



## Amelia's Story: A Childhood Lost

*D.G. Torrens*

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## **Amelia's Story: A Childhood Lost** D.G. Torrens

A life of pain and rejection.

This is a powerful true story of one young girls struggle to survive the state care system in the 70's and 80's. Amelia has just one wish, to make it to adulthood, to hold her destiny in her own hands. This is a harrowing true story, one of survival and human strength. Amelia has been separated from all her siblings never to see them again for many years, she is moved from one children's home to another, until finally it's just too much for her to bear. Amelia starts to wonder about the peace and finality of her own death.

## **Amelia's Story: A Childhood Lost Details**

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Author : D.G. Torrens

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## From Reader Review Amelia's Story: A Childhood Lost for online ebook

### Harj says

This was a heart breaking story about one child's struggle through her harrowing childhood. I found it both inspiring and heart breaking. Amelia has spent most of her childhood in various children's homes, this story tells the immense struggle Amelia has just getting through each day. I was fascinated and gripped. I cannot wait for Amelia's story part 11. An author to watch in the future.

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### Aimee Kudrna says

This book is so poorly written I would not recommend it to anyone.

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### Irene says

Usually I don't like sad stories. When I read a book I'm in search of an escape from everyday life and I don't like to enter a world that is worse than the real one.

However this time I decided to read this book because I know it to be a true story. I had the opportunity to meet the author on the internet and other readers recommended "Amelia's Story".

I was surprised! It's an intense reading for people who had similar experience and it's an illuminating reading for people who had a normal childhood.

English is not my mother language, so I can't discuss style and language properly. But I can tell you how I felt reading this book. During the reading I felt anger, frustration, hope, disappointment, fear, weariness, joy, shock... and I felt really lucky to have my family.

Reaching the middle of the story, I rushed to the end hoping something better would happen.

I felt inspired by this story and amazed at the Author's strength.

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### Lorene says

Poorly written with many redundant phrases. Could have been a good book but I only finished it because I wanted to know what happened to her. Then the ending felt like they came to a sudden stop because an editor said, "Hey, we can make a sequel to this so let's stop here and sell two books". Do not bother with either story.

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## Heartofkenna says

I feel for the author, I truly do but the book itself was near impossible to understand. Sentences seemed to end abruptly, scenes jumped from one paragraph to the next without any transition and there was an exclamation point hidden about every three sentences - always with a little nugget of present-tense reflection. She rarely delved into how she felt about things and it made it hard to see her as a person, the spontaneous jump scenes only added to that feeling of disconnection from the narrator.

(view spoiler)

I also do not know if it is because an ebook or not but the format was insane. There was no indenting between paragraphs and they all seemed separate from one another, there were also many spelling mistakes (like the above, m instead of me).

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## Larry Bassett says

This book seems in some way like a true story written by the seventeen year old protagonist. It is not polished or very well crafted or deep. It simply tells a story. While it is a tragic story, it not really have much emotional impact on me. It did not urge me to action or even to want to read the next book in the three book series.

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## Jeannie Walker says

One day you will turn around and wonder where your childhood went. Some will want to do it all over again...while others will be glad they lived through the scary part of being a child. My own dad was placed into a state care system and eventually separated from his only brother. Something he never got over. Even as an adult, some of the things that happened to him were still nightmares that he relived, even at his death. Sometimes my dad said what Freddie Mercury said in his song, Bohemian Rhapsody - "Is this the real life? Is it just fantasy? Caught in a landslide, no escape from reality."

I hope you get a chance to read this story that portrays a little girls' courageous journey. I know the author wrote it with love and honesty. What more can readers ask for?

Quote from Abraham Lincoln, "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

Jeannie Walker - Award Winning Author

## Kevin Swarbrick says

This story truly captured my heart as well as my mind, Amelia takes you on a journey through her childhood and what a shocking one it was. Amelia found herself in the care system due to an abusive mother. I could relate to the story a lot as my childhood wasn't the best. I also had friends at school who were in the same situation and back then the care system was far from a great place to be in!

I take my hat off to Dawn for going through so much and is still here to tell her story, for a first time author this is a great story and I can completely understand why she had to write it.

It was good reading how she did bounce back from the nasty situations that she found herself in.

This story is well written and very easy to understand and for anyone who likes a true story then this is one for you, I am now looking forward to reading Amelia's Destiny. I do feel Dawn is an author to watch out for in the near future. I would also like to take this chance to say to Dawn, Well done on a truly captivated story and I will be following Amelia on her travels.

I am wishing you the very best.

Kevin.

