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My Bucket? Love in Five Acts Acts of Love What Are the 5 Love Languages? Acts of
Love Acts of Love The 5 Love Languages of Children Radical Acts of Love All Acts of
Love & Pleasure: Inclusive Wicca Acts of Desperation Excellent Sons Acts of Faith The 5
Love Languages God Speaks Your Love Language Acts of Love and War Jewish Mothers
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A NATION TORN APART BY WAR. ONE WOMAN STEPS INTO THE CROSSFIRE.

_____ 'This amazing book has everything in it: love, war, history and relevance to today. Gripping.' Russell Kane 'I insist you read this intelligent empathetic novel. You won't regret it.' Frost Magazine 'Extraordinary events sensitively told.' Lucy Jago, *A Net For Small Fishes* 'I couldn't put it down.' Gill Paul, *The Collector's Daughter* 'A heartrending tale of love, courage and sacrifice.' Nikki Marmery, *On Wilder Seas* _____ 1936. Civil war in Spain. A world on the brink of chaos ... Twenty-one-year-old Lucy is frustrated with her constrained life in Hertfordshire, teaching and keeping house for her domineering father. But she is happy to be living next door to Tom and Jamie, two brothers she has known since childhood, and whom she loves equally. But her life is turned upside down when Tom decides he must travel to Spain to fight in the bloody Spanish Civil War. He is quickly followed by Jamie who, much to Lucy's despair, is supporting General Franco. To the dismay of her irascible father, Lucy decides that the only way to bring her boys back safely is to travel to Spain herself to persuade them to come home. Yet when she sees the horrific effects of the war, she quickly becomes immersed in the lifesaving work the Quakers are doing to help the civilian population, many of whom are refugees. As the war progresses and the situation becomes increasingly perilous, Lucy

realises that the challenge going forward is not so much which brother she will end up with, but whether any of them will survive the carnage long enough to decide ... _____

More praise for Acts of Love and War ... 'Be prepared to lose your heart in the simmering heat of war-torn Spain.' Miranda Malins, *The Puritan Princess* 'This is a marvellous book on any level, I thoroughly enjoyed it and could hardly put it down.' Deborahs 'Wide in scope and told with honesty, insight and tenderness, a moving and unputdownable story' Judith Allnatt, *The Poet's Wife* 'Accomplished and expansive' Anne Morgan, *Reading The World* 'Insightful and moving' Katherine Clements, *The Crimson Ribbon* 'One of historical fiction's most lyrical and intelligent voices' Rachel McMillan, *The London Restoration* 'Emotionally captivating and authentic ... an unforgettable story' Susan Meissner, *The Nature of Fragile Things* _____ Readers can't get enough of Acts of Love and War ... ***** 'A tale of passion and passionate caring, and how that can manifest in very different ways.' ***** 'A masterpiece.' ***** 'Highly recommended if you enjoy historical fiction.' ***** 'An amazing and compelling read.' ***** 'An immersive and powerful story.' Learn some easy ways to add a little everyday romance into your relationship with this fun guide in the style of *Simple Acts of Kindness*. From breakfast in bed, to taking over a household chore for your partner, to simply making time to cuddle together—this guide shows you just how easy it is to keep the romance alive in your relationship through small gestures you can do anytime! In *Simple Acts of Love*, you'll discover a multitude of suggestions to

