well-written and well-researched, not an easy feat either with all of the details needed. I really liked this book and do recommend it.

Theresa Cross is a disgusting, disgraceful, piece of crap human being! How she could have been able to perpetrate these crimes for so long is a mystery. And what she did to her family leaves me with goose bumps. Those poor, poor children! Kudos to her youngest daughter for finding the strength to bring her mother's tyranny to an end and suffer the consequences of her actions.

Unbelievable but true. What a sad book when you look at all the things a mom can do to her own children. And then the cycle just keeps going on. So many people who could have done something about the abuse but no one was thinking or interested. It is just a shame.

I had originally read the paperback of this book several years ago and was happy to see it available for my Kindle.

I first learned of this terrible story after having watched "The Afflicted". A movie very loosely based on the real life true crimes. The true story is so much more terrifying than Hollywood made it out to be. I can only hope anyone who reads this has not had any life events as damning as these children. An absolute MUST READ!!!!

Quite a story, hard to believe this mother was even human. Abusing her children physically and mentally she eventually killed 2 of her daughters. She would have gotten away with it had it not

been for her surviving daughter.

This was very well written, with a lot of detail in each family member's life. It's difficult to believe that someone could be that evil and cruel to put her children and loved ones through that much pain and torture, never mind actually killing her daughters, then disposing of their bodies like that. It is unimaginable.

Being partial to true crime stories, I found this book to be engrossing. Bathing in the sordid actions of a sadistic mother, the storyline compels the reader to continue on in morbid fascination.

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