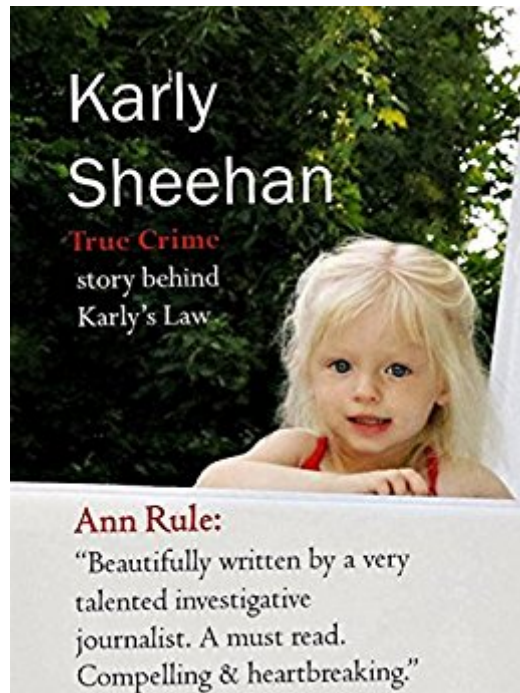




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Karly Sheehan: True Crime Of Karly's Law



Synopsis

A true recounting of the high-profile Oregon murder case that led to Karly's Law. Part memoir, part investigative journalism, this is the story Ann Rule called "A Must Read." Reminiscent of Capote's *In Cold Blood*, the book has been written in the tradition of new journalism. The writer's proximity to the people involved make for unrelenting storytelling. As Karly's abuse escalates, the investigations unravel at a rapid-fire pace.

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Customer Reviews

Such a tragedy is hard to fathom. Karen Spears Zacharias has done a wonderful job of making Karly come alive for the reader. This book packs a powerful punch. We all need to watch and listen more to the children we come in contact with. Heed the signs of abuse the author has listed. I don't think for one second that the mother could have been so completely ignorant of what was happening. Shame on her. I pray that David finds happiness and some sort of healing. I also realize the toll of putting this in writing must have taken on the author. I am a woman of strong faith...a

mother, a grandmother, and just recently, a great grandmother. This is a hard book to read but I take comfort in knowing that Karly will never be hurt again. God bless the child.

We'll done. I can not even begin to imagine what emotions hovered over you while putting this heart wrenching story to paper. I read and I cried, I read and I cried, I cried and cried and read. I worked in human services with adolescent teens who suffered with emotional and behavior disorders. Many of them suffered abuse in their own homes be it physical, sexual and mental, they were broken from within. Karen I view you not only as strong and courageous but as a woman with heart, BIG HEART. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you for getting the truth of what happened to this little angel. And I also pray that it helps save the life of other children. Linda I Nichols Fairhaven, MA 02719

This was well written and researched. It is so very sad what this little girl suffered at the hands of such a monster. And how this mother did not help this little girl. How she turned a blind eye to the events leading up to the murder of this precious little girl. Now she moves on like it is a thing of the past. She also should have been charged with at the least... endangering the welfare of a child. But in order to get a conviction you have to make a deal to get the testimony of someone first hand to admit what they ignored. Such a sad order of events.

This book was, for me, very difficult to read, and I ended up skimming the last two-thirds. I was interested in learning how Karly died and the outcome of the trial. I am surprised that the book received so many positive reviews because I found so much fault with the writing, the structure, the repetitiveness, and the long-windedness. A good true crime book finds a balance between including details of the story and following a timeline of the salient facts to the denouement. This author did a huge amount of research. She found out every time Karly's parents and other characters sneezed, and she included every snuffle. So much information was laid out for the reader that was unnecessary and that did not contribute to the reader's understanding of what happened. This is a sign of a writer who doesn't know any way to tell a story except to include every scrap of information can find. At the same time, her analysis is paper thin, so that the reader plows thru a ton of trivia, and never finds out the essentials of the story. Why did Karly die? What city or county officials were at fault and why did they fail in saving Karly? How could Karly's father David allow the abuse to continue? How could he leave town for extended travel knowing Karly was being abused? If the local officials and doctors were refusing to act and weren't making rational decisions why weren't outsiders and legal experts brought in to force them to act to save this fragile three year-old? The

questions go on and on, but the author was too busy with the daily minutia of life to see the big picture == the forest, not the trees.

This book affected me for weeks after reading it. I then went online and saw pictures of this beautiful little girl. How could this happen??? Why was her horrible mother not prosecuted???? Another failed government system.

This is an awfully powerful book. The story is so disturbing, leaving far more questions than answers. Very hard to read and very painful. My heart goes out to all who were touched and implicated in this experience. It is powerful reading for all those working in child abuse to question their initial assumptions with which they approach their work. And it is powerful reading for those of us who live in a community of children where it is often easier to stay silent than take action. As such we are all complicit

Unbelievable that Sarah received no charges for the torture and murder of her beautiful child. She's as guilty as Shawn is. Karen Spears Zacharias is a remarkable writer and storyteller. I can not stop thinking about Karly. She is haunting my dream.

I came across Karly's story by chance but when I saw a book available I ordered it. Because it is written by someone who knew the participants it is more compelling and brings out deeper emotions in the reader because of that personal connection. I know this story was difficult to write and I applaud her for her courage as well as her writing skills.

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