



# **This House of Grief: The Story of a Murder Trial**

*Helen Garner*

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'Two books in one: an expertly reported, brilliantly written story and, woven into that, Garner's meditation on the meaning of that story.'—Head Butler

"The Joan Didion of Australia" writes a masterful book about a real-life family tragedy....Her voice — intimate yet sharp, wry yet urgent — inspires trust as she pursues a twice-told tale that reveals an unsettling truth as relevant outside the courtroom as inside it: we tell ourselves stories in order to live but also in order to take revenge, to share guilt, to prolong pain, to blur memory and motive.'—*The Atlantic*

'A gripping account of a murder trial in which few of the participants act and react in ways we might predict. It's an examination not just of what happened, but also of what we prefer to believe and what we cannot face believing.'—Julian Barnes

'As involving, heart-rending and unsettling a read as you could possibly find, a true-life account of three deaths and a trial that leaves you with a profound sense of unease as its drama unfolds, and disturbing questions about how we judge guilt and innocence...Tailor-made for those who have gorged recently on the popular true-crime podcast Serial.'—*The Times UK*

'Helen Garner's account of the trial is a non-literary variation of Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood* (1966). It is all the more shocking for her direct, no-nonsense, often horrified, approach.' Eileen Battersby, *Irish Times*

*This House of Grief* has all the trademark Helen Garner touches: harrowing scenes recorded without restraint or censorship; touching observations of characters' weaknesses; wry moments of humor.'—*Guardian*

'The twists and turns of this true-crime story are, in Garner's hands, more engrossing and dramatic than any thriller. Really, this is the kind of book you'll devour in one go.'—*The Age*

'Clear-eyed and deeply moving...Garner's skills as a novelist combine with her journalist incisiveness to give a vivid, compassionate and complex assessment of the crime and the societal issues surrounding it...*This House of Grief* is a book that preys on the mind—its themes are enormous, classical and highly contemporary.'—*NZ Herald*

'Garner sat through [all the trials]: sifting the evidence, observing the duelling lawyers, digging deep into the relationships which contributed to the catastrophe. She has turned a courtroom drama into something deeply human.'—*Australian Women's Weekly*

On the evening of 4 September 2005, Robert Farquharson, a separated husband, was driving his three sons home to their mother when his car plunged into a dam. The boys, aged ten, seven, and two, drowned. Was this an act of deliberate revenge or a tragic accident? The court case became Helen Garner's obsession. She was in the courtroom every day of Farquharson's trial and subsequent retrial, along with countless journalists and the families of both the accused and his former wife.

In this utterly compelling book, Helen Garner tells the story of a man and his broken life. At its core is a

search for truth that takes author and reader through complex psychological terrain. Garner exposes, with great compassion, that truth and justice are as complex as human frailty and morality.

Part of a nonfiction tradition that began with Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood* and continues in the works of Janet Malcolm, Erroll Morris, and others.

Praise for Helen Garner's *The Spare Room*:

"Helen Garner is a great writer."—Peter Carey

"Swift, beautiful, and relentless."—Alice Sebold

"The Joan Didion of Australia"—*Los Angeles Times*

**Helen Garner**, born in 1942, is the author of numerous books of fiction and nonfiction. Her most recent novel *The Spare Room* was published to critical acclaim in 2010.

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Now a day folks who Living in the era just where everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources in it can be true or not call for people to be aware of each information they get. How people have to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the reply is reading a book. Studying a book can help people out of this uncertainty Information particularly this This House of Grief: The Story of a Murder Trial book since this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you may already know.

#### **Martina Barton:**

In this particular era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability in doing something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple method to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to get a look at some books. One of the books in the top checklist in your reading list is This House of Grief: The Story of a Murder Trial. This book that is certainly qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

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