

The book was found

My Father's Keeper: The Story Of A Gay Son And His Aging Parents



Synopsis

My Father's Keeper is the moving story of Jonathan Silin, a gay man in midlife who learned to care for his elderly parents as a series of life-threatening illnesses forced them to make the difficult transition from being independent to being reliant on their son. Their new needs and unrelenting demands brought parents and child into intimate daily contact and radically transformed what had been a distant and emotionally fraught relationship. My Father's Keeper chronicles the ways in which the ideas and skills Silin acquired as an early childhood educator, a specialist in life span development, and a compassionate witness to the devastation of the HIV/AIDS crisis came together with his interest in human psychology to deeply inform his thinking about the dramatic changes in his family's life and increasingly influence his role as his father's (and mother's) keeper.

Book Information

Hardcover: 184 pages

Publisher: Beacon Press (May 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807079642

ISBN-13: 978-0807079645

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 6.3 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #674,551 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > LGBT > Gay #329 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Aging Parents #18275 in Books > Gay & Lesbian

Customer Reviews

When his elderly parents begin failing in health, the author, a Bank Street College educator, must come to terms with a drastic shift in caretaking roles. His account recognizes a lifetime of transformative relations with his parents, Depression-era New York Jews, especially his father, for whom the author's declaration of gayness decades earlier struck like a "personal injury." The father's sense of betrayal by the son, begun when the author started writing on gay issues and signing them with his name (which is also the father's name), is compounded as the father undergoes successive, debilitating operations for cancer of the larynx. Losing control of his body, the father reasserts his authority by taking care of finances while lashing out at his son, leaving him feeling "ambushed," intimidated and reluctant to visit the nursing home where his father lives.

Despite past efforts to distance himself from his disapproving parents, Silin, well into his 50s, must take responsibility for their care, preferring a caring approach, rather than treating them like dependent children. Forgiveness occasionally graces these encounters, as when the author's partner of 30 years dies, and Silin's father offers a tender acknowledgment. Silin's work is at once thoughtful and erudite. (May) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Former early childhood classroom teacher Silin, who now teaches other early childhood teachers, drew on his professional skills to help his parents as their eighties brought his father glaucoma, spinal stenosis, and laryngial cancer; his mother ulcer surgery, numerous small strokes, and heart problems; and both of them broken hips. In turn, his experiences with them affected his work as he expanded his postgraduate teaching to consider the early years of rapid, obvious development as part of overall lifespan development, and to emphasize the evolution of child-parent relationships over time. His report on the interaction of his professional and filial experiences proves most refreshing in his refusal ever to regard his parents as children, no matter their levels of dependency, for "to imagine that our roles were reversed would have undermined their dignity while burdening me with confusing emotions." As his caretaker role evolves and evokes memories of childhood, he remains forever their child, even as he becomes the primary decision maker among them. Whitney ScottCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

I've been there. Caregiving is maddening. This work actually portrays the love and insanity that go with the job.

My Father's Keeper is the story of a gay man in midlife who must learn to care for his elderly parents when their health begins to fail. The novel takes you through his life roles as he undergoes a shift in responsibilities. We are taken through the struggles that both Silin and his parents must endure as becomes the caretaker and his parents accept their new limitations. This story conveys Silins struggles with distancing his himself from his parents enough that he can understand them, but not absorb the anger caused by their illness. The ultimate message that we are left with is what it means to be a caregiver to the very end. Silin's work is thoughtful and honest. He offers a series of valuable reports using his experiences from childhood, education, parenting, mental health, old age, death, and forgiveness. This is a unique, well written story that provides us with what may lie ahead.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

My Father's Keeper: The Story of a Gay Son and His Aging Parents Anti Aging: The Best Anti Aging Beauty Products, Anti Aging Medicines and Anti Aging Skin Care Treatments to Make You Look and Feel Younger (Anti Aging, ... Secrets, Anti Aging Diet, Beauty Products) Narcissistic Parents.: 10 Tips on How to Not Hate Your Parents. Toxic parents,immature parents. (Borderline Personality Disorder, Narcissistic Parent, ... the Narcissist Book2.Immature parents.) 10 Years Younger: Breakthrough Antioxidants That Reverse The Aging Process, Diminish Wrinkles And Help You Lose Weight For Good! (Anti-Aging, Anti Aging, ... Superfoods, Aging, Wrinkles, Anti Wrinkle) Anti Aging Essentials, Secrets and Tips: Your Midlife Encyclopedia, Improve Diet, Exercise, Skin (Look and Feel Younger, (Anti Aging Secrets, Anti Aging Diet) The Death of Santini: The Story of a Father and His Son In Exile: The History and Lore Surrounding New Orleans Gay Culture and Its Oldest Gay Bar (NoLa Gay Book 1) Gay Taboo Fiction - Filled With Force By My Father in Law: Gay mm erotica Horse Boy: The True Story of a Father's Miraculous Journey to Heal His Son GAY: 10 Gay Stories Man on Man First Time; Prison Taboo, Straight turned Gay, Alpha Male M/M Elder Rage, or Take My Father... Please!: How to Survive Caring for Aging Parents They're Your Parents, Tool: How Siblings Can Survive Their Parents' Aging Without Driving Each Other Crazy King Me: What Every Son wants and Needs From His Father Duty: A Father, His Son, and the Man Who Won the War Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey through His Son's Meth Addiction My Father's Paradise: A Son's Search for His Family's Past Letters from a Skeptic: A Son Wrestles with His Father's Questions about Christianity The Horse Boy: A Father's Miraculous Journey to Heal His Son First Time Gay â€“ Banged by his College Housemates: Gay Taboo Bdsm Threesome using Sex Toys

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)