

## The Glass Mother A Memoir

I lived in a world of darkness, never to see the light again. It's been eleven years since my father cursed Crystal City, since he condemned me to a life of loneliness and misery. By taking away everything that my mother loved, he took everything that I knew and cared for. Everything, but the throne. Only what good was being a queen in a city of mindless killers? A city that would never see the sunlight until the day of my death. I truly had nothing to live for... ..Or so I thought. The night that Wolfe was dragged into my palace, I knew that my life would never be the same. We were childhood friends once, but we went our separate ways. He became captain of the pirates, and I ascended to the diamond throne. My once sworn protector had become my enemy, but we were both alone, and the connection we felt was almost unbearable to ignore. My heart only cracked after my father abandoned me, but Wolfe would completely shatter it. For someone that hasn't felt anything for years, that wasn't such a bad thing.

Jeannette Walls' *The Glass Castle* is a memoir of unbreakable spirit and salvation: an account of the life of a dysfunctional yet oddly vivacious family. When sober, Jeannette's father was creative and ambitious. He taught them geology, physics, and how to take on life without doubt or fear. When drunk, he was untruthful and violent. Meanwhile, Jeannette's mother was indifferent and free-spirited. She detested the concept of domesticity, and she disliked the responsibility that came with raising children. Jeannette and her siblings were compelled to look after themselves and fend for one another. Together, they endured. When they had settled in New York, their parents followed—not minding the fact that they had nowhere to stay—just so they could come together as a family once again.

This memoir from the former child actress and veteran journalist describes the pride, pressure and cruelty she felt from her ambitious stage mother while working as part of the cast of *Little House on the Prairie*. 60,000 first printing.

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A time to reflect on my seventy years of life. Maybe some folks will be interested in my life and the folks I have met, or maybe not. This is a non-traditional memoir, filled with alphabetical vignettes nit chronological ones. I have made a foray into fiction with an asterisk: in those cases where I have marked the vignette as fictional, it might be 100 percent not true, but in many cases I knew of, was part of, or heard from others about the story itself. At any rate, the entire book is my

recollection of things past, and as in all recollections, the more distant the memory the clearer the details.

The Gift of Disappointment is a roller coaster ride of tragedy, disappointment, victory, and spiritual growth everyone can relate to. When a young woman is diagnosed with a serious kidney disease out of nowhere while in college, she is faced with two options: fight or die. Follow Leilah on her journey to finding life's true purpose through the worst eight years of her life. While in the fire, like most, she didn't know God had something much greater ahead. Hindsight is 20/20. With open eyes, an open mind, and a pure heart; she reflects on how everything she went through was all a part of His perfect plan for her life.

Walt Johnson has been a rolling stone most of his life, moving from town to town and living on the edges of homelessness. Now he has run out of time as lung cancer has left him only months to live. Walt then begins a quest to find the son with whom he lost contact decades earlier. Out of money, he lands a job at a small-town restaurant in an attempt to save enough to buy a bus ticket to the last known whereabouts of his son. The friends Walt makes at his new job soon become family for him, especially 14-year-old Danny who is emotionally paralyzed at the loss of his own father in Iraq. Faced with Danny's struggles to grow up and the struggles of his other new friends, Walt comes to realize he is not only on a journey to find his own son, but he is on a journey to find himself worthy of being a father.

One girl's struggle with rejection to forgiveness, love, and fulfillment of life's purpose. The story centers around main character Beth, who grew up in a small town in Eastern, NC and was the daughter of a pastor in the local church.

This is an intimate look at a perfectionist mother who learned to live her best life by giving up the reins. Rather than continuing to practice control and conquer parenting she strives to honor the uniqueness of each of her children, accept her own innate mothering style and by slowing down, appreciate the beauty that surrounds her. This books speaks to the masses of mothers who feel uncertain at times and offers a new approach, a new calm and ultimately a new happy place.

The life force, also known as "spirit," is the essence of being and the conscious and most important form of energy. Living energy is personal and within our conscious control, and by learning about it, we can use it to transform our life into vibrant and meaningful expressions of who we really are. Consciousness is purely energetic and therefore difficult to quantify in mechanistic terms. It is the characteristic of living energy and is the foundation of awareness. Consciousness is the thread running through all life. Living Energy is an introduction to the process of mystic spirituality. The reader is encouraged to attain a deep and meaningful connection to the divine with expanded awareness. The principles given in this book are equally relevant to the novice and the advanced practitioner. Robert explains how we may reveal our hidden potential by shifting our perception away from what is customary and comfortable to open the doors to greater

spiritual awareness.

