



## Sister of Silence (Appalachian Families) (Volume 1)

By Daleen Berry

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This memoir follows the author's harrowing journey from teen mom to award-winning journalist and *New York Times* best-selling author. At thirteen, Daleen Berry was raped. By sixteen, she was barefoot and pregnant. And at twenty-one she was a mother of four children, tumbling headlong into a dark depression that nearly claimed all their lives.

A riveting true story, this memoir peers into the most horrible moments of Ms. Berry's life—and demonstrates the astonishing resilience of the human spirit.

*Sister of Silence* has been called a “brave book,” Ms. Berry a “magnificent storyteller.” It was banned from Livermore High School in California in 2012 and turned into a TED talk in 2013.

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

Daleen Berry thought she was happy--until Eddie. Berry doesn't present herself as a saint, nor Eddie as a complete monster. A former FBI agent sets the theme: Acquaintance or marital rape is still rape. Berry is an engaging writer, her style fluid, with welcome touches of humor and sustained tension throughout. A seldom-seen perspective. --*Kirkus*

Writing *Sister of Silence* could not have been easy for award-winning journalist Daleen Berry. Berry reveals her dark secret with clarity and frankness in hopes of saving others from making her mistakes. Berry's story is not an easy read, though her prose is strong and her memory acute. --**ForeWord Clarion Review**--5 Stars, by *Barbara Bamberger Scott*

### From the Author

It took me twenty years to write this memoir, but it wasn't until 2007, when I interviewed Jeannette Walls (*The Glass Castle*) and she told me I was writing too objectively (like the reporter I am)--and that my writing didn't go deeply enough into the emotions I was feeling--that I really got to the heart of this story.

The reason it took me twenty years to write is because for much of that time, I was a single parent and I was rearing my four children. I lost the computer files my early manuscript was saved on at least three times--forcing me to stop writing just so I could retype the manuscript from the paper copies I had saved. (A word to the wise: NEVER rely solely on electronic files. Always have a back up!)

After I completed *Sister of Silence*, I still waited to publish it, because I wanted to ensure my children were well on their way to adulthood when that happened. And I wanted their blessing, any input about changing their names, and so on. Happily, they gave me all of that and more in 2006, when we convened a family meeting about "The Book."

I didn't write this memoir as a sordid "tell-all." I wrote it instead to help people understand the dynamics involved in inappropriate and psychologically damaging adult-child sexual relationships. I also wanted to show how alcoholism and absent parents lead to "at-risk" children and domestic violence. Finally, I hoped other people will see how powerful these forces are--because I don't think society understands them even one-tenth of what it should, when it comes to the dynamics involved.

But more than that, I wrote *Sister of Silence* to help parents understand they are doing their children no favors when they themselves are too squeamish to discuss sex. If anything, children today are as susceptible to the charms of a child molester as they ever were--because parents refuse to accept that these dangerous adults look and act just like we do. In fact, if anything, what is often said after someone is charged with harming a child sexually, is that "he was the nicest guy. I'd never have known he'd do anything like that." (Ironically, they say the same thing about men who beat their wives and children.)

Most important, I hope I've taught you that not only can you escape abuse and survive terrible violence, but you can thrive after the fact, too!

### About the Author

Daleen Berry is a New York Times best-selling author, an editor, and an investigative journalist who also contributes to the Huffington Post, the Daily Beast and xoJane. She is the author of six other books, including the true-crime book about Skylar Neese's murder, "Pretty Little Killers." She has appeared on NBC, ABC, CBS, Discovery ID and Lifetime TV networks.

Ms. Berry has written more than 3,000 articles for regional publications and newspapers across the country. She is an invited speaker at local and national events featuring child abuse and domestic violence issues and in April 2013 she gave a TEDx talk based on her memoir.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Judith Joiner:**

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#### **William Rockwood:**

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them household or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent the whole day to reading a guide. The book Sister of Silence (Appalachian Families) (Volume 1) it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book offers high quality.

#### **Betty Peoples:**

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only gives you straight forward sentences but challenging core information with beautiful delivering sentences. Having Sister of Silence (Appalachian Families) (Volume 1) in your hand like obtaining the world in your arm, facts in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no reserve that offer you world inside ten or fifteen minute right but this publication already do that. So , it is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt that will?

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