



Tiny Prisoners: Two siblings trapped in a world of abuse. One woman determined to free them.

Maggie Hartley

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Evie and Elliot are scrawny, filthy and wide-eyed with fear when they turn up on foster carer Maggie Hartley's doorstep. Aged just two and three years old, this brother and sister have hardly set foot outside their own home. They have been prisoners, locked in a terrifying world of abuse, violence and neglect.

Maggie soon realises that Evie and Elliot are lacking the basic life skills we all take for granted. The outside world terrifies them; the sound of the doorbell sends them into a panic that takes hours to abate. Gradually unlocking the truth of their heart-breaking upbringing, Maggie tells their shocking true story.

From emotionally scarred and damaged little children, we see how - with warmth and dedication - Maggie transforms their lives. As this moving story unfolds, we share Maggie's joy when these children finally smile again, when they realise they do have a future after all.

Tiny Prisoners: Two siblings trapped in a world of abuse. One woman determined to free them. Details

Date : Published April 21st 2016 by Orion

ISBN :

Author : Maggie Hartley

Format : Kindle Edition 272 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Autobiography, Memoir, Family Law, Fostering

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From Reader Review *Tiny Prisoners*: Two siblings trapped in a world of abuse. One woman determined to free them. for online ebook

Samantha Kukuljan says

Oh, my god, Maggie is one of the kindest people ever!

This biography takes on a journey that begins when two small traumatized children; Evie and Elliot arrive on Foster carer Maggie's doorstep. This book is beautifully written and within pages, we fall in love with Maggie, Evie, Elliot as well as Maggie's other children and her world somewhere in the English countryside.

As you go through this book, we are shown the magical transformation of Evie and Elliot which could only be done with the nurturing and loving care of a foster worker like Maggie.

I love how we are put in the shoes of the foster carer in this book and it breaks a lot of prejudice people have about foster homes and carers. Throughout the book, we see that Maggie's number interest is the children, she will fight tooth and nail for the best interests of her children and does so without damaging her professional or moral integrity. I don't know how this woman does what she does, I couldn't do it, that's for sure.

One of the best books I've read in 2016 (so far). 5 stars.

susan davenport says

***Tiny prisoners* turned into happy, healthy children**

I am always in awe at how insightful and nurturing some people are and Maggie might just be the very best ever!

In this world today, it is all too often that we read about people put in charge of abused, abandoned children, who then exploit and abuse them further for their own perverted reasons.

How refreshing it was to travel through this book and watch Maggie work her magic on these precious babies.

PLEASE, SOCIAL SERVICES, LEARN SOMETHING HERE!!

I just learned SO MUCH from her and was so relieved each time these children were able to let go of their fears and angst.

Job well done indeed Maggie!

I am looking forward to reading all your other success stories and celebrating each child's success.

Maggie Ollmann says

Personal Response

I thought this book, *Tiny Prisoners* was well written, but the story was sad. The fact that it was a true story

about two little kids, Evie and Elliot, made it a sad book that ended happy. I don't believe any children should have to go through the neglect these two children had in their lives before Maggie.

Plot

Tiny Prisoners started with Evie and Elliot's mom going to their aunt's house with a knife and threatening to kill their aunt. The mom was in the psychiatric unit before she arrived at the aunt's house, but she had escaped. Social Services believed it would not be safe for the kids to stay with their aunt anymore. Evie and Elliot were then put into the care system. They were placed in a foster home with Maggie. It took some time for the kids to warm up to Maggie. Maggie had a hard time with the kids at the beginning, because she was not given information about the kids past. Once she learned about their past, she learned the father was in prison and their mom was in and out of hospitals. When social workers looked around the house, they also learned that the kids were left to take care of themselves. Time had gone by as the kids were with Maggie, and they had started to feel safe again. Their social skills also had grown. By the end of the book, Evie and Elliot had found their forever home.

Characterization

Elliot

Elliot was a little three year old boy who had to go through a lot at a young age. He was in foster care because this mom did not take good care of him. He was left home alone to care for himself. Elliot never wanted anything to do with his birthparents. Maggie's home was his new safe place. He ended being adopted and felt safe.

Evie

Evie was a little two year old girl. She as well had to go through a lot at a young age. Evie took a while to warm up to Maggie, but when she did, she felt safe. Evie did not like having to go to visitation days with her mom. Evie was adopted alongside her brother in the end.

Setting

This book takes place in modern time. Even though it never gives any specific location, from the text, it can be figured out where it takes place. The whole book runs over the course of a few months. That is important to know because, it shows that child abuse still is something happening in today's world.