"I'm reading this book right now and loving it!"--Cheryl Strayed, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Wild* How can a mother and daughter who love (but don't always like) each other coexist without driving each other crazy? "Vibrating with emotion, this deeply honest account strikes a chord."--People "A wry and moving meditation on aging and the different kinds of love between women."--O: The Oprah Magazine After surviving a traumatic childhood in nineteen-seventies New York and young adulthood living in the shadow of her flamboyant mother, Rita, a makeup-addicted former television singer, Elissa Altman has managed to build a very different life, settling in Connecticut with her wife of nearly twenty years. After much time, therapy, and wine, Elissa is at last in a healthy place, still orbiting around her mother but keeping far enough away to preserve the stable, independent world she has built as a writer and editor. Then Elissa is confronted with the unthinkable: Rita, whose days are spent as a flâneur, traversing Manhattan from the Clinique counters at Bergdorf to Bloomingdale's and back again, suffers an incapacitating fall, leaving her completely dependent upon her daughter. Now Elissa is forced to finally confront their profound differences, Rita's yearning for beauty and glamour, her view of the world through her days in the spotlight, and the money that has mysteriously disappeared in the name of preserving youth. To sustain their fragile mother-daughter bond, Elissa must navigate the turbulent waters of their shared lives, the practical challenges of caregiving for someone who refuses to accept it, the tentacles of narcissism, and the mutual, frenetic obsession that has defined their relationship. *Motherland* is a story that touches every home and every life, mapping the ferocity of maternal love, moral obligation, the choices women make about motherhood, and the possibility of healing. Filled with tenderness, wry irreverence, and unforgettable characters, it is an exploration of what it means to escape from the shackles of the past only to have to face them all over again. Praise for *Motherland* "Rarely has a mother-daughter relationship been excavated with such honesty. Elissa Altman is a beautiful, big-hearted writer who mines her most central subject: her gorgeous, tempestuous, difficult mother, and the terrain of their shared life. The result is a testament to the power of love and family."--Dani Shapiro, author of *Inheritance*

Explores how mothers can unwittingly pass their own self-esteem and body image issues to their daughters, and includes advice on how to overcome these negative messages.

Small print edition 5x8 Starkishia: Estrella is a story about a little girl who grew up too fast to feel the grass wear thin under the soles of her shoes. Abuse thickened her skin, yet her nightmares were as dark as they were real. The library became her sanctuary where stories took her to another place and time. But, in reality there was nothing imaginary about the bruises under her clothing as she advanced from one classroom to another during middle school, or nothing fictitious about being molested by the maggot hands of a despicable relative. Her plight was hidden in a small town in Georgia,

just as her physical abuse was disregarded by the school's social worker. This colored child was brought into this world by her 14 year old mother who was ruthlessly dominated by her husband. Starkishia loved her mother above all else; her step-father who provided shelter for them witnessed her birth and helped raise her. She consumed pieces of joy, but sometimes she received broken reprisals and ended up walking down the dark road alone; yet in some fortunate way humanity was always within reach. After her parents split up, Starkishia and her family ended up in Texas. Single parenthood changed their family structure forevermore. Starkishia became a wage earner at age 13; she also became homeless the following year. She was, for years, engulfed by her impoverished and dysfunctional environment. She married a native of Mexico a few days after her 15th birthday. He nicknamed her 'Estrella' a Spanish term which means 'Star.' It goes without saying that Starkishia was born in the land of opportunity, but it was not exactly within her reach. Yes, she was her grandmother's star, but she was a statistic of minimal proportions as far as small town and suburbia America was concerned. Shortly after marriage, she became a mother. Afterward the life of this teen went downhill at lightning speed. Many readers will identify with her; for, she walked away from her husband broken hearted; then, she fell in love with another man, and as new babies arrived, she took her limited funds and focused on the lives of those under her roof; in time, her parental absence to her oldest two children turned flat out into abandonment. Have mercy! Starkishia was a lost teen, but through grace she eventually became a productive woman in American society. Meredith Etc., a small press, proudly introduces readers to Starkishia: Estrella, a story about the perils of teen parenthood, economic dispossession, and the charity of new beginnings. Meredith Coleman McGee, Publisher/Acquisition Editor Meredith Etc., a small press Jackson, Mississippi, USA [www.meredithetc.com](http://www.meredithetc.com)

