

Mummy Told Me Not To Tell The True Story Of A Troubled Boy With A Dark Secret

Little Jamey, 21-2 years old, is placed with experienced foster carer, Cathy Glass, as an emergency.

'My first read of 2021 to reduce me to tears... the definition of a page-turner and a tear-jerker. I didn't want to stop reading... I loved every word.' The Book Lover's Boudoir, [?????](#)
'They told me he died, but I never believed them. I'd have known,' she says, her voice little more than a whisper and her eyes searching mine. 'A mother would know if her child died, wouldn't she?' Danni has never had an easy relationship with her mother, Diana. But when Diana is diagnosed with a serious illness, everything changes. As some of Diana's memories slip away, others force their way to the surface. One night she breaks down and reveals that before Danni was born, she had another baby who never got to see the world. Now married, with a loving husband and two beautiful daughters of her own, Danni has put her childhood behind her. But she has always wondered what caused her mother's coldness. Could this be why? Danni can't tell whether Diana's story is a symptom of her confusion, or something real. She decides to find out, hoping to bring her mother some peace. Yet as Danni investigates the past, tracking down the aunt she's never met to learn what lies in her mother's past, her good intentions have unexpected consequences. As more truths emerge, a shocking revelation could turn her life upside down. Will Danni's quest heal her pain, or are some secrets best left buried? A completely heartbreaking and compelling story of families, secrets, and the fierce love between mothers and children. Fans of Amanda Prowse, Ali Mercer and Jodi Picoult will smile through their tears. See what readers are saying about My Mother's Secret: 'Wow!... one of the saddest and most heart-breaking reads I've encountered.. My gosh! This book should really come with a box of tissues because believe me, you are going to need them!... I found myself turning the pages with such a speed of "just one more chapter" until the very end. I cannot tell you how much I loved this book.' Confessions of a Bookaholic, [?????](#) 'Beautiful and heart-rending... I was enthralled by it from start to finish... you will smile through your tears... A really beautiful, engrossing and captivating read, I was sorry when it finished.' Sibzz Reads, [?????](#) 'I picked this book up at 3pm, and less than 8 hours later, despite having to navigate tea and bedtime for the kids and logging back on to work, I had finished it... addictive, gripping and emotional' @iheartbooks1991
'Another amazing 5-star read and another used up packet of those

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handy little tissues, or is it two? - Who knows how many tears this one has made me shed!... an author who held me captive in the palm of her hand all the time I was reading... took me on quite a personal journey on, oh! so many fronts' Fiction Books, [?????](#) 'Truly emotional... Will make your heart break... There were definite tears leaking' Jen Med's Book Reviews, [?????](#) 'I'll get straight to the point. This book broke me. It left me an emotional, vulnerable shell of a person... It takes a lot to melt my exterior, but by golly My Mother's Secret turned me into a puddle.' The Writing Garnet 'Had me flipping over the pages at speed... Make sure you have tissues at hand... A tearjerker of a read!' Carla Kovach, [?????](#) 'Such an emotional experience... Its conclusion made me cry and smile - in fact, I was a bit of a soggy mess a few times as I was reading... I really loved it.' Being Anne 'A very emotional story... I love the book and kudos to the author for that one revelation that made my jaw drop to the floor.' Goodreads Reviewer, [?????](#)

Your kids will enjoy this classic story even more in this beautiful Read & Listen edition. A baby bird is hatched while his mother is away. Fallen from his nest, he sets out to look for her and asks everyone he meets—including a dog, a cow, and a plane—"Are you my mother?" This ebook includes Read & Listen audio narration.

