

A Mother's Story

Mary Beth Whitehead, Loretta Schwartz-Nobel, Glenn Kaplan
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Mary Beth Whitehead, Loretta Schwartz-Nobel, Glenn Kaplan : A Mother's Story before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Mother's Story:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Intriguing legal precedentsBy EMNHonestly, I was in elementary school when this legal case occurred. My point in saying that is to explain that I didn't have an opinion regarding the situation of "Baby M" when I began reading. This was an incredibly intriguing look into surrogacy laws in NJ. It also demonstrates the inexplicable actions of a judge who held a common bias, and for the commentary on the rich vs. poor aspect, it's horrifying that I can actually conceive that this situation would still occur today. Sadly, it would likely have a different outcome, as many women wouldn't have the resources these days to fight this type of legal battle. (I doubt that Gloria Allred would be offering pro bono work for such a case.) One thing that is clear after reading this is that there were - and are - multiple sides to this story. Most would say that "goes without saying", but it's important to remember, because there are times during Mrs. Whitehead's narrative where she knows she isn't going to come across as a shining angel. She accepts that she's human and that there were circumstances that led to certain events. But I would recommend that readers keep the knowledge that there's more than one side in the forefront of their minds since it's clear that she perceived a negative response from the other couple involved in this heartwrenching true story. If someone were to ask me if this book should be required reading for a law course, I would unequivocally tell them that it should. This is, without a doubt, a superb accounting of various aspects of the proceedings which were poorly handled throughout. It would also be an interesting exercise for law students to discover whether charges were ever

brought against the lower-court judge for his gross mishandling of the case, against any of the officers involved in the initial arrest of Mrs. Whitehead, and against the adoptive parents for their role in deceiving ****two**** states' courts.

From Publishers WeeklyA surrogate mother under contract to Bill and Betsy Stern, Whitehead gave birth to the infant known as Baby M in 1986, but refused to deliver her to the couple, giving rise to a case that generated worldwide publicity and furious argument. PW noted that the book is full of "unblushing self-praise." Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.