strengthening your relationship and having more fun together, including: -Leaving a note in your partner's suitcase for them to find while traveling -Getting up early to make the first pot of coffee -Buying their favorite snack to share as a mid-week surprise These simple actions make it easy to be romantic every day while showing your partner just how much you care about them. With Simple Acts of Love in hand, you can easily brighten your partner's day and keep your relationship strong and happy. Winner of the Women in Psychology Jewish Caucus Award for 2000! Jewish Mothers Tell Their Stories: Acts of Love and Courage contains touching and personal essays written by contemporary Jewish mothers from different parts of the globe. Their stories reveal the choices that Jewish mothers make in our post-Holocaust, non-Jewish world--the many ways of being Jewish, the acts of loving, of preserving and celebrating Jewish traditions and spirituality, and of transmitting them to their children and families. The firsthand stories in this compelling book raises questions and provides you with insight into a variety of topics, including: The 'Jewish mother' stereotype and its impact on real Jewish mothers ethnic/historical connections between mothers and daughters moving acts of love, courage, and sacrifice in response to illness, war, or conflicting ideologies motherhood as a catalyst for personal evolutions of Jewish identity and values Orthodox to secular expressions of spirituality The impact of the 'Jewish motherhood imperative' positive experiences of conversion and interfaith families conveying Jewish history and tradition in a Christian world Jewish

Mothers Tell Their Stories will draw you into an appreciation of the cultural, ethnic, and spiritual aspects of mothering. This remarkable collection explores the different meanings of today's concept of "Jewish mother" and "Jewish family." A heartwarming and passionate love amongst the glitz and glamor of Hollywood from New York Times bestselling author Judith Michael. When director Lucas Cameron finds letters to his grandmother from her protégé—the brilliant young actress Jessica Fontaine, who had vanished mysteriously after a tragic accident—he is intrigued and determined to find her. When finally they meet, they have one magic week of passion and love. But still Jessica cannot return with Lucas to his world—and he cannot share hers—unless, with inner strength, they can triumph over the past and open the way for their hands and hearts to join. Winner of the 2002 Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction, selected by Chris Offutt. A simple question, Will You Fill My Bucket?, is fervently asked by children from twelve different countries. Sweet rhyming prose and vividly captivating illustrations delight the senses and express the deep joy and love we hope for all children. Will You Fill My Bucket? and the responses given will touch the heartstrings of people young and old around the world. Bucket filling, the essence of being loved and loving others, occurs in those little moments in a day when you stop and just listen, cuddle, play, or spend time with a child Southern Book Prize Finalist Romantic Times Top Pick Southern Independent Booksellers Association Okra Pick Maria Shriver's Top Summer Reads Deep South Magazine's Best Beach Reads Glitter Guide's Must Read

List SITS Girls Books You Need to Read in 2016 Greenville News Perfect Books for Vacation Pulpwood Queens Official Book Club Pick MomTrends Book Club Pick From the New York Times bestselling author of *Under the Southern Sky* comes a novel about what it really means to tell the truth... After sixty years of marriage and five daughters, Lynn “Lovey” White knows that all of us, from time to time, need to use our little white lies. Her granddaughter, Annabelle, on the other hand, is as truthful as they come. She always does the right thing—that is, until she dumps her hedge fund manager fiancé and marries a musician she has known for three days. After all, her grandparents, who fell in love at first sight, have shared a lifetime of happiness, even through her grandfather’s declining health. But when Annabelle’s world starts to collapse around her, she discovers that nothing about her picture-perfect family is as it seems. And Lovey has to decide whether one more lie will make or break the ones she loves....

In *Radical Acts of Love*, Janie Brown, oncology nurse of thirty years and counsellor of cancer patients with terminal diagnoses, recounts twenty conversations she has had with the dying; including those personally close to her. Each conversation uncovers a different perspective and experience of death, while at the same time exploring its universalities. As well as offering an extremely sensitive and wise insight into our final moments, Brown offers practical ways to facilitate the shift from feeling helpless about death to feeling hopeful; from fear to acceptance; from feeling disconnected and alone, to becoming part of the wider, collective story of our mortality. This “blistering

anti-romance" (Catherine Lacey) paints a riveting, cathartic story about love addiction and what it does to us. Wouldn't I do anything to reverse my loss, the absence of him? In the first scene of this provocative gut-punch of a novel, our unnamed narrator meets a magnetic writer named Ciaran and falls, against her better judgment, completely in his power. After a brief, all-consuming romance he abruptly rejects her, sending her into a tailspin of jealous obsession and longing. If he ever comes back to her, she resolves to hang onto him and his love at all costs, even if it destroys her... Part breathless confession, part lucid critique, *Acts of Desperation* renders a consciousness split between rebellion and submission, between escaping degradation and eroticizing it, between loving and being lovable. With unsettling, electric precision, Nolan dissects one of life's most elusive mysteries: Why do we want what we want, and how do we want it? Heralding the arrival of a stunning new literary talent, *Acts of Desperation* interrogates the nature of fantasy, desire, and power, challenging us to reckon honestly with our own insatiability. "Hot as viscera." —The New Republic