A "riveting and illuminating" Bill Gates Summer Reading pick about how and why some nations recover from trauma and others don't (Yuval Noah Harari), by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of the landmark bestseller Guns, Germs, and Steel. In his international bestsellers Guns, Germs and Steel and Collapse, Jared Diamond transformed our understanding of what makes civilizations rise and fall. Now, in his third book in this monumental trilogy, he reveals how successful nations recover from crises while adopting selective changes -- a coping mechanism more commonly associated with individuals recovering from personal crises. Diamond compares how six countries have survived recent upheavals -- ranging from the forced opening of Japan by U.S. Commodore Perry's fleet, to the Soviet Union's attack on Finland, to a murderous coup or countercoup in Chile and Indonesia, to the transformations of Germany and Austria after World War Two. Because Diamond has lived and spoken the language in five of these six countries, he can present gut-wrenching histories experienced firsthand. These nations coped, to varying degrees, through mechanisms such as acknowledgment of responsibility, painfully honest self-appraisal, and learning from models of other nations. Looking to the future,

Diamond examines whether the United States, Japan, and the whole world are successfully coping with the grave crises they currently face. Can we learn from lessons of the past? Adding a psychological dimension to the in-depth history, geography, biology, and anthropology that mark all of Diamond's books, *Upheaval* reveals factors influencing how both whole nations and individual people can respond to big challenges. The result is a book epic in scope, but also his most personal yet.

Interwoven accounts of the author's life and the life of her Russian-born mother, a leading Communist organizer in America, reveal a mother and daughter's attempts to make sense of one another's lives.

'A tender and graceful study of parents and children, and a finely judged and measured attempt to capture the flitting, quicksilver shapes of what we keep and what we lose: the touch, the tone, the gaze of the past as it fades. It is a moving and beautifully achieved memoir, and a testament to the writer's skill and generosity of spirit.' —Hilary Mantel Before the devastating 'loss of her marbles', Mrs Royle, a nurse by profession, is a marvellously no-nonsense character, an autodidact who reads widely and voraciously, swears at her fox-hunting neighbours, and instils in the young Nick a love of literature and of wildlife that will form his character and his career. In this touching, funny and beautifully written portrait of family life, mother-son relationships and bereavement, Nicholas Royle captures the spirit of post-war parenting as well as of his mother, whose dementia and death were triggered by the tragedy of losing her other son—Royle's younger brother—to cancer in his twenties. At once poetic and philosophical, this extraordinary memoir is also a powerful reflection on climate crisis and 'mother nature', on literature and life writing, on human and non-human animals, and on the links between the maternal and memory itself.

*My Father's Glass Eye* is Jeannie's struggle to honour her father, her larger-than-life hero, but also the man who named her after his daughter from a previous marriage, a daughter who died. After his funeral, Jeannie spends the next decade in escalating mania, in and out of hospitals - increasingly obsessed with the other Jeanne. Obsession turns to investigation as she plumbs her childhood awareness of her dead half-sibling and hunts for clues into the mysterious circumstances of her death. It becomes a puzzle she she must solve to better understand herself and her father. Jeannie pulls us into her unravelling with such intimacy that her insanity becomes palpable, even logical. A brilliant exploration of the human psyche, *My Father's Glass Eye* deepens our definitions of love, sanity, grief, and recovery.

Malene Tiombe's story is all too familiar to us all: Growing up in a family faced with poverty, drug addiction and abuse, she became a mother at the age of 16. But Malene's story does not end in the way we all too frequently hear. Malene tells her story through poetry, taking us from the disillusioned child learning of her mother's drug abuse through struggles with relationships and finally discovering herself. *Beyond These Glass Walls* is a moving memoir, a testimony of faith, and a work of extraordinary poetry.

You think you know these stories, don't you? You are wrong. You don't know them at all. Twelve tales, twelve dangerous tales of mystery, magic, and rebellious hearts. Each twists like a spindle to reveal truths full of warning and triumph, truths that free hearts long kept tame, truths that explore life . . . and death. A prince has a surprising awakening . . . A beauty fights like a beast . . . A boy refuses to become prey . . . A path to happiness is lost. . . then found again. New York Times bestselling author Soman Chainani respins old stories into fresh fairy tales for a new era and creates a world like no other. These stories know you. They understand you. They reflect you. They are tales for our times. So read on, if you dare.

