



Goodbye Mommy

Memoirs of a Survivor

Lora Lee Boynton

A drunken and irresponsible mother. Cruel relatives. Abandonment. Children's homes. Adoption. Childhood cancer. Drugs. Failed marriages. Loss of a sibling to cancer. Breast cancer. This is a true story of survival.

Having grown up in a dysfunctional family in the United States during the 1970s and 80s, Lora Lee describes how she responded to a chaotic world by closing in and building a shell around herself, a shell which was cracked open when she endured cancer treatment for the second time and was forced to take stock of her life up to that point.

Goodbye Mommy explores our relationships with our families, whether completely dysfunctional, adoptive, or more conventional, but the book's real importance lies beyond that in the way it raises the question of how far our families, upbringing and traumas can seriously affect our health, both immediately and in later life.

Lora Lee's story is honestly told, without being mawkish or self-pitying. Her recovery from breast cancer provides a happy and hopeful ending.

"Goodbye Mommy succeeds because of its clear-eyed honesty, and because of the feisty character of the author. Right from the start you can see that she is a bright and interesting child, much wounded perhaps, but resilient nonetheless, and able again and again to triumph over adversity."

Helena Drysdale, author of *Looking for George*

"A warm, well-constructed, appealing, funny, sad and human tale which many of us can relate to at least in part, or via the experience of family members. It's a heart-warming book: courageous and valuable."

Harry Bingham, author of five novels

About the Author: Originally from San Francisco, Lora Lee Boynton was abandoned by her mother and lived in a number of children's homes until she was adopted at the age of nine. She moved to England in 1991 to study English through a division of London University. She lives with her partner and children in East Sussex and is currently working on her second novel.

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