Over 20 million copies sold! A perennial New York Times bestseller for over a decade! Falling in love is easy. Staying in love—that's the challenge. How can you keep your relationship fresh and growing amid the demands, conflicts, and just plain boredom of everyday life? In the #1 New York Times international bestseller *The 5 Love Languages*, you'll discover the secret that has transformed millions of relationships worldwide. Whether your relationship is flourishing or failing, Dr. Gary Chapman's proven approach to showing

and receiving love will help you experience deeper and richer levels of intimacy with your partner—starting today. The 5 Love Languages is as practical as it is insightful. Updated to reflect the complexities of relationships today, this new edition reveals intrinsic truths and applies relevant, actionable wisdom in ways that work. Includes the Couple's Personal Profile assessment so you can discover your love language and that of your loved one. There is no source of happiness greater than the practice of love. Stephanie Dowrick shows us in countless warm, practical and far-reaching ways how to make every day a loving day. Open at any page - and deepen your knowledge of love. Surviving motherhood? It's all about having the right support network. Lawyer Cassie has a new baby, a husband who converses mainly through jokes, a best friend on the other side of the world, and a taskforce of Babycraft mums who make her feel she has about as much maternal aptitude as a jellyfish. Husband Jonathan dismisses Cassie's maternal anxieties, but is he really paying attention to his struggling wife? He's started sleep talking and it seems there's more on his mind than he's letting on. Then sexy, swaggering ex-boyfriend Malkie saunters into Cassie's life again. Unlike Jonathan, he 'gets' her. He'd like to get her into bed again, too... And on top of all her emotional turmoil, she also finds herself advising a funeral director on ghost protocol and becomes involved in an act of hotel spa fraud, never mind hiding cans of wasp spray all over the house to deal with the stalker who seems to be lurking everywhere she looks. Marriage and motherhood isn't the fairytale Cassie thought it would be. Will her

strange new world fall apart around her or will tiny acts of love be enough to get her through? Funny, perceptive and real, *Tiny Acts of Love* portrays the rawness of motherhood, the flipside of love and the powerful lure of paths not taken. PRAISE FOR TINY ACTS OF LOVE 'A beautiful portrayal of the tribulations of becoming a new mum, it's a fantastic debut.' OK MAGAZINE 'Funny, poignant and honest, this is a cracker of a debut novel.' THE SUN 'With tear-provoking moments and chapters that will make you laugh out loud, this page-turner is impossible to put down.' CLOSER MAGAZINE (4 Stars) 'If you have ever been a new parent, every moment of this novel will resonate with you. If you have not, you are still in for a fantastic and invigorating peek into one fictional family's life ... Really cannot recommend this highly enough.' LIZLOVESBOOKS (Blog) The love she craves, the confidence you need In a man's heart is the desire to master what matters. It's nice to get a complement at work or on the court, but nothing beats hearing your spouse say, "You make me feel loved." If you haven't heard that in a while, or you feel like you're not bringing you're A-game relationally, this book is for you. The 5 Love Languages® has sold 10 million copies because it is simple, practical, and effective. In this edition, Gary Chapman speaks straight to men about the rewards of learning and speaking their wife's love language. Touched with humor and packed with helpful illustrations and creative pointers, these pages will rouse your inner champion and empower you to master the art of love. "When you express your love for your wife using her primary love language, it's like

