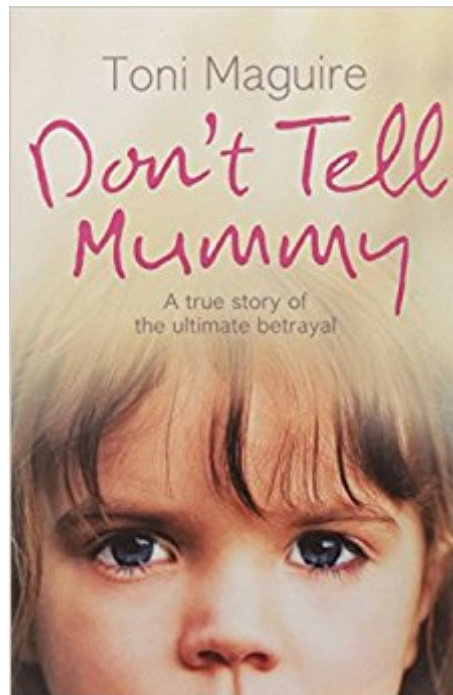




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Don't Tell Mummy: A True Story Of The Ultimate Betrayal



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 *our 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

Hard to put down. I truly felt I was living her life alongside her, being taken back in time. I could almost smell the honeysuckle and soda bread but also feel the dread and fear. Jane Elliott, author of the No.1 bestseller *The Little Prisoner* 'This

memoir is testament to [Toni Maguire's] amazing courage'. Closer magazine. 'Amazing'.
The Mirror.

Toni Maguire lives in the UK and has lived in Ireland. She spends 3 months of every year in South Africa. Andrew Crofts (ghostwriter) has ghost-written three hardback number one bestselling memoirs including 'Just a Boy' and 'The Little Prisoner'.

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.

not a fan

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

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.

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...

great read

Well written, compelling, and heartbreaking.

Good story.

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