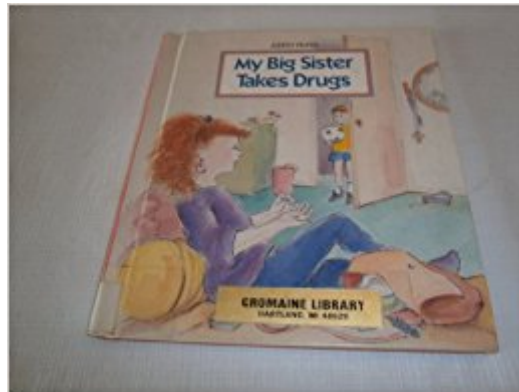




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# My Big Sister Takes Drugs



## Synopsis

When the police bring home Paul's sister Tina, who was found taking drugs in the park, a nightmare begins for the family, and Paul's new friendship with Jose and his plans for soccer camp both seem lost.

## Book Information

Age Range: 7 and up

Library Binding: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,929,329 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Substance Abuse #358 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Drugs #2754 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction

## Customer Reviews

Grade 2-3-- Paul's teenage sister, Tina, is addicted to drugs. He has seen her personality change and has refused her offer of pills. He feels guilty but tells their mother. Later Tina is picked up by the police for drug use in the park and is sent to a rehabilitation center. Because of Tina, Paul's new friend Jose doesn't want to play with him and there is no money to send him to soccer camp, but in the end his parents, his soccer coach, and Jose turn out to be true friends. Muted realistic watercolors with black ink outlines complement the text, capturing the feelings and dilemmas of the characters. This is bibliotherapy rather than literature, and is best used as part of a drug education/awareness program. --Renee Blumenkrantz, Davis Community Library, Bethesda, MD  
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It's bad enough when Paul's big sister, Tina, turns mean and hangs out with mean kids. But when the family discovers Tina's drug abuse problem, things turn much worse. Paul's new friend doesn't want to play with him, and Paul can't go to soccer camp because Tina's hospital program costs so

much. Worst of all, Paul's afraid that his sister may not recover. But with work and love, it looks as if all kinds of things in Paul's life will soon be getting better.

Love it

I am a substance abuse counselor and 7 years in recovery with a 6 yr old son. His teacher is looking for people to come in and talk about their careers to his class and although mine is very important, it's a message hard to get across to small children. I've been talking to my son about drugs and alcohol since he was 2, having 2 parents in recovery, an alcoholic grandfather he is exposed to the disease. A few days ago he saw our neighbor taken away in an ambulance after overdosing on heroin (we live in suburban Connecticut, so it's everywhere). I used it as an opportunity to remind him of the dangers of drugs, because bottom line, they are. I wonder if I was spoken to at the age of 6 of how dangerous they were, would I have thought twice, who knows but books like this are valuable to our society and should not be ridiculed for scaring kids, they need to be shown. I'm going to show it to his teacher, and suggest I replace the references of crack, with just "drugs" because they are small and don't want to have to get into specifics about drugs (ex. What is crack?). I'd say whether addiction or substance use period has been part of your life or not, read this book to your kids. The world is not made up of cotton candy and kittens, and the younger kids understand the dangers out in the world, the better. You are not taking away their innocence, you are allowing them to hopefully hold on to it longer by teaching them valuable lessons today.

I strongly disagree with the reviewer who stated that the book used "scare tactics" and the person who said it "glorified" drug abuse and led him or her to take drugs. This is a comforting book for children who have a sibling who uses substances.

great chuckles, must have for anyone's coffee table

I was surprised when my 7-year-old daughter wanted to check this book out of our public library, but decided to let her read it. The reality is that drugs are a part of our society and kids are learning about them at a very young age. She has already learned about the dangers of drugs at school, and this book was a good example of how destructive addiction can be to families. I think it was a realistic portrayal and my daughter was empathetic to the young character in the story who loses the love of his older sister as well as his chance to attend soccer camp since his parents must pay

for his sister's rehab.

This book is perfect if, like me, you just CANNOT talk to your kids. Plop em down in the corner with this book and you have got gold. Blammo. Try the other books in the series like "What is up with Mom and her New Friend Barbara?" and my personal favorite "How Come That Man Staring At Me?"

You are doing something very detrimental to your child's development with scare tactic "education". The unrealistic pressure you put on them by the no tolerance "Drugs are horrible" stance will keep them from coming to you if they need help, hide any habits they have (you don't have enough trust between you and them for your child to be open about his or her habits or experiences, and the constant anxiety of them having to hide a part of their life from you causes a plethora of problems)prevent them from learning about the actual dangers of drugs and the actual effects and keep them from utilizing harm reduction techniques if they ever try to experiment.Why is it that parents are afraid of being honest with their kids. Drugs can be used responsibly, caffeine, alcohol, nicotine. They are all drugs, and can be used in a way that is healthy and even beneficial. If you can't tell your kid that drugs are detrimental to mental health until about 20 and after that they are more or less fine (not stimulants or injected drugs) if used in a safe, responsible, reasonable and educated maner; then you really aren't responsible enough to have children. Drug ABUSE is usually caused by mental issues or depression, which is a health issue, not a legal or moral one. There is nothing immoral about eating/ smoking something to lift your depression or forget about not having friends as a temporary solution, it saves lives actually. Recreational drugs are only dangerous (other than because they are not regulated in a mature manner rather than anyone who so much as speaks about them in an honest way gets labeled a druggie or addict and persecuted for having an intelligent view point, let alone if the police are involved in any way.You are indoctrinating your kids."Not until you are an adult with a fully developed central nervous system," NOT "YOU WILL GET ADDICTED EVERY TIME! YOU WILL DIE! YOU WILL GO TO JAIL FOREVER! YOU WILL KILL EVERYONE YOU LOVE! YOU WILL HAVE HORRIBLE DISEASES AND DIE IN PAIN!"This book epitomizes what is wrong about the current stances on drug use.It doesn't work for drinking, it doesn't work for drugs, it doesn't work for sex.Only HONEST AND OBJECTIVE education works.Your kids WILL drink, have sex, probably try drugs. It is your job to talk to them in an objective way with an emphasis on harm reduction and emotional support. Keep them from becoming addicted, from drunk driving, from doing coke and ODing. It is your responsibility to foster

a level of trust where they can call you at 3am to be picked up from a party when they are drunk, or high, not to bring down the hammer of shame on them when they experience LIFE.

This Book Made Me Use Drugs Because It Glorified Drug Use And Also The Sister Is The Only One Who Was Happy At The End Of the Book

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