hitting the sweet spot on a baseball bat or golf club. It just feels right—and the results are impressive." —Gary Chapman Includes an updated version of The 5 Love Languages® personal profile. Simple ideas, lasting love—all in a short read In this abridged version of the New York Times bestseller The 5 Love Languages®, relationships expert Dr. Gary Chapman offers a trimmed-down explanation of his transformational approach to love. People express and receive love in 5 different ways, called love languages: quality time, words of affirmation, gifts, acts of service, and physical touch. The sooner you discover your language and that of your loved one, the sooner you can take your relationship to new heights. And with this summary version of the award-winning book, you don't have to read long to find out. With disarming wit, clear explanations, and inspiring storytelling, Dr. Chapman only needs a moment of your time to transform your love life. Marriage should be based on love, right? But does it seem as though you and your spouse are speaking two different languages? #1 New York Times bestselling author Dr. Gary Chapman guides couples in identifying, understanding, and speaking their spouse's primary love language—quality time, words of affirmation, gifts, acts of service, or physical touch. By learning the five love languages, you and your spouse will discover your unique love languages and learn practical steps in truly loving each other. Chapters are categorized by love language for easy reference, and each one ends with simple steps to express a specific language to your spouse and guide your marriage in the right direction. A newly designed love

languages assessment will help you understand and strengthen your relationship. You can build a lasting, loving marriage together. Gary Chapman hosts a nationally syndicated daily radio program called A Love Language Minute that can be heard on more than 150 radio stations as well as the weekly syndicated program Building Relationships with Gary Chapman, which can both be heard on fivelovelanguages.com. The Five Love Languages is a consistent New York Times bestseller - with over 5 million copies sold and translated into 38 languages. This book is a sales phenomenon, with each year outselling the prior for 16 years running! An invitation to young readers to roll up their sleeves, get inspired, and take action to build a sustainable, just, and loving world. Peace, Love, Action! is an illustrated, illuminated A-Z of everyday actions that directly make a peaceful, fun, and vibrant world. With original artworks bringing each action to life, "make friends," "go local," "cooperate," "forgive" --seemingly small deeds can really add up! Illustrated by Tanya Zabinski in her characteristic earthy style, each action comes with an inspirational mini-bio of a real hero who exemplifies that action, from Thich Nhat Hanh ("breathe") to Wangari Maathai ("plant"), and follows with a set of "What You Can Do" prompts. With a foreword by singer-songwriter and activist legend, Ani DiFranco. Advice for military couples "As soon as I arrived in Afghanistan, I began reading The 5 Love Languages®. I had never read anything so simple yet so profound." — Anonymous soldier If you are in a military relationship, you know the strain of long deployments, lonely nights, and difficult

transitions. For extraordinary challenges like these, couples need specific advice. In this updated edition of *The 5 Love Languages®: Military Edition*, relationship expert Dr. Gary Chapman teams up with Jocelyn Green, a former military wife, to speak directly to military couples. They share the simple secret to loving each other best, including advice for how to:

- Build intimacy over long distances
- Reintegrate after deployment
- Unlearn harsh military-style communication
- Rebuild and maintain emotional love
- Help your spouse heal from trauma and more

With more than 10 million copies sold, *The 5 Love Languages®* has been strengthening millions of relationships for over 25 years. This military edition will inspire and equip you to build lasting love in your relationship, starting today. Includes stories from every branch of service, tips for expressing love when apart, and an updated FAQs section.

Notified by police that her sculptor husband of ten years has vanished while swimming off the coast of Florida, magazine editor Sarah is aided by a team of investigators to discern the truth about her husband's fate. By the author of *It Was Gonna Be Like Paris*. Reprint. They met as children, innocents from two different worlds. And from that moment their lives were fated to be forever entwined.

Timothy : Abandoned at birth, he finds a home--and a dazzling career--within the Catholic Church. But the vows he takes cannot protect him from one soul-igniting passion.

Daniel : The scholarly son of a great rabbi, he is destined to follow in his father's footsteps. And destined to break his father's heart.

