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Some Secrets Hurt



Synopsis

The numbers are staggering: One in four girls will be sexually abused before they turn eighteen, and one in six boys. More than two-thirds of all reported victims of sexual abuse are younger than eighteen years old, and more than half of those are younger than twelve. Thirty percent of all children who are victims of sexual abuse will never tell anyone. *Some Secrets Hurt* tells the story of Maggie, a young victim of sexual abuse who finds the courage to tell. It educates parent and child alike and encourages children to find the strength to tell if they are being victimized. It also gives parents a forum to discuss these sensitive issues with their children and find support and help if needed. *Some Secrets Hurt* includes a guide for parents and suggestions on what to do if your child has been sexually abused.

Book Information

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 3â "Maggie has a secret, and within the first few pages of this spare picture book, readers see that it makes her stomach hurt and makes her want to cry. She knows all about the danger of strangers but "strangers aren't the only people who can be dangerous." Someoneâ "who looks in the illustrations like a big black shadowâ "is touching Maggie in ways that make her feel uncomfortable. She is scared to tell her parents, but she does; they believe her and hug her and it feels good. The story ends with standard advice about sexual abuse directed at the very young: touching is wrong if it makes you feel uncomfortable; trust your feelings; if it happens, get away and tell someone; telling protects other children; and "You will start to feel better soon." This didactic

book is clearly designed to be read aloud as the basis of a more personal and detailed discussion. Pastel watercolor sketches make Maggie's anxiety palpable and show her behaving more confidently after she tells. Peter Ledwon's *Mia's Secret* (Tundra, 2006) covers similar territory but with more developed illustrations and with a fully realized child who solves her own dilemma on the way to getting her mother's help. Oralea Wachter's more nuanced *No More Secrets for Me* (Little, Brown, 1984) contains four engaging, short stories that depict a range of situations in which children encounter uncomfortable touching from adults and the youngsters, as well as the people they turn to for help, find appropriate resolutions.âCarolyn Lehman, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA
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A powerful and carefully written book for young victims of abuse. It will help traumatized children take the first big step towards feeling better. The authors have put together an effective therapeutic tool. Kevin Hinckley, M.Ed., author of *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* --Kevin Hinckley, M.Ed., author of *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* Finally, a book about sexual abuse that is simple, sensitive, and tasteful. This carefully crafted story is sure to help children and parents alike. Brad Wilcox, author of *Growing Up and Where Do Babies Come From?* --Brad Wilcox author of *Growing Up and Where Do Babies Come From?* The fear experienced by sexually abused children often leads to silence. Linda Garner's engaging book gently invites an end to silence and opens a door to communication. Parents and professionals will find it a valuable tool. David Folland, M.D. --David Folland, M.D. The fear experienced by sexually abused children often leads to silence. Linda Garner's engaging book gently invites an end to silence and opens a door to communication. Parents and professionals will find it a valuable tool. David Folland, M.D. --David Folland, M.D. A powerful and carefully written book for young victims of abuse. It will help traumatized children take the first big step towards feeling better. The authors have put together an effective therapeutic tool. Kevin Hinckley, M.Ed., author of *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child* --Kevin Hinckley, M.Ed., author of *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child*

Made the topic of sexual abuse, it's prevention, and the actions to take when it occurs easy to talk about with our children. The book was not "scary" and it addressed the issue of "strangers" not always being the people who present the danger. It also empowers a child to be brave and seek help and has a helpful guide for parents. Our children are ages 6 and 9. The book held their attention and invited conversation on the subject without making any of us feel awkward. I would even recommend this book for children as young as 3 years of age. The story telling and pictures

are simple and the "how-to"s / rules of safety were also very simply stated and understandable. Wish we had had this book in our parenting tool box years ago!

This is such an important topic to discuss with children. I am amazed how many people I know who have been sexually abused. And it seems like numbers are increasing. Every parent should read and discuss this with their kids. It is really gently put but stresses the importance of children not suffering with knowledge of the events and rather telling trusted parents or adults that they have happened. Thanks to the wonderful author and illustrator for writing such a powerful and important parental tool that will help children "abused or not.

Some Secrets Hurt, is a valuable tool to educate and protect children. The simplicity of the pictures and story make it easy to share an important message about abuse with children. This book should be in every home and read multiple times. It makes a difficult topic to discuss easy to share. Thank you Linda for caring enough about children to create this valuable tool.

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