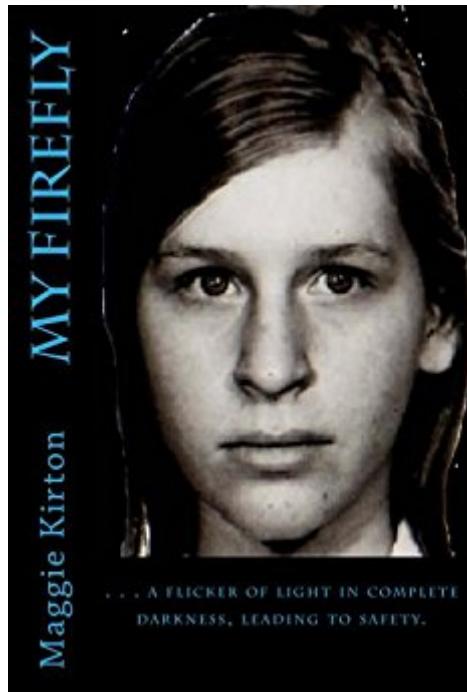


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# My Firefly



## Synopsis

My Firefly - - - A horrifying account of torture and humiliation at the hands of her family, My Firefly will pull you into its pages and grab hold of your spirit. Seen from the perspective of the family home, this young girl struggles to stay alive as she is slowly ripped apart emotionally, physically and sexually by her father. You'll experience an abundance of feelings throughout this book and won't be able to put it down. My Firefly is a flicker of light in complete darkness, leading to safety. It is cruel and brutish and bloody. But, if you want inspiration, then read My Firefly. It will change your world. . . .Author's reply to reviewers: Why does the house tell the story?The people who do nothing; those which watch from the rafters, standing back and shaking their heads; those which stand by and pretend it didn't happen or that it has no importance; those are the people I'm trying to reach. The house screamed for me because I couldn't scream for myself when I wrote my story or when I lived it. No one heard me and those who did, turned a blind eye. I was a waste of their time. Maybe if they remove themselves from my voice they might use their own to make a difference in someone else's life. So, thank you, all of you, for the reviews . . . it means that my book made some noise whether it is good or bad is really beside the point. I don't want the reader of my book to feel my pain or hear my screams. I want the reader to feel what the house felt: helpless, incapable, useless, and silent - because that is exactly how an abused child sees the world around them. An abused child is not so much in pain as much as they are alone while waiting for the next pain to be done with. And now, before you buy my book and read it, you are forewarned. This book is brutal, graphic in its details and its subject is insane on many levels. My Firefly is being used in different school systems in Canada to help identify abuse in students. It has opened the doors of hope to many other survivors. It has helped remind me that I am alive in spite of its contents. Besides, there are too many incidents to mention that are NOT in this book - I only wrote about the easy ones. Imagination saved my life when I was a child; why shouldn't I write it in the most creative and unique voice possible?! 'Firefly 2' is currently being written in my voice and it will take you through the PTSD that came alive through the writing of My Firefly and continues to this day and you'll find out what happens when you press charges at the age of 54! Remember, it's not about who tells your story or it's about telling your story and then moving forward one step at a time! Living is what's supposed to happen after you survive. It's life in post-survival that defines the human character's ability to move forward from trauma. I choose to live fully and completely in spite of my childhood because just surviving isn't good enough for me!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have just finished this book for the second time. I cried both times. I smiled both times. I found myself in unutterable awe of the brilliance and courage of Maggie Kirton both times. Telling her story from the house's perspective had to be the only way to tell it in full, truthful and forthright, without staring at it head-on. I loved that the characters were given the names of insects and that her mother was a peacock. It gave true insight into their personalities and made it so very easy for the reader to envision. It also struck me that her mother was the only bird. And aren't insects a good part of a bird's diet? She just ate them alive, but the firefly was her favorite snack. I would love to have Maggie to hang out with, just to have ready access to a survivor with such a beautiful mind.