Deborah : She was raised to be docile and dutiful--the perfect rabbi's wife--but love will lead her to rebellion.

And into world's the patriarch would never dare imagine. Reaching across more than a quarter of a century, from the tough streets of Brooklyn to ultramodern Brasilia to an Israeli kibbutz, and radiating the splendor of two holy cities, Rome and Jerusalem, here is Erich Segal's most provocative and ambitious novel to date--the unforgettable story of three extraordinary lives...and one forbidden love. THE STORY: Ed, a physician, and Sheila, a well-known anthropologist, are celebrating their twentieth wedding anniversary at their summer cottage. Their son, Tom, joins them, bringing with him his new girlfriend, Annie, who is apparently thrilled to discover that her boyfriend's stepmother is one of her academic heroines. As the weekend unfolds, it becomes increasingly unclear whether Annie's presence at the house is a matter of fate, coincidence or deliberate manipulation—and the peculiar tension between the women leads to other deeper, long-avoided questions about Ed and Sheila's marriage and the intertwined acts of love and deceit that brought and have kept them together. 'I read this compulsively in one sitting - it's the best escapism you'll have all summer!' - Amazon reviewer ACTS OF LOVE is a wonderfully romantic love story to make your heart soar, perfect for fans of Curtis Sittenfeld's Eligible. Bernadette knows what she wants. Tim is perfect, and she's always had a feeling that something is about to happen between them. He might have just announced his engagement to the sickeningly wonderful Elizabeth, but the ring's not on his finger yet. And when Elizabeth starts meddling in Bernie's own love life, she knows it's time to act. Yes, Elizabeth's best friend Radley might

be charming, charismatic and intelligent. But he's not Tim. And Bernadette's not a woman who takes no for an answer. 'Talulah Riley is an absolute force of nature. Read and revel' - Eva Rice Why did Alex kiss me? He'll forget about me in a week, but I'll remember the taste of him forever. He's just a popular jock looking for an easy A to keep his scholarship. Acting is all I have, even if I'm always in the background. Being forced to partner with campus hockey god Alex Hayes for our drama final will end in disaster. When someone suggests we act in a love scene, Alex jumps at the chance. I refuse-until he convinces me with a kiss that makes me feel like we're invincible together. The sparks between us are bright, hot, and leave me hungry for more. If all we have is one week, I'm taking center stage to put on a show with Alex neither of us can walk away from. Even if I don't know how to say it, he needs to know I'm in love. Acts of Love is a low-angst new adult M/M instalove romance featuring a shy theater nerd and a confident college jock connecting in swoony, steamy ways before a guaranteed HEA. It is suggested this series be read in order. 'Insightful, wise and life-affirming' Observer 'Turns death into life, despair into hope, sorrow into joy' Stephen Fry In Radical Acts of Love, Janie Brown, oncology nurse and counsellor, offers a sensitive and wise insight into our final moments by recounting twenty conversations she has had with people who were dying. Based on real family events, "Random Acts of Heroic Love" is the internationally bestselling debut novel that paints a dramatic portrait of two apparently unconnected epic love stories. High school junior Retta

Caldwell finds her life suddenly complicated two strong and troubling forces, a new highway that threatens to destroy her family's land and the arrival of an enigmatic and secretive boy for whom she feels an overwhelming attraction. More than 200,000 copies sold. Feel God's love more personally. Do you realize that the God of the universe speaks your love language, and your expressions of love for Him are shaped by your love language? Learn how you can give and receive God's love through the five love languages: words of affirmation, quality time, gifts, acts of service, and physical touch. Gary Chapman writes, "As we respond to the love of God and begin to identify the variety of languages He uses to speak to us, we soon learn to speak those languages ourselves. Whatever love language you prefer, may you find ever deeper satisfaction in using that language in your relationship with God and with other people." The book includes a brand new chapter on "Getting Out of Your Comfort Zone" which will teach you the joys of speaking a love language you're not used to with God. No matter what love language you prefer, you will become more deeply connected with God and watch this bond transform all of your relationships. Contains personal reflection questions and a study guide for groups. This is one of Shakespeare's darkest comedies, for the romantic story of a young man, Bassanio, who has squandered his fortune and must borrow money to woo the wealthy lady he loves is set against the more disturbing story of the Jewish moneylender Shylock and his demand for the "pound of flesh" owed him by the Venetian merchant, Antonio. Here pathos and farce