The New York Times–bestselling graphic memoir about Alison Bechdel, author of *Fun Home*, becoming the artist her mother wanted to be. Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home* was a pop culture and literary phenomenon. Now, a second thrilling tale of filial sleuthery, this time about her mother: voracious reader, music lover, passionate amateur actor. Also a woman, unhappily married to a closeted gay man, whose artistic aspirations simmered under the surface of Bechdel's childhood...and who stopped touching or kissing her daughter good night, forever, when she was seven. Poignantly, hilariously, Bechdel embarks on a quest for answers concerning the mother-daughter gulf. It's a richly layered search that leads readers from the fascinating life and work of the iconic twentieth-century psychoanalyst Donald Winnicott, to one explosively illuminating Dr. Seuss illustration, to Bechdel's own (serially monogamous) adult love life. And, finally, back to Mother—to a truce, fragile and real-time, that will move and astonish all adult children of gifted mothers. A New York Times, USA Today, Time, Slate, and Barnes & Noble Best Book of the Year "As complicated, brainy, inventive and satisfying as the finest prose memoirs."—New York Times Book Review "A work of the most humane kind of genius, bravely going right to the heart of things: why we are who we are. It's also incredibly funny. And visually stunning. And page-turningly

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addictive. And heartbreaking.”—Jonathan Safran Foer “Many of us are living out the unlived lives of our mothers. Alison Bechdel has written a graphic novel about this; sort of like a comic book by Virginia Woolf. You won't believe it until you read it—and you must!”—Gloria Steinem

A completely gripping and emotional page-turner

High-Risk Homosexual

Another Forgotten Child

Barry Sonnenfeld, Call Your Mother

Lies My Mother Never Told Me

A Guide to Living with Impeccable Grace and Style

‘I’m going to love my baby and give her lots of attention,’ Jade said. ‘I’ll show my mum she’s wrong.’ Jade, 17, is pregnant, homeless and alone when she’s brought to live with Cathy. Jade is desperate to keep her baby, but little more than a child herself, she struggles with the responsibilities her daughter brings.

This witty memoir traces a touching and often hilarious spiralic path to embracing a gay, Latinx identity against a culture of machismo—from a cockfighting ring in Nicaragua to cities across the U.S.—and the bath houses, night clubs, and drag queens who help redefine pride I’ve always found the definition of machismo to be ironic, considering that pride is a word almost unanimously associated with queer people, the enemy of machistas . . . In a world desperate to erase us, queer Latinx men must find ways to hold on to pride for survival, but excessive male pride is often what we are battling, both in ourselves and in others. A debut memoir about coming of age as a gay, Latinx man, *High-Risk Homosexual* opens in the ultimate anti-gay space: Edgar Gomez’s uncle’s cockfighting ring in Nicaragua, where he was sent at thirteen years old to become a man. Readers follow Gomez through the queer spaces where he learned to love being gay and Latinx, including Pulse nightclub in Orlando, a drag queen convention in Los Angeles, and the doctor’s office where he was diagnosed a “high-risk homosexual.” With vulnerability, humor, and quick-witted insights into racial, sexual, familial, and professional power dynamics, Gomez shares a hard-won path to taking pride in the parts of himself he was taught to keep hidden. His story is a scintillating, beautiful reminder of the importance of leaving space for joy.

"One of those memoirs that remind you why you liked memoirs in the first place... It has the density of a very good novel... As you do with the best writers, you feel lucky to be in Ms. Brockes’s company." --Dwight Garner, *The New York Times* A chilling work of psychological suspense and forensic memoir, *She Left Me the Gun* is a tale of true transformation: the story of a young woman who reinvented herself so completely that her previous life seemed simply to vanish, and of a daughter who transcends her mother’s fears and reclaims an abandoned past. “One day I will tell you the story of my life,” promises Emma Brockes’s mother, “and you will be amazed.” Brockes grew up hearing only pieces of her mother’s past—stories of a rustic childhood in South Africa, glimpses of a bohemian youth in London—and yet knew that crucial facts were still in the dark. A mystery to her friends and family, Paula was clearly a strong, self-invented woman; glamorous, no-nonsense, and frequently out of place in their quaint English village. In awe of Paula’s larger-than-life personality, Brockes never asked why her mother emigrated to England or why she never returned to South Africa; never

