



The Princess of Valencia

Susan Straight

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In prose both heartrending and harrowing, National Book Award finalist Susan Straight conjures up the unforgettable voice of a mother coming to terms with her worst nightmare.

Twenty-year-old Jacinta grew up in her mother's family home in Santa Ana, California, surrounded by a grove of orange trees. Little by little, Jacinta's mother lost her—first to college, then to a boy she said she loved, and then, finally, to the rage of a school shooter. Snap. In an instant it was all gone. All she has now is her daughter's phone. Like an album, gripped in the palm of her hand—texts, photos, messages, and videos of her daughter's first three years at college. With it, Jacinta's mother is reconstructing her daughter's last three weeks.

In this uniquely moving exploration of mourning, fury, and reminiscence, Susan Straight evokes—through a grieving mother's devastating internal monologue—both a modern-day nightmare and exquisite proof of love's extraordinary power to overcome it.

The Princess of Valencia Details

Date : Published February 27th 2018 by Amazon Original Stories

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Author : Susan Straight

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Genre : Fiction

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From Reader Review The Princess of Valencia for online ebook

Kalpana says

Short story about college shooting. Different style of writing. Confusing at first but it simplifies after a couple of pages. Touching.

Susan Dannecker says

Wow

I agree with what previous reviewers wrote about the long, meandering sentences, and the first chapter almost made me give up altogether, but stick with it. It'll come together. Just remember, it's coming from a broken, shattered mind filled with wandering thoughts and numbing grief.

Allison says

I don't think the description of this book is truly accurate. It's much more stream of consciousness of a mother's pain after loss than it is her "recreating" her daughter's last weeks. I wasn't prepared for the rawness of the story or how it spilled out in jumbled pieces but it made sense for the story that was really being told.

sharon balding says

At 72 years old I enjoyed the memory of a simpler time. God please help us love one another again. Well written and a sad reflection of the problems we are experiencing.

At 72 years old I enjoyed the memory of a simpler time. God please help us love one another again. Well written and a sad reflection of the life we are experiencing.

Jennifer Darmogray says

Sad story

Kayla says

This story is just so timely. It made me really emotional and definitely bring these types of tragedy in a new light. The perspective was new and I really enjoyed it.

Debbie says

Unusual

Totally different prose than I usually read, but vivid imagery. I didn't think I'd get much out of a Kindle single, but she wrote about a specific incident that basically ended her world. I know if the same thing happened to me, it would end my world but I'd have to go on for my four beloved grandsons. Take a half an hour and read this.

Bonnie says

Apocalypse

This seems like an entire novel. Straight weaves a sad, long song, impossible to not hear. Terrifying to realize that no matter when you read this, it will be shortly after another school shooting.

Stacey says

Another timely read. Another school shooting. In a few pages(this is a very short read) so much pain and heartache. A mother coming to terms that her only child has been taken away while at school from yet another senseless shooting. A rambling string of thoughts as she remembers the distant past to the very recent one and back and forth. The contrast of how it was with hard work and pride to the less personal, technological ways of today and back and forth. It's hypnotizing. Most of all she remembers the oranges and the orange grove. Remembering the simple joy of savoring the sweetness of an orange heavy with juice like the sweetness of her princess Jacinta who passed on too soon from this bitter tragedy.

Jennifer says

Love for an Only Child

This story was so good. The author wrote this from the heart. I hurt for the mom. I hurt for the daughter. I also hurt for the maternal family line.