combine with moral complexity and romantic entanglement to display the extraordinary power and range of Shakespeare at his best. Each Edition Includes: • Comprehensive explanatory notes • Vivid introductions and the most up-to-date scholarship • Clear, modernized spelling and punctuation, enabling contemporary readers to understand the Elizabethan English • Completely updated, detailed bibliographies and performance histories • An interpretive essay on film adaptations of the play, along with an extensive filmography

A brilliantly clear, optimistic book which shows how the great humane virtues can help in times of hardship and lead to a joyful, trusting, enriched life. When beset by a series of life-changing personal crises, psychotherapist Stephanie Dowrick remembered what she had learned early in her training: there are qualities—the great ancient virtues—that shape life for the better and can be called upon in times of need. Dowrick grounds her work in real lives and incidents, drawing on those times when people needed the strength provided by one of the virtues to move on with their lives. She ranges widely in Eastern and Western philosophy and spirituality as well as psychology to explore courage, fidelity, restraint, generosity, tolerance, and forgiveness. Is it possible to be generous and successful? Should we forgive someone who has hurt us deeply? Through stories memorably told, she shows that far from being dull or constraining, these virtues have much to teach us about honor, endurance, tolerance, steadfastness, and, above all, love. A wonderfully romantic and searingly sexy love story to make your heart soar, perfect for fans

of Curtis Sittenfeld's *Eligible*. 'A refreshing love story' - Marie Claire 'A truly unique heroine' - Heat Bernadette knows what she wants. Tim is perfect, and she's always had a feeling that something is about to happen between them. He might have just announced his engagement to the sickeningly wonderful Elizabeth, but the ring's not on his finger yet. And when Elizabeth starts meddling in Bernie's own love life, she knows it's time to act. Yes, Elizabeth's best friend Radley might be charming, charismatic and intelligent. But he's not Tim. And Bernadette's not a woman who takes no for an answer. 'Talulah Riley is an absolute force of nature. Read and revel' - Eva Rice More than 1 million sold! You know you love your child. But how can you make sure your child knows it? The #1 New York Times bestselling *The 5 Love Languages®* has helped millions of couples learn the secret to building a love that lasts. Now discover how to speak your child's love language in a way that he or she understands. Dr. Gary Chapman and Dr. Ross Campbell help you: Discover your child's love language Assist your child in successful learning Use the love languages to correct and discipline more effectively Build a foundation of unconditional love for your child Plus: Find dozens of tips for practical ways to speak your child's love language. Discover your child's primary language—then speak it—and you will be well on your way to a stronger relationship with your flourishing child. For a free online study guide, visit 5lovelanguages.com. From the acclaimed author of *Waiting to Surface* comes a “searing” (Publishers Weekly) and emotionally powerful novel about a family and a community torn

apart after an unthinkable tragedy. In a suburb near Albany, New York, Ted and Ann Waring are waiting for divorce papers. Ted is hoping for reconciliation, but when he returns from a hunting trip with the couple's two adolescent daughters, he loses his temper one last time, shooting and killing Ann in their living room. He claims it was an accident, but his thirteen-year-old daughter, Julia—the only witness—is sure it was murder. The younger girl, Ali, doesn't know which way to turn. And when Julia testifies against her father, she sets into motion a struggle that pits family, friends, and townspeople against one another. As the many layers of truth unfold in this “chilling meditation on the so-called acts of love” (The New York Times) Emily Listfield's lean and subtle prose reveals the ways in which the emotions and evasions of the past reverberate uncontrollably into the present. Changing the world--or at least your corner of it--is easier than you think. With so much suffering in our communities and in the world, it can feel impossible to make an impact. "What good can I possibly do?" we ask. Amy Wolff, a busy mom and small business owner, often felt this way--and didn't feel qualified to connect and uplift others. But one day, after hearing about several suicides and suicide attempts in her community, she printed 20 yard signs with hopeful messages and anonymously placed them throughout her city. This small action sparked a global movement of encouragement, hope, and love, which spread to 50 states and 27 countries in just 18 months. Signs of Hope is an intimate collection of stories from Amy's personal life, as well as people impacted by the movement, about the power of hope

