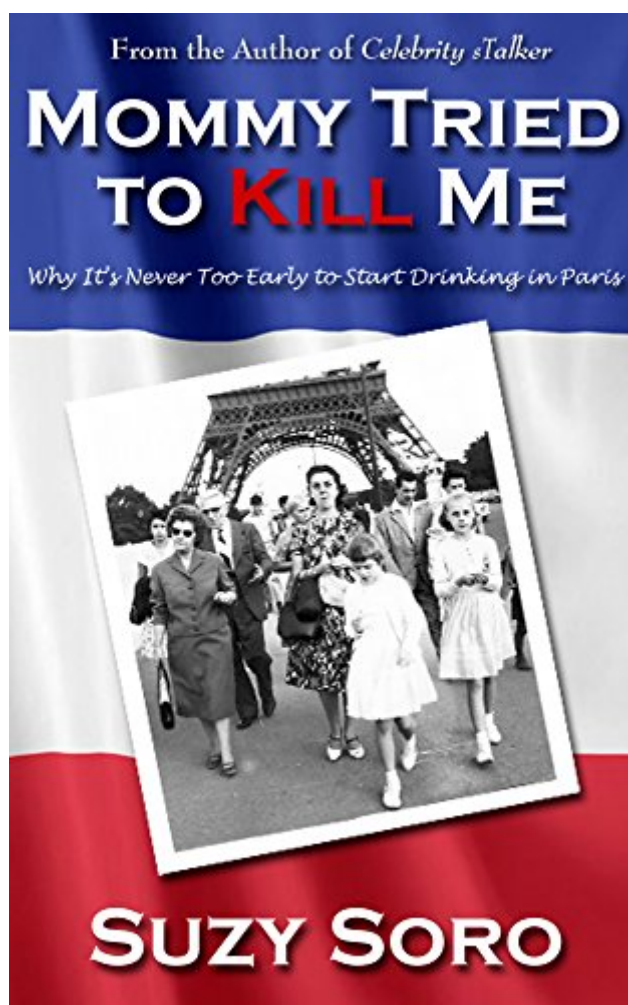


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Mommy Tried To Kill Me: Why It's Never Too Early To Start Drinking In Paris



Synopsis

Comedian Suzy Soro's latest book is memoir done right. It's self-effacing without being too earnest, hilarious without being too blunt, and spot on when it comes to secrets, and her family is rife with secrets. To survive requires armor and Soro is properly suited for this work. She deftly blends her particular brand of humor with the heartbreak of caring for her mother, who lives in France. Soro spent all her summers in Europe and went to college in Paris but hasn't been back in twenty years. Can she leave Los Angeles and try and mend the rifts with her mother that have plagued them over a lifetime? Although her "privileged poverty," some odd health woes, and a highly critical mother could weigh down a memoir, Soro's skill as a comedy writer pairs with her acerbic and simultaneously charming tone to take the reader through a series of French nightmares. It's one calamity after another and as the weeks drag on, it doesn't look like the problems will end or that Soro will ever master the metric system as well as she masters wine and pastries.

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Customer Reviews

I was fortunate to be an early reader of this book and I loved every bit of it. Let me preface this review with two statements: first, memoir is not my favorite genre; second, I'm a high school English teacher, so I'm a judgmental reader. Soro's latest book is memoir done right. She broke my heart and made me laugh over and over again, often on the same page. I think to survive being a part of a family often requires armor, and Soro is properly suited in this work. She deftly blends her particular brand of humor with the heartbreak of caring for an aging parent who lives on another continent. The combination of Soro's "privileged poverty," some odd health woes, and a highly critical mother could weigh down a memoir (and that's the true problem with this genre), but Soro's skill as a comedy writer pairs with her acerbic and somehow simultaneously charming tone to take the reader on a journey with her. We know she suffers, but she doesn't want us to suffer with her—she wants us to laugh. Soro is self-effacing without being too earnest, hilarious without being too blunt, and spot on when it comes to family secrets, and her family is absolutely rife with secrets. Note the first two sentences of her book: "I believe women can't keep a secret because they talk too much. I believe men can because they aren't listening to you in the first place. It's the perfect beginning to a perfectly awful tell pretty well-told. I highly recommend this memoir, readers.

