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Cult Child



Cult Child

Vennie Kocsis



Synopsis

The harrowing first-person account of one child's ordeals inside the isolated commune of an ultra-fundamentalist religious cult. An Best Seller in Child Abuse and Religious Cults, July 2016! It is 1973. Sila Caprin's mother is recruited into "Sam Fife's Move of God"; within the year, Sila and her older siblings, Leis and Jeremy, along with all of the family's belongings, are packed into the back of a U-Haul, leaving California for their new home in Massachusetts. Eventually they will be taken deep into the harsh Alaskan tundra, to live on a compound surrounded by miles of woods and monitored by armed men. With every detail of their lives minutely controlled by Sam Fife's violent teachings, Sila endures physical, mental and sexual abuse as she fights to maintain just a glimmer of her own humanity. Creative, intuitive and smart, young Sila vies for individuality in a culture where she is insignificant and unprotected - until the day her sister becomes a victim of an act so dreadful that its sadness becomes their savior. Poignant, gripping and ultimately triumphant, Vennie Kocsis "Cult Child" will leave you inspired by the pure strength of will that children use to cope themselves through trauma. "Her fortress is no bigger than the space between her ears; but through quiet internal resistance, Sila halts her opponents and outlasts their ten year siege." Dolon Hickmon, author of "13:24".

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Customer Reviews

As an abuse survivor I found sadness in my heart while reading Cult Child. I wanted to scream, "RUN!" I was on the edge of my seat when "Fran" arrived. The little girl's strong sense of self and survival are apparent and I believe that is why she was able to live through the abuses forced on her at the hands of the real demons, the cult leaders and abusers in her life. I'm proud of the Author for rising up and I want to thank her for telling her story. She matters. A special message to the little girl that the Author used to be.. from the little girl that I used to be:~ The trees we relied on for those rare moments of peace may be gone from this earth, so we shall let every tree we see remind us of our growth, our power, and our worth. ~

Vennie Kocsis is a friend of mine. When we met as teenagers I had no idea what her life had been before moving to Tennessee. After reading her story I am proud to call her my friend even moreso. She had to go so far back into her mind and heart to unearth all the memories of the oppressive and abusive life inside Sam Fife's Move. I suggest this book to anyone trying to understand what child abuse does to the victim and what cults do to families and how as a world we have to light up all the shadows to expose the demons that are stealing the innocence of our children and breaking us all down to accept pedophilia as it is a cyclic scourge on humanity.

This book was exactly what I needed to read. Vennie's ability to articulate the atrocities that young children endured at Ware will be extremely unnerving for most readers and a brutal reminder for those that shared her horror. I could not put this book down. At the end of the book, the photo of Frank Argento sent chills down my spine. He was my handler during my time at Ware. It's one thing to write a great book. It's another to write a great book about your own life in a manner so compelling that the reader is captivated from the first page to the last picture. Well done

ÃfÂçÃ â ÑÃ Â|from the black cloud of physical, sexual and emotional abuse from deranged, hypocritical adults that shaped her childhood. This is a powerful story that may trigger memories in many. As I read, I wanted to take up this child in my arms and hug her and tell her everything was going to be OK. She would have known I was lying, but probably appreciated it at the moment. There were times when she was so desperately injured no one could touch her without inflicting pain. Other times, her soul was deeply wounded. In spite of a childhood riddled with emotional and

physical pain, Vennie Kocsis found healing. Now she courageously tells her story, familiar to too many people, with the passion of passing this example of healing onto others.

The copy I bought was not "proofed" but despite this small fact I am going to say, "Well done and well written." If Vennie can survive and make something good out of such a sad childhood, then anyone can make it. I truly believe that. The part about the book that surprised me the most was how horribly abusive the Massachusetts compound was compared to Alaska. Maybe that's just my perception. It seemed there was more freedom in Alaska, even though it was still abusive and oppressive. I still say that the ones who suffer the most in a cult are the children. I was in a cult for 13 yrs and can relate to the authoritarian control. Again, the children really suffer. It was so hard to read in the beginning about her mom being completely sucked into it I kept thinking, "Lady please don't". The child abuse was so horrible in this book. It was hard to read it and at the same time, I could not put this book down. I gave it to another cult survivor. Thank you Vennie for writing your story.

When I read *Cult Child*, I was shocked at all that Sila went through all in the name of religion. And people wonder why I don't belong to any organized religion? It still makes me mad that her mother didn't do anything to stop the abuse from going on. I feel that *Cult Child* is a testament of something that happened and is probably still happening in different religious groups to this very day.

I really enjoyed this book. It was so so sad at times. It's hard to believe all these things really happened. Sometimes it can make you sad and sometimes make you laugh. I am really glad that I took the time to read it. It's worth reading.

Writing one's memoirs is a difficult task, but when a writer can do it and make it into something meaningful and compelling - that's called talent. Vennie Kocsis' memoir is an engrossing read, full of complex emotions and themes. Above all, the theme of survival and rising above your own past comes through in beautiful fashion, keeping the reader involved and getting them to think beyond the confines of an every day life. I can't recommend this book enough.

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