and love in the midst of suffering. This book discusses: The drain of compassion fatigue
Why we should show up imperfectly to help others How to claim hope for ourselves
Practical ideas of how to respond to suffering Strategies of how to love people who are
"different" Resilience when love-spreading efforts backfire How to raise a compassionate
generation The science of hope Signs of Hope is your catalyst for doing something today . .
. because there's no perfect time to help others. The time is now. Winner of the 34th
Lambda Literary Award (Gay Romance). “Still teenagers, we had started to build the
foundation of an eternal love, one kiss, one smile, one caress at a time. And in my youthful
arrogance, I’d been sure the house of love we were building would be impervious to the
world’s disapprobation, no matter how mightily it huffed and puffed and blew.” Tristan and
Max are a pair of Asian-American high school students who find themselves unexpectedly
in love in post-Columbine America. Tristan works to balance what it means to be an
excellent son, with its prescribed expectations and attendant demands, with his growing
desire for independence and his deepening feelings for Max. While Max, after years of
hopelessness, feels himself come alive at Tristan’s touch, he tries desperately to forge a path
forward that centers his identity and allows him to fully express his feelings for Tristan. Just
seventeen, they are learning to navigate the multiple worlds they must live in to keep
themselves and their growing love safe. Like any other dating couple, they are looking
forward to attending prom and planning a trip to Paris the summer after graduation, before

they start college, when a shocking act of homophobic violence shatters their world. Told via alternating, intertwining points of view, *Excellent Sons* combines a contemporary gay romance with an erotic retelling of a classic fairy tale that both centers and drives the novel. Yet beyond love and romance and the primacy and urgency of sex, the book examines what it means to be an excellent son, the relationship between lovers and parents, and parents and children, and what we as children owe our parents, and ourselves. In the summer of 1990 - two weeks before his GCSE results, which turned out to be the best in his school - Cathy Rentzenbrink's brother Matty was knocked down by a car on the way home from a night out, suffering serious head injuries. He was left in a permanent vegetative state. Over the following years, Cathy and her parents took care of Matty - they built an extension onto the village pub where they lived and worked; they talked to him, fed him, bathed him, loved him. But there came a point at which it seemed the best thing they could do for Matty - and for themselves - was let him go. With unflinching honesty and raw emotional power, Cathy describes the unimaginable pain of losing her brother and the decision that changed her family's lives forever. An award-winning personal memoir of enduring love and painful loss throughout an eventful life, told in a series of vignettes by an exceptional journalist. Using writing that ensnares one with its lively candor and its unrestrained intimacy, veteran writer and broadcast journalist Pat Krause draws her readers into a journey that few would choose but even fewer will escape - the experience of living through the illness and eventual death

of her lifelong partner. Like the pages of a cherished photo album, the 19 stories in Acts of Love present snapshots of these interwoven lives. Around the details of their common front in the daily battle with disease, Pat arranges her recollections of their life together - their family, their travels, their many friends, and the love that endured through it all. One such memory is of the life and death of her famous father, Dr. Allan Blair, a pioneer in cancer research. The result of it all is a powerful love story which reveals a great sense of loss for which readers will feel empathy. The manuscript of Acts of Love was the winner of the John V. Hicks Long Manuscript Award, while several of its individual pieces were also award winners

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