It was nice to read a story about someone else being mentally tortured by their mother. I read the entire book by the glow of my kindle, under the covers so I could giggle at every misstep. Don't worry; Ms. Soro lived to tell the tale, so it's okay to laugh at her misery. I love her tales about her life as she jumps from the side of her bedridden mother in France, to her hovel, er, I mean apartment in California. I still haven't decided whether her sister is friend or foe. I got right into this book because the author and I have the same math skills, and 200 grams really does mean 200 grandmothers. It's sad that she had to explain that to the rest of you. I hope someday Ms. Soro will reiterate and explain exactly what she meant by "Horses were my first real boyfriends. Um, what? The author touches all of our emotions in this novel which reads like a voyage of self-discovery. I'm glad I found this sweet and sour story. This book is funny, and it's sad. And then it's funny again, and then it's sad. And then it's funny—well, you get my meaning. Just be warned, you need to empty your bladder before you sit down to read it, because you'll

laugh until you pee. Like when the author says (paraphrasing) after a night of wine drinking she was sure her check liver light was on. You'll feel like Dickens little Oliver Twist because when you get to the end you'll be screaming "Please, Ms. Soro, I want some more"

In "Mommy Tried To Kill me" Suzy Soro takes the reader on a brilliantly dark, witty, and often times poignant virtual tour that includes caring for her ailing mother in France, her life in Hollywood, and her own emotional roller coaster world of standup comedy. She careens around decades of time and space with the same surefire dramatic and sarcastic genius of Vonnegut's "Slaughterhouse-Five." Ms. Soro has found a way to deal with the sensitive and painful reality we all have to face when caring for a parent whose health and mind begins to fail. She does so with wit, wisdom, and the perfect balance of humor and self-realization. Each paragraph is chocked full of hilarious and intelligent one-liners that tells you that this is a comedian at the top of her literary game.

I have been reading the writings of Suzy Soro for over a decade now. She is a stand up comedian and started blogging and writing her humor stories on line. (Hollywood: Where Hot Comes To Die) Now she has penned her stories to books. Her first book Celebrity sTaker (available on) had me constantly bothering her for another book. Well, she had to go to Paris to take care of her Mom, and now we have her second book. Mommy Tried to Kill Me. Timing is everything.... I waited and waited for this book. Now I know why. This is the kind of book you just can't fly through. You have to read and set it down so you can adsorb what she has just said. Let the feeling and situations fill you up. Emotions of crying and laughing at the same time come through. All of us with aging parents can benefit from this book. It will shed light for some. (like it has for me with my step dad) It will bring laughter and tears to the hard situations. You will feel empathy for those involved. How a mother the caregiver, caretaker, the teacher of her daughters. The cruelty of time to were it can flip on a dime. To now the daughters who are becoming the caregivers and caretakers. The bumps along the way. The lessons taught and learned some the hard way. Suzy, brings you through all the growing and experiences she had along the way. Side bar stops along the way will have you laughing out loud while you are wiping the tears away. (I would like to say I can't wait for the next book...but, I will be feeling this one for a long time) This is a very poignant book, you will gasp in parts of it. You can feel Suzy emotions as you read and she is also discovering new things about herself...a daughter looking through her mothers eyes and she is seeing herself for the first time. Her own personal

growth and pain of discovering ones own inefficiencies with dealing with ones parent.I follow Suzy on Face Book and while she was in Paris, she would give us updates on line. But, I promise you I had no idea what she was actually dealing with. While she was in Paris, Charlie Hebdo, went down. I knew that. I forgot about it till this book. I knew it was coming just wasn't prepared to be reading it. Gasp again, My friend, Suzy, is there with her Mom...and what just happened. It brings it all to close to home.This book opened my eyes with my aging step dad that I am taking care of. I might have more insight now to what might actually be going on. Sometimes you have to see through other peoples eyes... before you can see it for yourself... this has helped me open mine. It has also taught me to look within as Suzy has had to do.Heart Wrenching with a side bar of Hysterical laughter.Breath taking situations with love ones. Truths, Life lessons, learning and growing with aging parents.Please do yourself a favor and pick this book up. Then go back and get everything else she has done. You will not be disappointed.Geaux Get Your Read on!

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