How would you handle losing the #1 person in your life? Ryan Krohn lived the perfect life as a college student without a care in his perfect

world. But then that perfect world came to a screeching halt when his beloved mother, Patricia, was T-boned by a semi-truck. Shattered, the community grieving along with them, Ryan and his family spent an agonizing week at the hospital, making the toughest decision anyone should never have to make. In these pages, Ryan Krohn shares this painful journey and the invaluable advice his mother gave him as he struggled to find a true purpose in being the one left behind.

The author of *Seeking Rapture* and *The Kiss* recounts how a family emergency renewed her battle with depression and anorexia, a period during which she vividly remembered her relationship with her overly critical mother. 20,000 first printing.

"A story that lingers in the heart long after the last page is turned." —HOPE EDELMAN, bestselling author of *Motherless Daughters* and *The Possibility of Everything* This provocative, poignant memoir of a daughter whose mother left her behind by choice begs the question: Are we destined to make the same mistakes as our parents? One summer, Melissa Cistaro's mother drove off without explanation Devastated, Melissa and her brothers were left to pick up the pieces, always tormented by the thought: Why did their mother abandon them? Thirty-five years later, with children of her own, Melissa finds herself in Olympia, Washington, as her mother is dying. After decades of hiding her painful memories, she has just days to find out what happened that summer and confront the fear she could do the same to her kids. But Melissa never expects to stumble across a cache of letters her mother wrote to her but never sent, which could hold the answers she seeks. Haunting yet ultimately uplifting, *Pieces of My Mother* chronicles one woman's quest to discover what drives a mother to walk away from the children she loves. Alternating between Melissa's tumultuous coming-of-age and her mother's final days, this captivating memoir reveals how our parents' choices impact our own and how we can survive those to forge our own paths.

The Church sees Mary as the "earthside of the Incarnation." In an attempt to understand the critical role she played in this great event, this book looks at her life as a young girl who said "yes" to an angel and brought God into the world. It begins with a discussion of her obedience as the pivotal point in our salvation. It continues with an examination of five aspects of her maternity - giving birth, nurturing, relinquishing, sorrow and joy. Our own lives parallel these stages in our conversion (giving birth), spiritual growth (nurturing), surrender to God (relinquishing), bearing our cross (sorrow) and the new life through the Resurrection (joy). Thus Mary can become our guide as we make our journey toward Christ. Further, by a focus on the humanity of Mary, we not only come closer to the mystery of the Incarnation but begin to grasp how the Church declared May to be the "Mother of God. This reverence receives strong emphasis in Orthodox Christianity.

Questions for study and reflection follow the end of each chapter. Though relevant throughout the year, this book is especially timely for Advent reading. Also, it would be especially appropriate for an individual or group retreat.

A Hollywood icon discusses her incredible life, from her starring role on the classic sitcom *Laverne and Shirley* to her trailblazing moment as the first woman to direct a movie grossing more than \$100 million at the box office.

Memoir of the Ultimate Latchkey is a story of a kid who faces incredible hardships and uses those struggles as motivation to change his circumstances. The protagonist swiftly graduates from a naive child into a seductive life of crime and countless trysts. This story centers on his love for women and how they shape his view of the world. Along the way, he learns life lessons through the drug trade of Manhattan and he meets pivotal people during the journey that help him find himself. Christopher blurs the lines of right and wrong to create a grey hue of reality that governs his moves.

Winner of the PEN/Martha Albrand Award for the Art of the Memoir and finalist for the National Jewish Book Award, Truth Comes in Blows is renowned editor and critic Ted Solotaroff's prize-winning account of a coming of age at once quintessentially American and especially vexed.