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questioned the source of her mother's strange fears or tremendous strengths. Looking to unearth the truth after Paula's death, Brockes begins a dangerous journey into the land—and the life—her mother fled from years before. Brockes soon learns that Paula's father was a drunk megalomaniac who terrorized Paula and her seven half-siblings for years. After finally mustering the courage to take her father to court, Paula is horrified to see the malevolent man vindicated of all charges. As Brockes discovers, this crushing defeat left Paula with a choice: take her own life, or promise herself never to be intimidated or unhappy again. Ultimately she chooses life and happiness by booking one-way passage to London—but not before shooting her father five times, and failing to kill him. Smuggling the fateful gun through English customs would be Paula's first triumph in her new life. *She Left Me the Gun* carries Brockes to South Africa to meet her seven aunts and uncles, weighing their stories against her mother's silences. Brockes learns of the violent pathologies and racial propaganda in which her grandfather was inculcated, sees the mine shafts and train yards where he worked as an itinerant mechanic, and finds in buried government archives the court records proving his murder conviction years before he first married. Brockes also learns of the turncoat stepmother who may have perjured herself to save her husband, dooming Paula and her siblings to the machinations of their hated father. Most of all, *She Left Me the Gun* reveals how Paula reinvented herself to lead a full, happy life. As she follows her mother's footsteps back to South Africa, Brockes begins to find the wellsprings of her mother's strength, the tremendous endurance which allowed Paula to hide secrets from even her closest friends and family. But as the search through cherished letters and buried documents deepens, Brockes realizes with horror that her mother's great success as a parent was concealing her terrible past—and that unearthing these secrets threatens to undo her mother's work. A beguiling and unforgettable journey across generations and continents, *She Left Me the Gun* chronicles Brockes's efforts to walk the knife-edge between understanding her mother's unspeakable traumas and embracing the happiness she chose for her daughter.

Through a series of letters from his parents' passionate World War II courtship, Morrison uncovers a startling, touching story. This follow-up to his critically acclaimed 1993 memoir paints the unforgettable picture of a quietly determined heroine and of a son's search to learn the truth about her.

Things My Mother Never Told Me

Mummy Where Are You?

Run, Mummy, Run

My Mother's Life Before Me

Tell Me a Story, Mummy

Things My Mother Told Me

From the author of Number One bestseller *Damaged* comes the poignant and shocking memoir of Cathy's recent relationship with Tayo, a young boy she fosters whose good behaviour and polite manners hide a terrible past.

A heartbreaking and hilarious memoir by iCarly and *Sam & Cat* star Jennette McCurdy about her struggles as a former child actor—including eating disorders, addiction, and a complicated relationship with her overbearing mother—and how she retook control of her life. Jennette McCurdy was six years old when she had

her first acting audition. Her mother's dream was for her only daughter to become a star, and Jennette would do anything to make her mother happy. So she went along with what Mom called "calorie restriction," eating little and weighing herself five times a day. She endured extensive at-home makeovers while Mom chided, "Your eyelashes are invisible, okay? You think Dakota Fanning doesn't tint hers?" She was even showered by Mom until age sixteen while sharing her diaries, email, and all her income. In *I'm Glad My Mom Died*, Jennette recounts all this in unflinching detail—just as she chronicles what happens when the dream finally comes true. Cast in a new Nickelodeon series called *iCarly*, she is thrust into fame. Though Mom is ecstatic, emailing fan club moderators and getting on a first-name basis with the paparazzi ("Hi Gale!"), Jennette is riddled with anxiety, shame, and self-loathing, which manifest into eating disorders, addiction, and a series of unhealthy relationships. These issues only get worse when, soon after taking the lead in the *iCarly* spinoff *Sam & Cat* alongside Ariana Grande, her mother dies of cancer. Finally, after discovering therapy and quitting acting, Jennette embarks on recovery and decides for the first time in her life what she really wants. Told with refreshing candor and dark humor, *I'm Glad My Mom Died* is an inspiring story of resilience, independence, and the joy of shampooing your own hair.