Theme

The theme in this book was to never give up. The two kids never gave up hope and put their trust in Maggie, and they were able to find happiness. The kids went through many struggles and felt like there was no hope. The kids found hope in Maggie. If people never give up, they can one day achieve their goals.

Recommendation

I would recommend *Tiny Prisoners* to boys and girls who are 16 and up. I recommend this to that age because of the mature content of the book. The story that is told in the book is good for both boys and girls to hear. This book is a true story of kids who were neglected. If a student had to read a book for class, this would be a good book to read.

Alfred J. Coscia says

Maggie Hartley Is A Gifted Mother, Author And Heroine!

Maggie's books are always excellent and this may be my favorite yet. Maggie has many talents and one is that she paints the story so that one seems to almost be there bearing witness. The true story of children so terribly neglected and abused is heart wrenching and made me cry for them.

The way Maggie can intuitively see the needs of children is a blessing and her determined actions to truly be a force of goodness to help children is a wonder to behold. Throughout all the struggles I was amazed at her creative solutions and find great parenting tips for myself. She is full of love, great humor and wit that leap off the pages.

Maggie Hartley has become a favorite author and a personal heroine to me. As a former foster child who bounced in and out of 15 foster homes because of abuses and neglect, she is every foster child's dream. This is her calling and she can share these stories so well is a gift to all.

Shannon Dyer says

So glad to have discovered this author. She writes with such depth of feeling.

moira manson says

Evie and Elliot

What can you say about this book Maggie has such a big heart these 2 children were damaged by the life they lived with there parents but with Maggie they found how childhood should be they were allowed to be children please read it it's a must read 5 STARS well done Maggie.

Jen from Quebec :0) says

Did not sleep tonight due to my insomnia, and wanted an 'easy read' to kill a few hours. This book felt like/looked like/ and read like a Cathy Glass book, but was less ...'preachy', if you know what I mean. Sometimes Cathy Glass' books turn into books about CATHY the CARETAKER, and deal less about the subject of the actual foster kid's stories.

This one was a bit better than those by Glass but very much in a similar vein. I like these foster parent stories because they are true, short, interesting and offer a range of emotions. This is not Shakespeare, but it's not a grocery store book from the rack, either. You *do* get a good idea of the foster care system in the UK--Jen from Quebec :0)

yvonne saunders says

Lovely kids

What a wonderful book you have written Maggie so nice to read an happy ending.
I loved the way you just get on with things...Your children are an inspiration to you they welcomed Evie and Elliot with open arms...
I will be recommending this book to my friends xxx

Barbara says

This book is about two small children who were taken into care because their parents couldn't cope with being parents in any way, shape or form, a fact which sadly had left their children struggling. It tells the story, from the point of view of the foster mother involved, of their rehabilitation and consequent successful adoption.

It is a real delight to read of so successful an outcome for the children involved. The world is a better place for containing foster mums like Maggie Hartley and adoptive parents like Charlotte and Richard!

The one thing that I really didn't like about the book is its subtitle - why not just stop at Tiny Prisoners? The rest is a bit over the top even as a description - just one woman? seems to me the system actually worked here to free the children from abuse! - and is completely unnecessary as part of the title.

Tonya Miller says

Inspirational

This book was truly inspiring. I love to read about children that have had bad or unhappy beginnings to find out in the end that there are good people out there who care enough to change these angels lives. I love a happy ending. There are so many bad stories and people out there it's good to know that there are still amazing wonderful people like Maggie and Charlotte and Richard. Thank you being an amazing person Maggie. You are truly one of God's Angels!!!

Christine says

This is the first book I've read by this author and I couldn't put it down. Loved it.

Suzanne says

Heartbreaking and happy and so many emotions. Maggie you are one very very beautiful lady

Gayle says

fantastic read , found hard to put down

Monolus says

A very nice read. I most probably will read more books from this author. I (and I think everyone else) didn't give it 5 star because it was a literature masterpiece. I just look at how much I enjoyed reading it, and besides to be honest I learned lots of things from reading this book. It doesn't stretch the story for no reasons. I think she still keeps many things to herself because of confidentiality, but she gives you a hint of what it might have been like. Very easy to read and understandable.

Ann Morrill says

Heart warming story

This is a wonderful story of what skilled and experienced love can do for a child. I say love because without it all the skill and experience in the world is worthless when it comes to gaining the trust of a child. Good foster parents are a joy and this book shows just how much patience it takes, both to deal with the children and the social workers. Don't get me wrong, most social workers are, in general, doing a good job under appalling circumstances but there are a significant few who are doing an appalling job under any circumstance and children and foster parents suffer as a result.

The story is very factual and nonjudgmental and is more powerful for all that and I would recommend it for anyone thinking of fostering.