This is one of the most interesting books I have ever read, because of its' very unique writing style. The reader is guided by an all knowing omnipresent entity who narrates the story using different types of bugs to describe the characters. The titled 'My Firefly' is the main character, the abused child and later battered woman. You have to use your imagination with this sort of writing style, but the narrative is not difficult to follow. It grabs you from the earliest incidents in the first residence that the unseen narrator embodies, the recollection of a small girl tucking her baby doll into bed wearing her clothes before she goes off to dance naked for her family's amusement, and does not release you until the last. You become like the unnamed entity, seeing all, unwilling or unable to do anything

except follow and watch. It is not an experience for the faint of heart or overemotional, the biased and skeptical, but is definitely one to read and remember.

I was warned about the depravity and violence I would come across in this book. My own experience was different in that it was not physical abuse, but a daily emotional and mental abuse. I never did anything right no matter how hard I tried or how much I accomplished. I was taught that I didn't know how to make choices, so I grew up with no confidence or self-esteem. I was criticized for not being able to get all A's; B's weren't good enough. I lived in fear of waking up each morning to see if my mother was manic or depressives, and my father always took her side even when he knew she was wrong, punishing me with a hard enough smack on my bum or face when he got home. It wasn't anywhere as bad as this writer went through, but I was able to relate to it by seeing that even after I tried to become independent, I still ended up married to a diagnosed sociopath who tore my soul apart. He controls everything in my life and has made sure our daughter knows he never wanted her. I spent years protecting her until with therapy I finally got the courage to divorce him. When I notified my family that I started procedures, my father screamed at me telling me what a bad mother I was, that I was making a bad decision and my daughter would hate me when she got earlier. I fought back but lost when I broke down, becoming hysterical that he still couldn't accept that this was a very difficult decision for me to make, as I would possibly end up on the street--over the tears the constant stress and anxiety took its toll physically. It was when I saw my daughter start to cut herself that without one breath I told him to get out of the house. And he did. It's been so much better without his daily criticisms and control over what I wore, what we ate, what he would do next. I spent years hiding in my room with my daughter when he was home. I got married late in life and feel too old to ever start over; fear of not being good enough for anyone is a constant partner. At least my parents did things in the name of love and just didn't realize that I just wanted them proud of me. My husband married me not because he lived me, but because he wanted to convince others that he was interested in women, but didn't take seriously that I wanted children which meant he'd never get away from his scam of our marriage. It took me years to figure this all out. Through the years I got sick from the pressure which now means that I can't make enough to support my daughter, our dog, and the house if I get the nerve up to ask for a divorce. I've lost hope, which I've found is the worst feeling you can lose. I don't see a future for me and don't feel as if I have anything to offer anymore.

Creatively written. I enjoyed the narrative of the house as opposed to the traditional style of writing a

memoir voiced through the author. I think the author has real writing ability and I look forward to reading more of her work. The story was heartbreaking nonetheless and even though I have read hundreds of similar memoirs, her memoir resonates with me more so than the others. I will not forget Winterblue as well.

Seems IÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  „¢ve shied away from leaving reviews lately, but this one deserves a mention. Very powerful and gripping! Disregard negative reviews about the story being written from the perspective of the houses and referring to insects. Those reviewers obviously skipped over the authorÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  „¢s explanation, and anyone with an ounce of understanding about abuse victims will get it. I found her protective writing style unique and an intelligent way to relay these horrific events. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  „¢s highly recommended that you go to her website [...] and read the journal entries to find out what happened to George and with Eva and the siblings. You did not embarrassed yourself, Maggie, by bringing suit ÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  „¢ as one claims. Rather, those who were exposed are themselves embarrassed, and hiding behind religion, for not stepping in and speaking up as they know they should have. Compassionless, selfish lot, all of them. Time now to leave those deserving of it in the dust and let God sort them out. And remember, the best revenge is living well. May you spend the rest of your days in peace, surrounded by love and enjoying the simple things. (P.S. IÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  „¢ve no doubt that Winterblue understands and is at peace. All dogs go to Heaven.)

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