Cathy Glass, the no.1 bestselling author of *Damaged*, tells the story of the Alice, a young and vulnerable girl who is desperate to return home to her mother.

"You will devour these beautifully written—and very important—tales of honesty, pain, and resilience" (Elizabeth Gilbert, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Eat Pray Love* and *City of Girls*) from fifteen brilliant writers who explore how what we don't talk about with our mothers affects us, for better or for worse. As an undergraduate, Michele Filgate started writing an essay about being abused by her stepfather. It took her more than a decade to realize that she was actually trying to write about how this affected her relationship with her mother. When it was finally published, the essay went viral, shared on social media by Anne Lamott, Rebecca Solnit, and many others. This gave Filgate an idea, and the resulting anthology offers a candid look at our relationships with our mothers. Leslie Jamison writes about trying to discover who her seemingly perfect mother was before ever becoming a mom. In Cathi Hanauer's hilarious piece, she finally gets a chance to have a conversation with her mother that isn't interrupted by her domineering (but lovable) father. André Aciman writes about what it was like to have a deaf mother. Melissa Febos uses mythology as a lens to look at her close-knit relationship with her psychotherapist mother. And Julianna Baggott talks about having a mom who tells her everything. As Filgate writes, "Our mothers are our first homes, and that's why we're always trying to return to them." There's relief in acknowledging how what we couldn't say for so long is a way to heal our relationships with others and, perhaps most important, with ourselves.

Contributions by Cathi Hanauer, Melissa Febos, Alexander Chee, Dylan Landis, Bernice L. McFadden, Julianna Baggott, Lynn Steger Strong, Kiese Laymon,

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Carmen Maria Machado, André Aciman, Sari Botton, Nayomi Munaweera, Brandon Taylor, and Leslie Jamison.

Are You My Mother?

Fifteen Writers Break the Silence

When Women Were Birds

Mummy Told Me Not to Tell

The Last Thing He Told Me

When she discovers that her dead mother is really alive and living in France, Parris McKay searches for her to get answers and, along the way, meets two women who also struggle with legacies of long-buried secrets.

When Reece arrives at Cathy's door aged 7 years old, he has already passed through the hands of four different carers in four weeks. As the details of his short life emerge, it becomes clear that to help him, Cathy will face her biggest challenge yet. The latest title from the author of Sunday Times and New York Times bestseller Damaged.

Mummy Told Me Not to Tell: The true story of a troubled boy with a dark secretHarperCollins UK

Mummy where are you is the horrifying tale of one woman's attempt to protect her child from child abuse and the extraordinary lengths she goes to keep her child safe. When Charlotte's son tells her what Daddy is doing, a Kafkaesque nightmare begins as she leaves all she knows and loves in an instant, clutching her child's hand and crossing oceans. Have you ever wished you could go back and freeze time? Mummy where are you is a compelling tale that raises poignant and disturbing issues and cannot fail to speak to mothers everywhere. When Charlotte's son is disbelieved by those who are meant to protect him, she is faced with a Sophie's choice of whether to stay and fight against the odds or embark on a terrifying journey. It will leave mothers searching for the answer and asking themselves - what would I do?

Mummy Told Me Not to Tell: The true story of a troubled boy with a dark secret

Stories My Mother Told Me

The Girl in the Mirror

The True Story of a Troubled Boy with a Dark Secret

Love You Forever

Please Don't Take My Baby

When Cait, a chaotic single mother, becomes the agony aunt for a glossy parenting magazine, she thinks she might be the single worst person to do the job. But despite her early unwillingness, she gradually realises that the women writing might really need her help. Perhaps mothers need to realise that they're not actually expected to be perfect, after all? Then Cait gets an email from a mysterious reader - a single dad who simply signs his name R...

