



Sleep, My Child, Forever

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This gripping account of Ellen Boehm's cold-blooded murder of her two sons and her attempt on her daughter's life--from the bestselling author of *To Kill and Kill Again*--includes eight pages of revealing photos.

Sleep, My Child, Forever Details

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From Reader Review Sleep, My Child, Forever for online ebook

Rebecca says

A good true crime novel I found hard to read but well written. I just can't imagine why people do the things they do and can sleep at night or want to spend their life in a prison cell. Some will do anything for attention, wow, what a shame. I really felt for those children.

Black Butterfly says

THIS WAS CLEARLY A FAMILY WHO SHOULD HAVE NEVER, EVER, EVER BEEN ALLOWED TO REPRODUCE. BOTH ELLEN & HER HUSBAND CAME FROM A LONG LINE OF STRANGE CRAAZE PEOPLE. I FELT SO SAD AND ANGRY READING THIS, MADE ME WONDER WHAT MAKES SOME PEOPLE SO HARD HEARTED, GAVE ME CHILLS. I WONDERED WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DAUGHTER, HOPE SHE IS DOING WELL. ;X

Diane says

This book is based on an actual crime. I was surprised that it took the authorities so long to realize the mother was killing her children. I guess it is difficult to think a mother could kill her own children. This book brings this possibility to a sharp focus. I shudder to think that this is even a possibility in today's world. Read with caution because the book will sicken the reader.

Bree Lark says

Very chilling. I gave this 5 stars because I like this author didn't include information that wasn't needed. I feel some true crime authors talk a lot about a secondary family member that really isn't needed. It kept me reading and I finished it in just one day!

Eva Leger says

I'm giving this five stars because I think this is what true crime is really all about. I'm a big true crime reader, I'm taking a break currently but have been reading t.c for years. This book turned my stomach. I would tell anyone who was going to read this to approach with extreme caution and I mean that. I wasn't prepared for what this book showed me.

Lynda Kelly says

This was very well written and flowed well. It's a true murder case I'd never heard of and the mother is like nobody else I've ever read about, I must say. So much of this book left my jaw smacking the floor !! She is a real one-off (I would hope)....she was badly treated by her husband but she was a very hard worker indeed and appeared to have a lot of friends and her kids didn't appear to be horribly treated or regularly beaten, although it seems she was pretty rigid in her treatment of them.

It really was like she only did it for the money....but she had tried helping herself by doing 2 jobs and putting in a lot of hours per week. Her peculiar hobby of trailing around the country after wrestlers must've cost a lot of money. She freely admitted the same in the end as well.

She appeared bright enough but the lies she told, including different ones to almost everyone she spoke to, were staggering !! And if she was caught out it didn't bother her in the least. In fairness, she didn't appear to try covering up the fact she killed her sons or to really pre-plan anything. She did it and only got away with it by sheer luck in her selection of method as opposed to any deep thinking or research, I'd say. A very strange woman indeed. I've met people like her who take a smidgen of the truth then embellish a big old lie around it. As with Ellen's friends, I knew it was happening but I didn't say anything, either. Just let them get on with it. Though it did always serve to irritate me a lot as I felt it insulted my intelligence that they thought I believed the tripe they were spouting. I didn't like that she encouraged the kids to lie at times as well. She made a terrible example. Her mum was little better in advising police that Ellen had taken out insurance on the kids without planning on collecting, so it was just for kicks then ??

Her behaviour around men was shocking and uncomfortable at times with her actions !! She wasn't a looker by any stretch but she was confident, although horribly inappropriate, in approaching men !!

There are quite a lot of mistakes in this, though it began with hardly any, they just appeared to pop up more often as I proceeded. Sometimes he used the apostrophe in Veterans' Administration and then would drop it with another mention. There were a lot of missing words in sentences like the/that/she, even in the Acknowledgements at the end where we had "I wish to thank Susan Emily her willingness to retell....." and he also wrote 'an bottle of mouthwash'.....ouch !!

He referred to Ellen's daughter as Stacy most of the time but would then tack on the middle name at times for no reason and then all of a sudden Judge Kitchin became Kitchen !! That I found careless.

I was a little disappointed with the repetition at times, too. We read of the deaths as they occurred, then again when Ellen was arrested and THEN they go and video her confession so it was all written out yet again !! I'd thought he wasn't going to do that and then followed pages of pretty much all we'd just read ! There was no need, we'd not forgotten the details after the first telling !

All in all, however, this was a good job and told very well.

Linda Deppen says

Great read!

I chose this rating because this book is not only an interesting read but also because I could not put it down. It was factual but did not get into so much technical stuff that it got boring. I don't care for a lot of court room mumbo jumbo so this book was perfect.

Susan says

Interesting but poorly written - I found this book very difficult to follow. The chronology of the story seemed garbled and arbitrary. The author frequently

Interesting but poorly written - I found this book very difficult to follow. The chronology of the story seemed garbled and arbitrary. The author frequently referred to the characters by first and last names, last name only, or first name only which added to the overall confusion.

Jill Crosby says

Pretty basic and straightforward. Reads up quickly.

Bridget Holbert says

Good

Well written with an accurate description of the people that were in this true account story. Unreal what a hard working, single mother of three children would do. The detective behind this case worked hard and diligently to nail the guilty person.

♥ Marlene♥ says

Very good book and I am glad I read this. I have a collection of books of women that kill their own children but most suffer from Proxy by Munchausen syndrome. Not this selfish obese woman. She suffers from greed and just killed her 2 kids. Very well written.

Susan says

I don't know why I like these true-crime killer next door books, but I do. This was pretty good but the author repeated things numerous times, there were typos or missing words but all in all, the story was pretty good.

Helen says

This is a fascinating true story of a mother who killed two of her children and tried to kill the third. She was a pure psychopath, with no mental illness. The case is described thoroughly and without any particular bias.

Kait says

True crime at its most chilling.

I was intrigued by John Coston's tale of Ellen Boehm since I grew up in St. Louis, Missouri where the sordid tale is located. I was very young during the series of events so I only vaguely recalled the story of a mother who slaughtered her children in cold blood. Being a true crime fanatic, I grabbed a copy of this book during an Amazon sale.

Ellen Boehm and her husband Paul came from a long line of abuse. When they met and eventually married, they had dreams of the perfect life together -- the house, the children. What happened what much, much different. After meeting a new woman, Paul abandoned his wife and three children, leaving them to fend for themselves with little money and no support. Ellen quickly lost her home and took on extra work when she could in an effort to make ends meet. It still wasn't enough and soon the woman was overwhelmed with her own fantasy world and three children standing in the way of her wonderful life.

What unfolds next is something of horror stories. Ellen kills her two youngest children within a year and attempts to murder her eldest daughter. By a stroke of luck, her daughter survives unscathed but life will never be the same. Ellen tries to reap the death benefits following the murder of her sons but underestimates the tenacity of the St. Louis Police Department.

Sleep, My Child, Forever is a tale of true monsters. Not the ones that live in closets and under the beds of children, but the ones that we see everyday and never suspect.

Tessa Ingram says

Nicely done. Very to-the-point about the situation without trying to pad the book too much in unnecessary detail. Tragic story that attempts to explain, but not excuse, the circumstances upon which this woman took the lives of her children. No doubt she was stressed and felt helpless, but she was not insane or had an altered mindset. She had one addiction: wrestling, but it was not even for this that she killed them. This story was also a segment on *Deadly Women*.
