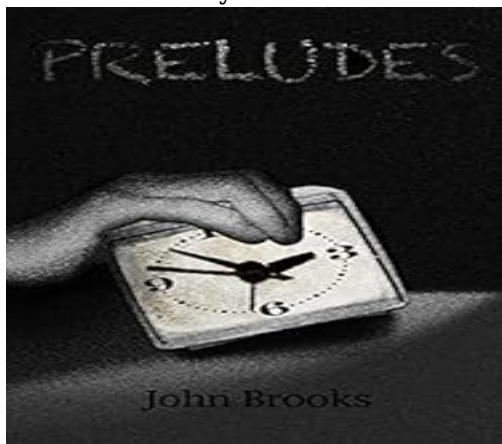


Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family By John Brooks \* Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family Wow great help I was abused when I was a kid as well by my mom's boyfriend and I thought he was my dad for a very long time. Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family.

Excellent story about child sexual abuse with the abuser encountered well-deserved karma. A very good read! Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family Sad I commend this author sharing his experience to help others. Feel that his Mom knew why else would she ask her spouse about her sons swollen and raw penis? Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family Fair warning (poetry and non fiction) child sexual abuse survivor activist climate change activist and animal rights activist among other things of course. {site\_link} Illuminating the horrors of child sexual abuse from a child's perspective "Preludes" is a novella-length story chronicling the experiences of a nine-year-old boy as he struggles to survive sexual abuse by his father in a middle class American family in the 1960s. \* \* \* When a nine-year-old boy in a respectable middle class family is raped then repeatedly molested by his father how does the boy experience the abuse and how does he manage to survive? "Preludes" examines these questions. The boy initially protests but then sensing the futility of resistance grudgingly prepares himself for what his father tells him will be a spanking all the while thinking Gee this is ridiculous—I haven't done anything wrong. Thus begins the boy's struggle for survival in the face of his father's nightly onslaughts—a struggle that stretches the boy's physical psychological and emotional resources to their limits and beyond. Adding to his struggle's immensity is the story's milieu: a Pleasantville middle class neighborhood in a mid-sized American city in the early 1960s—an environment that gives no indication on its surface that dysfunction of such proportions could occur within its hermetic confines. The boy's family enjoys a high status—the father is a professor at a prestigious university and the family belongs to a Presbyterian church that counts among its members some of the city's most prominent citizens. It is an environment in which acknowledgement of even the merest possibility of child sexual abuse within a family as respectable as that of the boy's is as taboo as the abuse itself. The family's nightly meals together at a table set with engraved silverware and an everyday china of the most tasteful design and the Smile Club photos the boy's mother hangs in the downstairs hallway—family photos taken regularly for which the fundamental requisite is that everyone in them be wearing a pleasant smile—help form the bulwark of the mother's determined effort to put the best possible face on things. To survive the boy attempts to hide the truth as much as possible even from himself with his mind employing as its chief means to this end a total forgetting of the abuse when it's not actually happening—a strategy his mind has utilized on previous occasions of his father's abuse. Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family I read Preludes on my Kindle in one sitting and the story affected me for several days afterward. Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family A horrible and almost unbearable read describing a personal experience of sexual abuse and its instant and long term effect on the survivor. I find this kind of literature important for the understanding of survivors of sexual abuse however rare as it is understandable not many people who has the capability to share such traumatizing experiences. Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family A sad yet cathartic read PRELUDES is a brave book one that confronts its ugly subject matter directly and honestly. It does not wallow in depravity; rather it gains its power largely through understatement as Brooks himself a survivor of child sexual abuse paints a portrait of familial dysfunction in such details as silent dinners where the tension and family unhappiness is palpable beyond measure. The family presents a respectable veneer to the outside world just like the smiling family portraits hanging on the wall hide the horror of the father's nightly assaults on his son. Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family Sexual abuse of children is one of those taboo subjects that everyone is

appalled by. Instead of discussing these tragedies or fighting against them it seems easier to sweep them under the rug and turn a blind eye to those that need support We as a society are leaving survivors of these abuses to heal and progress through life on their own. By sharing his story I believe John Brooks is helping to pave the way for other survivors to not only share their own story (if they so wish) but to seek the healing that they all deserve,

This novella goes into graphic detail about the sexual abuse. Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family Awful but well written What an intriguing style of writing. It only felt like I'd spent 10 minutes or so reading thus book, The brain is a complex thing when it comes to how it processes early childhood trauma: Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family <https://www>, Free August 2021 Preludes: A Story of Child Sexual Abuse from a Child's Perspective in a Middle Class American Family



Im a writer (fiction.

But others too, \* This book was received from the author in exchange for an honest review. This book shows how connected we can be as human beings even if we come from entirely different backgrounds: We were poor n he was in n out of jail in the book the father was well known and liked by many. This story emulates the outcome of the wolf in sheep's clothing story: I'm a writer (fiction poetry and non fiction) child sexual abuse survivor activist climate change activist and animal rights activist among other things of course: "Preludes" is based in significant part on the experiences of its author a child sexual abuse survivor: The boy wakes in the middle of the night to find his father sitting on the edge of his bed gently shaking him from his sleep. Though confused by his father's unexpected presence for a few brief moments he suspects nothing unusual. His father then accuses him of having misbehaved without saying how and tells him he'll have to be punished, His father then proceeds to rape him and the rape completed threatens to murder him if he tells anyone including his mother: Sensing these constrictions the boy feels his isolation in his suffering increase exponentially, The prime importance placed by the community on maintaining a semblance of normalcy no matter the cost to the truth extends to the day-to-day life of the boy's home, But survival though laudable comes at an enormous price—a price exacted among other ways in the warped perception the boy forms of what it means to be a man: A price the story suggests the boy will have to pay going forward into adulthood until he reaches a point of substantial healing, This well-written story will do much to further awareness of the horror betrayal secrets and long-term consequences of child sexual abuse. The story has a satisfying narrative arc of adversity the search for and finally finding redemption: I just read this book and besides it being well written I am extremely impressed by and proud of John for sharing his story in such a personal and honest way. The lack of communication among family members exacerbates the abused boy's confusion pain and isolation: Not an easy read PRELUDES is extremely well written in how it illuminates the secret silent hell of the abused: Preludes is a short memoir that exposes the truth for one survivor. This was tough to read as one would certainly expect from a book dealing with subject matter such as this, I

feel the importance of this book though surpasses that toughness, I know without a doubt that getting a survivor's story out there is worth it, Kudos to not only John but to everyone that shares their story and helps not only themselves find healing.

.amazon.com/Preludes-Sexua. I think that anyone who has had any sort of abuse.should read this book. It might help you come to understand yourself. Visit {site\_link} johnbrookswriting.com for links to my social media writing and .Thank you for your interest. Visit {site\_link} johnbrookswriting.com for links to my social media writing and .Thank you for your interest. I have had the pleasure of knowing John years ago. It takes great courage