Seven-year-old Reece was the last of six siblings to be taken into foster care. Cathy, Reece's foster carer, was about to unravel a truth about the reasons for his violent and aggressive behaviour - a truth more shocking than she'd ever imagined.

If you think Joan Rivers said funny, outrageous, and ridiculous things ONSTAGE, wait 'til you read the funny, outrageous, and ridiculous things she said OFFSTAGE...things that will make you

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*laugh out loud...and keep Melissa in therapy for the foreseeable future. The only thing my mother loved more than making people laugh was lying...or as she'd say, "embellishing." Her motto was: "Why let the truth ruin a good story?" This book contains some of those stories. ***** "When Joan told a story, the truth disappeared faster than I did." – Jimmy Hoffa "If you thought Dante's Inferno was hot, read Lies My Mother Told Me; it's a five-alarmer." – Dante's second wife, Allie "Twelve of my twenty-six personalities loved this book." – Sybil "The words on the page absolutely crackle and spark; I burned my fingers reading it!" – Annie Sullivan "The Bible may be the good book, but Lies My Mother Told Me is way funnier." – Matthew 2:14 The Jets. 7 "Lies My Mother Told Me is the feel-good book of 2022." – Torquemada "All's not well that ends well. I've had massages with happier endings." – Wm. Shakespeare "Melissa, I don't care what your mother said in this book, I LOVE your bangs." – Mamie Eisenhower "Lies My Mother Told Me is so funny even those 'woke' m*****s will laugh." – Lenny Bruce*

As her son grows up from little boy to adult man, a mother secretly rocks him each night as he sleeps.

Memoirs of a Neurotic Filmmaker

I'm Glad My Mom Died

Mummy Said the F-Word

The Saddest Girl in the World

A Comic Drama

Tall Tales from a Short Woman

In her riveting memoir *Lies My Mother Never Told Me*, Kaylie Jones—the daughter of author James Jones (*From Here to Eternity*) and an acclaimed author in her own right (*A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries*; *Celeste Ascending*; *As Soon As It Rains*)—tells the poignant story of her relationship with her famous father and her alcoholic mother, and of her own struggles with the disease. A true story of privilege, loss, self-discovery, and redemption, *Lies My Mother Never Told Me* is Jones's unforgettable account of a not-quite-fairy-tale childhood and adulthood defined by two constants: literature and alcohol.

The Girl in the Mirror is a moving and gripping story of a young woman who tries to piece together her past and uncovers a dreadful family secret that has been buried and forgotten.

What could cause a mother to believe that giving away her newborn baby is her only option? Cathy Glass is about to find out. From author of Sunday Times and New York Times bestseller *Damaged* comes a harrowing and moving memoir about tiny Harrison, left in Cathy's care, and the potentially fatal family secret of his beginnings.

On a hot July night on Cape Cod, at the age of 14, Brodeur became a confidante to her mother's affair with her husband's closest friend. Malabar came to rely on her daughter to help, but when the affair had calamitous consequences for everyone involved, Brodeau was driven into a precarious marriage of her own, and then into a deep depression. In her memoir she examines how the people close to us can break our hearts simply because they have access to them, and the lies we tell in order to justify the choices we make. -- adapted from jacket

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My Mother, Her Lover, and Me

The Night the Angels Came

Happy Adults

Things I Wish My Mother Had Told Me

What My Mother and I Don't Talk About

Nobody Ever Told Me (or My Mother) That!

Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 I had taken a week off after Tayo left, and before I began respite fostering I had a chance to clean and air out the bedroom. I took in Jemma, a five-year-old who had been with her carers for six months. Paula and Lucy, my daughters aged 16 and 18, were happy to help with Jemma. #2 I was asked to take care of Daisy, a 15-year-old, for two weeks. I knew from my own experience that it was difficult to find respite carers for teenagers, so I was excited to have her stay with me. #3 I had to set some ground rules for Daisy, while at the same time making her feel welcome. I made her a bedtime drink, and while Lucy and Paula took turns in the bathroom, I sat with her on the breakfast stools in the kitchen and gently explained that there were four of us in this house, and we all had to use the bathroom. #4 I had to accept that the social services thought it was best for Daisy, aged 15, to stay with her boyfriend's parents. I was frustrated that I hadn't been able to do my job properly and look after her.

Lucia van der Post has dispensed advice on living stylishly for more than three decades, and her common sense, confidence, and wit have garnered her legions of fans worldwide. A bestseller in the United Kingdom, *Things I Wish My Mother Had Told Me* offers in van der Post's distinctively warm, aphoristic style everything a woman needs to know about living well, with elegance and glamour. Leaving no aspect of a woman's life unconsidered, sections include *How to Work and Have a Life*; *Cheap Chic*; *Ten Easy Main Courses*; *How to Wear Black*; and *Love, Marriage, and Happiness*.

'It was just sex, Anj, it didn't mean anything.' When Anjali finds out that Jack, her boyfriend of ten years, has been cheating on her, it throws her world into chaos. Heartbroken, she fills the emptiness by embarking on a series of flings that her traditional Sri Lankan mother would (mostly) disapprove of. Yet she can no longer avoid her mother or Shanthi, her distant older sister. And so begins her real journey, one that will make Anjali confront a past she's been desperate to forget. But maybe the past can also be the bridge to her future . . . Set in Bristol and Sri Lanka, *Things My Mother Told Me* is a warm, moving and funny story about love, loss, family, cultural divides and the voices we hear in our heads. It will stay with you long after you've turned the final page.

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Number 1 bestselling author, Cathy Glass, shares her experience and expertise gained across 25 years as a foster carer in this brilliantly practical self-help guide for adults.

Everything from Bottles and Breathing to Healthy Speech Development

Fifty-four Variations on Voice

She Left Me the Gun

Mummy Never Told Me

Summary of Cathy Glass's Mummy Told Me Not to Tell

My Mother Once Told Me...

The Sunday Times and New York Times bestselling author of *Damaged* tells the true story of Donna, who came into foster care aged ten, having been abused, victimised and rejected by her family.

A new memoir from Sunday Times and New York Times bestselling author Cathy Glass, now with an exclusive preview of Cathy's inspiring new title, *Please Don't Take My Baby*, coming out on April 25th.

From the rural plains of the Midwest to California in the Great Depression, through the Women's Movement of the 1970s, to current day, embrace three generations of strong women. TETHERED BY THE UNBREAKABLE BOND of mother and daughter, these three women share a powerful history. Fannie, the adventuresome one, endlessly resourceful in solving challenges (even those brought on by her alcoholic husband); Barbara June, the survivor, relentless in preventing her circumstances and deprivations to be defining; and Carol who tries to pull it all together. As you read of their challenges and triumphs, reflect on your mom and your mom's mom and marvel at the experiences all daughters share as well as the unique and powerful messages each mother passes to her daughter through words and actions. The lessons may be bold or subtle, loving or seemingly cruel, and the learning may be consciously or unconsciously rejected, embraced, or mirrored, but they're always there. My Mother Once Told Me... is a loving, funny, heartfelt tribute to who came before author Carol Schauer, because "once it's written it's there forever."

It's bedtime on the farmyard, but Salsa the little goat can't sleep. She tries everything until, finally, she asks Mummy to tell her a story. But tonight even Mummy's stories don't work, and in the end it's Salsa's own sweet story which sends her into a peaceful, dreamy sleep . . .

Tell Me Your Life Story, Mom

Hidden

A Novel

Neglected: Scared, hungry and alone, Jamey craves affection

A hilarious story of modern motherhood

A Baby's Cry

From the author of Sunday Times and New York Times bestseller *Damaged*, the gripping story of a woman caught in a horrific cycle of abuse – and the desperate lengths she must go to, to escape.

