



Battered (Toxic Thoughts, #1)

Juanita Ray

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Toxic Thoughts is true story series about adversity and resilience.

Running around a basement looking for a safe place to hide from a wild eyed step-witch wielding a pair of scissors wasn't a life I ever imagined or wanted.

I'm Jacynta Roth. I wasn't born into a dysfunctional family. I was the sixth child in a loving household ... but that was long before my widowed father developed a dysfunctional relationship with the married woman next door.

At age four, I lost my dying mother to cancer. For two years my twelve year old brother and thirteen year old sister played Mom and Dad to us younger four siblings, while my father was stationed at various air force bases away from home. Just before my sixth birthday, my father Ned and his best friend packed up our families, and drove five hundred miles to start a new life.

On the morning of my sixth birthday, my friend and I, while spying through a fence hole, witnessed a woman assaulting two boys. That's the moment I realized how lucky I was. We didn't tell anyone. All the adults were focused on the upcoming housewarming party for my poor lonely Dad, Ned Roth. He's quite the catch, with all his fancy new furniture and state of the art appliances but he's never home long enough to make start a romance with a decent woman.

At my Dad's party he meets and develops an affair with a woman and eventually tells us that a new housekeeper, named Irma, is moving in. To my horror it's the same woman I spied on through the fence and she has her two battered boys in tow. Eventually Irma's "dead" husband surfaces and approaches me to help him kidnap his two sons from a woman the courts will soon label an unfit mother.

Yes, I survived. I'm the Jacynta Roth who saw the new neighbor beat her kids. I'm the girl who thought it wasn't my problem, until she left her husband and moved in with us. Now her ex-husband is bugging me to help get his two kids back. Life sucks. My sister has vanished and the new step-witch is trying to get rid of us one by one. I wonder who's next?

Battered (Toxic Thoughts, #1) Details

Date : Published October 17th 2013 by Juanita Ray (first published September 4th 2013)

ISBN : 9781936954018

Author : Juanita Ray

Format : Paperback 351 pages

Genre : Self Help

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From Reader Review Battered (Toxic Thoughts, #1) for online ebook

Scott Ray says

This book is great. Once I started I could not put it down. It made me laugh and made me cry and mad at times at how parents can treat kids and get away with it. This book is very well written. I could sense and almost see the characters and feel the emotions of how they felt. It makes you think about our society and who the laws really seem to protect. There are some cool descriptions of surroundings and attention to details that I really enjoyed, like, a bed of green grass curls and moves with the tide like cooked spinach. I would recommend this to anyone 16 and up to read.

Precious Rose says

i read it, and read it, and i read it until it was done. and i hated it, well not the writing, the author or anything to do with the composition, i hated the content. it made me angry, emotionally angry like when i read wuthering heights and hated and loved heathcliff at the same time and when that happens you know its a good book. it draws you in, it makes you feel things, gets you involved in the character's life. and then it spits you out at the end wanting more and hating yourself for wanting more like a bad habit, an addiction that makes you feel guilty. i read a child called it when i was a kid and wondered how this could be, how could there be such abuse in the world and this book lends to the fact that yes, indeed, there is such abuse in the world. but there is also a light at the end of the tunnel. it may not be perfect, not so much a spotlight, more like a dim, red flashlight, but at least its something to hold onto. great book, cant wait to read the next addiction.

Rob Rose says

I normally spend a month reading a book, but with this book I found myself picking it up whenever I had a spare moment. Found the book very interesting, and amusing. Hard to believe people can be so blind to things going on around them. Looking forward to the next book. Great book Juanita Ray Ray.

Bridget says

Battered engaged me from the very beginning. The author did an excellent job of narrating from a young girl's perspective, but still writing in a way that is interesting and compelling for adult readers. It's a tragic story with glimmers of hope throughout, and that's what makes the characters so easy to connect with, particularly young Jacinta, who is the narrator. I found myself rooting for her throughout the novel. I experienced the highs and lows, of which there were many, along with Jacinta. Can't wait to read what happens next in book 2.

Cory Rose says

wow I mean yeah this book is amazing! I hate the situation so much, but as a reader there is nothing you can do about it, BRAVO! so much emotional control. this book is amazing! read it don't think about it, read it!

I wanted to freaking kill some people in this book but I will leave it spoiler free, do yourself a favor and read it!