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## Spider the Doof Warrior says

I do not know how to feel about this book. On one hand, the story was interesting. Amelia went through a lot of horrible things and I felt bad for her. On the other hand, this book needs an editor. There are grammatical mistakes. The writer will tell you about something that happened and then repeat herself which is very irritating. It annoys the reader when writers do that. It's so irritating and aggravating and you must not do that when you write.

Don't!

But what really frustrated me was the book ENDING ON A CLIFF HANGER?! WHY DO THAT?! All it does is annoy everyone. I really wanted some resolution or to know if Amelia at least gets to see her siblings again.

At least it's educational about how messed up the system is for abused children. Even in England! Amelia is separated from her siblings, forced to live in children's homes full of bullies and indifferent adults. The system still needs to be better for children. Like siblings should never be separated. Homes should be small with individual attention. And more money and effort should be put into caring for kids. I shall give it a 3 to bringing such things to the forefront but it's more of a 2.5.

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## Marilou George says

Amelia's Story by D.G. Torrens takes you into the real life story of a little girl who is brave and strong beyond her years. Due to abuse and neglect Amelia and her siblings are placed into the state care system where they are eventually separated from each other. Amelia finds herself alone and scared and must endure

circumstances that no child should ever have to face. From somewhere deep inside, Amelia has the courage and will to dream of her future and to rise above her current reality and search for more.

This is truly a story that will touch every nerve. You will fall in love with Amelia and find yourself cheering her on to realize her hopes and dreams. This book was written with love and honesty and portray's the life of a little girl that will pull at your heart. Amelia's Story is a must read and is truly an inspiration.

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### **J.P. Willson says**

Well this was something. Yup, not too sure what, but something.

The author (and I use the term loosely) has endured a terrible tragedy in her youth, no child should have to live through such things- ever. Having said that, it would seem that she has indeed flourished in her life since, and I do applaud her for that wholeheartedly...

As for the writing, well another story could be told as to why it appears to have been written by a twelve year old. It is ridiculously repetitive in my opinion, and has a tendency to trail off into either utter redundancy or to points unknown that truly have no place in the story I believe she was trying to tell?

I could be wrong though.

I have nothing but the highest of praise for my editor, perhaps Ms. Torrens should seek the same solace for her collection of words??

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### **BL834 says**

As I've said before: memoirs are hard to rate because you're evaluating someone's presentation of their own life.

Let me start by saying that Ms. Torrens had an unfortunate childhood. I acknowledge what she lived through was both terrible and sad on a multitude of levels. The fact that she's determined to break the cycle is admirable and I cheer her for recognizing the need to be mindful.

Why then did I only give her memoir (part one) two stars instead of the five so many other reviewers gushingly did? A big part is because in spite of her supposed proficiency with language, Ms. Torrens writes badly. Really badly, like a middle-schooler. This could be forgiven if she didn't twice point out how high her grades/test results were.

Another part is that her modesty rings false and she doesn't seem to take responsibility for her own actions, negating my desire to cheer her on. The fact that this memoir is a two-parter doesn't help. I won't be reading the next book.

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I noticed that Ms. Torrens has nine books to her writing credit. Surprised, I looked a little further: they appear to be self-published. That explains a lot. I read some of her website; she complains that spending 700 pounds (less than \$900) on editing (perhaps she only meant proofreading?) should net better results. That's, what, about two weeks work at minimum wage? She may be surprised to learn what real editing costs.

### **LaDawn says**

After listening to about a half an hour of this book, I am throwing in the towel. It's obviously self-published and needs a brutal editor. I found myself thinking, "Yeah, you said that already," and "okay, get on with the story, we understand that your mother terrified you; you've told us ten times already!"

Once home, I got onto Goodreads and read a few reviews. Wish I'd done that before I spent money on the audiobook. I wasted my money, but I refuse to waste my time, especially since she apparently continues the story in a second book!

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### **Lori Henrich says**

This was just ok for me. The style was at times difficult to read. Not sure if the editing was the problem or that is just the way it was supposed to be. I also wished it would have told more.

This is the story of Amelia and her journey through the care system. It made me think of all the children that get stuck in the system. I sometimes wonder how some manage to turn out as well as they do.

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### **Arielle says**

This is quite possibly the most poorly written book I've ever read, which is saying a lot considering I used to write books when I was 9 that consisted of gems like, "My cousins are fun. One of them is 3 and one of them is 4 and one of them is 6 and one of them is 8." In fact, I'm not convinced this book wasn't written by a 9 year old. Sort of a shame because the story could have been really compelling, but I've never seen such awful, clunky prose in my life.

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