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The author of the memoir *Refuge* offers a meditation on the meaning of a strange legacy that her mother left her--three shelves of the elder woman's "journals," all discovered by the author after her mother's death to be empty.

Nobody Ever Told Me (Or My Mother) That! : Everything from Bottles and Breathing to Healthy Speech Development fills a missing niche in the child rearing world. It explains everything from the basics of nursing, to SIDS, to facial massage; finishing with the secrets to good speech development and your child's best natural appearance. Written by an SLP with over 30 years experience, this book is a wealth of necessary information for any new parent.

The instant #1 New York Times bestselling mystery and Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick that's captivated more than two million readers about a woman searching for the truth about her husband's disappearance...at any cost. "A fast-moving, heartfelt thriller about the sacrifices we make for the people we love most." --Real Simple Before Owen Michaels disappears, he smuggles a note to his beloved wife of one year: Protect her. Despite her confusion and fear, Hannah Hall knows exactly to whom the note refers--Owen's sixteen-year-old daughter, Bailey. Bailey, who lost her mother tragically as a child. Bailey, who wants absolutely nothing to do with her new stepmother. As Hannah's increasingly desperate calls to Owen go unanswered, as the FBI arrests Owen's boss, as a US marshal and federal agents arrive at her Sausalito home unannounced, Hannah quickly realizes her husband isn't who he said he was. And that Bailey just may hold the key to figuring out Owen's true identity--and why he really disappeared. Hannah and Bailey set out to discover the truth. But as they start putting together the pieces of Owen's past, they soon realize they're also building a new future--one neither of them could have anticipated. With its breakneck pacing, dizzying plot twists, and evocative family drama, *The Last Thing He Told Me* is a riveting mystery, certain to shock you with its final, heartbreaking turn.

What Mother Never Told Me

A Memoir

Lies My Mother Told Me

I Miss Mummy: The true story of a frightened young girl who is desperate to go home

Wild Game

Are You My Mother? Read & Listen Edition

Two children explain to their parents, using their own drawings, where babies come from. Suggested level: preschool, junior, primary.

A new memoir from Sunday Times and New York Times bestselling author Cathy Glass. When Cathy receives a call about a terminally ill widower terrified of

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leaving his son all alone in the world, she is wracked with sadness and indecision. Can she risk exposing her own young children to a little boy on the brink of bereavement?

****A New York Times Editor's Choice selection!**** This outrageous and hilarious memoir follows a film and television director 's life, from his idiosyncratic upbringing to his unexpected career as the director behind such huge film franchises as *The Addams Family* and *Men in Black*. Barry Sonnenfeld's philosophy is, "Regret the Past. Fear the Present. Dread the Future." Told in his unmistakable voice, *Barry Sonnenfeld, Call Your Mother* is a laugh-out-loud memoir about coming of age. Constantly threatened with suicide by his over-protective mother, disillusioned by the father he worshiped, and abused by a demonic relative, Sonnenfeld somehow went on to become one of Hollywood's most successful producers and directors. Written with poignant insight and real-life irony, the book follows Sonnenfeld from childhood as a French horn player through graduate film school at NYU, where he developed his talent for cinematography. His first job after graduating was shooting nine feature length pornos in nine days. From that humble entr é e, he went on to form a friendship with the Coen Brothers, launching his career shooting their first three films. Though Sonnenfeld had no ambition to direct, Scott Rudin convinced him to be the director of *The Addams Family*. It was a successful career move. He went on to direct many more films and television shows. Will Smith once joked that he wanted to take Sonnenfeld to Philadelphia public schools and say, "If this guy could end up as a successful film director on big budget films, anyone can." This book is a fascinating and hilarious roadmap for anyone who thinks they can't succeed in life because of a rough beginning.

My Mother's Secret