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Lorri Jeanne's Ramblings

Replacement Child



Replacement Child: A Memoir

by Judy L. Mandel

- Paperback, 258 Pages
- Schlesinger Books, Sept. 2009
- Genre: Biography, Memoir
- ISBN: 978-0-9825146-0-3

Summary:

Making a family whole again.

After the devastating loss of a child, one family finds a solution for healing via a new life.

A Plane crash- the impossible choice a mother must make- the death of a child- leave a hole in the family that threatens to tear it apart. In a great act of hope, the parents give birth to a 'replacement child', born to heal wounds and provide a 'salve for the burns.'

A story of love and transformation, Judy Mandel reveals the everyday realities behind so many tragic headlines, as you follow one woman's brave path to recovery- sometimes through laughter, sometimes through tears- as she embraces the love that allows her to finally forgive.

Judy L. Mandel started her writing career as a reporter for *The Hartford Courant*. She has been an advertising copywriter, corporate marketing director and freelance writer and has worked for several national corporations over the past 20 years. She now owns a marketing firm specializing in writing and project management, while also pursuing her own writing. You can visit her online at www.replacementchild.com.

My Opinion:

Wow, I can't imagine what this family went through! One day a plane crashes into their apartment and kills their oldest daughter, Donna, and several other people. Judy's mother has to choose between taking her youngest daughter, Linda, out of the burning building or trying to get her oldest daughter out from under a beam that has fallen on her. Her oldest daughter, who is only seven years old at the time, tells her to take her sister first. The mother makes it outside but is unable to return because the fire has collapsed the stairs. She hears her daughter screaming and calling for her. The youngest daughter is badly burned and has to go through several operations over the course of her life. After several years, they have another child, Judy, and hope that she will ease their pain. Judy feels guilty at times and feels like she will never measure up to her deceased sister.