The Glass Castle: A Memoir by Jeannette Walls | Summary & Analysis Preview: Jeannette Walls chronicles all the heartbreak, deprivation, humor, and love of her childhood in The Glass Castle, a memoir of growing up dirt-poor on a cross-country odyssey with her charismatic, but alcoholic, father and her codependent mother. Jeannette began thinking of her childhood after spotting her mother, Rose Mary, rummaging through trash in New York City. Her parents were basically living on the street, but offers of help were always rejected. Jeannette went home to her husband's apartment on Park Avenue. She arranged to have lunch with her mom, who advised her to stop feeling guilty, accept her parents as they were, and stop hiding the truth about them. Taking this advice, Jeannette started writing her story. Her first memory went back to a trailer park in Arizona. At the age of three, she spent six weeks in a hospital after her pink tutu caught fire while she was boiling hot dogs with no supervision... PLEASE NOTE: This is a summary and analysis of the book and NOT the original book. Inside this Instaread Summary & Analysis of The Glass Castle • Summary of book • Introduction to the Important People in the book • Analysis of the Themes and Author's Style

Journalist Walls grew up with parents whose ideals and stubborn nonconformity were their curse and their salvation. Rex and Rose Mary and their four children lived like nomads, moving among Southwest desert towns, camping in the mountains. Rex was a charismatic, brilliant man who, when sober, captured his children's imagination, teaching them how to embrace life fearlessly. Rose Mary painted and wrote and couldn't stand the responsibility of providing for her family. When the money ran out, the Walls retreated to the dismal West Virginia mining town Rex had tried to escape. As the dysfunction escalated, the children had to fend for themselves, supporting one another as they found the resources and will to leave home. Yet Walls describes her parents with deep affection in this tale of unconditional love in a family that, despite its profound flaws, gave her the fiery determination to carve out a successful life. -- From publisher description.

The acclaimed New York Times bestseller by Sue Klebold, mother of one of the Columbine shooters, about living in the aftermath

of Columbine. On April 20, 1999, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold walked into Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. Over the course of minutes, they would kill twelve students and a teacher and wound twenty-four others before taking their own lives. For the last sixteen years, Sue Klebold, Dylan's mother, has lived with the indescribable grief and shame of that day. How could her child, the promising young man she had loved and raised, be responsible for such horror? And how, as his mother, had she not known something was wrong? Were there subtle signs she had missed? What, if anything, could she have done differently? These are questions that Klebold has grappled with every day since the Columbine tragedy. In *A Mother's Reckoning*, she chronicles with unflinching honesty her journey as a mother trying to come to terms with the incomprehensible. In the hope that the insights and understanding she has gained may help other families recognize when a child is in distress, she tells her story in full, drawing upon her personal journals, the videos and writings that Dylan left behind, and on countless interviews with mental health experts. Filled with hard-won wisdom and compassion, *A Mother's Reckoning* is a powerful and haunting book that sheds light on one of the most pressing issues of our time. And with fresh wounds from the Newtown and Charleston shootings, never has the need for understanding been more urgent. All author profits from the book will be donated to research and to charitable organizations focusing on mental health issues. — Washington Post, Best Memoirs of 2016

What happens when you discover that the person you admire, love and trust most of all has secretly discredited your integrity for most of your life—even on their deathbed? Rebecca Painter's frank, far-flung and often funny exploration of a painful mother-daughter relationship is for anyone challenged by hidden as well as open assaults on their character. To understand and heal her deep-rooted/lifelong trauma, the author transports readers across the Pacific to her mother's youth in the outback of 1920s New Zealand, and Rachel's fateful voyage to the Pacific Northwest in 1939. Did a telegraph error ruin her engagement to the man she called the love of her life? Why would she quickly marry an American cult leader, Rebecca's father, whose paranormal influence lingers after his untimely death? We witness the family's survival struggles, and Rebecca's challenges as an outsider attending an elite women's college—which resemble the barriers her mother faced in the British class system. Rebecca's dream of a scholarly career is deferred, but her prayers are answered by the chance to care for and be reconciled with her dying mother. [LOVE] RACHEL speaks of believable miracles, and—despite decades of soul-wrenching negative judgments—how personal integrity can be defended and empowered from within. “A gripping, haunting journey of forgiveness. Despite her mother's harsh judgments, Rebecca learns to love herself, have compassion for her mother...and comes to terms with their demons. Her memoir is a lyrical and intelligent page-turner and an inspiration.” —Carole Mallory, actress, supermodel, author of *Picasso's Ghost*, *Loving Mailer*, and *Flash* “Rebecca Painter's wonderful memoir examines the compelling, dramatic and puzzling events of her mother's life, in her struggle to understand their fraught relationship.... As a daughter, I consider this to be more than just a great story. It is a truly important read about human relations.” —Miriam Katin, artist, author of award-winning illustrated memoir *We Are on Our Own and Letting It Go* “A daringly honest, amazing account of a complex, always fascinating relationship.” — Lee J. Strauss, author of *The First Language* and *Toward a Biology of Culture*

For fans of Maggie Nelson and Meghan O'Rourke, Jeannie Vanasco emerges as a definitive new voice in this stunning portrait of a daughter's love for her father and her near-unraveling after his death.

"[A] delicious literary Gothic debut." –THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW, EDITORS' CHOICE "Moody and evocative as a fever dream, *Catherine House* is the sort of book that wraps itself around your brain, drawing you closer with each hypnotic step." – THE WASHINGTON POST A Most Anticipated Novel by Entertainment Weekly • New York magazine • Cosmopolitan • The Atlantic • Forbes • Good Housekeeping • Parade • Better Homes and Gardens • HuffPost • BuzzFeed • Newsweek • Harper's Bazaar • Ms. Magazine • Woman's Day • PopSugar • and more! A gothic-infused debut of literary suspense, set within a secluded, elite university and following a dangerously curious, rebellious undergraduate who uncovers a shocking secret about an exclusive circle of students . . . and the dark truth beneath her school's promise of prestige. Trust us, you belong here. *Catherine House* is a school of higher learning like no other. Hidden deep in the woods of rural Pennsylvania, this crucible of reformist liberal arts study with its experimental curriculum, wildly selective admissions policy, and formidable endowment, has produced some of the world's best minds: prize-winning authors, artists, inventors, Supreme Court justices, presidents. For those lucky few selected, tuition, room, and board are free. But acceptance comes with a price. Students are required to give the House three years—summers included—completely removed from the outside world. Family, friends, television, music, even their clothing must be left behind. In return, the school promises a future of sublime power and prestige, and that its graduates can become anything or anyone they desire. Among this year's incoming class is Ines Murillo, who expects to trade blurry nights of parties, cruel friends, and dangerous men for rigorous intellectual discipline—only to discover an environment of sanctioned revelry. Even the school's enigmatic director, Viktória, encourages the students to explore, to expand their minds, to find themselves within the formidable iron gates of *Catherine*. For Ines, it is the closest thing to a home she's ever had. But the House's strange protocols soon make this refuge, with its worn velvet and weathered leather, feel increasingly like a gilded prison. And when tragedy strikes, Ines begins to suspect that the school—in all its shabby splendor, hallowed history, advanced theories, and controlled decadence—might be hiding a dangerous agenda within the secretive, tightly knit group of students selected to study its most promising and mysterious curriculum. Combining the haunting sophistication and dusky, atmospheric style of Sarah Waters with the unsettling isolation of Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go*, *Catherine House* is a devious, deliciously steamy, and suspenseful page-turner with shocking twists and sharp edges that is sure to leave readers breathless.

This chilling memoir by author Monique Parrish explores the rocky terrain of her life with two narcissistic parents.

*What Led Me to You* is the story of how a mother's faith and family grew in ways she never expected. Carrie became a foster parent hoping to show the love of Jesus to children in need. She soon discovered that she also was in need of His love, more than ever. It wasn't until God started to peel back layers in Carrie's life that she learned how to put her trust in God. As Carrie started seeking God's will, her life became less like the cookie-cutter shape she had imagined and more the shape God intended for her family.

## Read Book The Glass Mother A Memoir

Now a major motion picture from Lionsgate starring Brie Larson, Woody Harrelson, and Naomi Watts. MORE THAN SEVEN YEARS ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER LIST The perennially bestselling, extraordinary, one-of-a-kind, “nothing short of spectacular” (Entertainment Weekly) memoir from one of the world’s most gifted storytellers. The Glass Castle is a remarkable memoir of resilience and redemption, and a revelatory look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional and uniquely vibrant. When sober, Jeannette’s brilliant and charismatic father captured his children’s imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and how to embrace life fearlessly. But when he drank, he was dishonest and destructive. Her mother was a free spirit who abhorred the idea of domesticity and didn’t want the responsibility of raising a family. The Walls children learned to take care of themselves. They fed, clothed, and protected one another, and eventually found their way to New York. Their parents followed them, choosing to be homeless even as their children prospered. The Glass Castle is truly astonishing—a memoir permeated by the intense love of a peculiar but loyal family.

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