Glitter And Glue: A Memoir

“Beautiful.”
—WALLY LAMB

“I loved this book.”
—ELIZABETH GILBERT

Kelly Corrigan
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader’s Circle for author chats and more.

From the author of The Middle Place comes a new memoir that examines the bond “sometimes nourishing, sometimes exasperating, occasionally divine” between mothers and daughters. When Kelly Corrigan was in high school, her mother neatly summarized the family dynamic as “Your father’s the glitter but I’m the glue.” This meant nothing to Kelly, who left childhood sure that her mom—with her inviolable commandments and proud stoicism—would be nothing more than background chatter for the rest of Kelly’s life, which she was carefully orienting toward adventure. After college, armed with a backpack, her personal mission statement, and a wad of traveler’s checks, she took off for Australia to see things and do things and Become Interesting. But it didn’t turn out the way she pictured it. In a matter of months, her savings shot, she had a choice: get a job or go home. That’s how Kelly met John Tanner, a newly widowed father of two looking for a live-in nanny. They chatted for an hour, discussed timing and pay, and a week later, Kelly moved in. And there, in that house in a suburb north of Sydney, 10,000 miles from the house where she was raised, her mother’s voice was suddenly everywhere, nudging and advising, cautioning and directing, escorting her through a terrain as foreign as any she had ever trekked. Every day she spent with the Tanner kids was a day spent reconsidering her relationship with her mother, turning it over in her hands like a shell, straining to hear whatever messages might be trapped in its spiral. This is a book about the difference between travel and life experience, stepping out and stepping up, fathers and mothers. But mostly it’s about who you admire and why, and how that changes over time.

Praise for Glitter and Glue

“I loved this book, I was moved by this book, and now I will share this book with my own mother—along with my renewed appreciation for certain debts of love that can never be repaid.” —Elizabeth Gilbert, New York Times bestselling author of Eat, Pray, Love

“Kelly Corrigan’s thoughtful and beautifully rendered meditation invites readers to reflect on their own launchings and homecomings. I accepted the invitation and learned things about myself. You will, too. Isn’t that why we read? ” —Wally Lamb, New York Times bestselling author of We Are Water

“Kelly Corrigan is no stranger to mining the depths of her heart. . . . [In] Glitter and Glue, Corrigan turns the microscope on her relationship with her own mother. . . . Through her own experience of caring for children, she begins, for the first time, to appreciate the complex woman who raised her.” —O: The Oprah Magazine

“Corrigan is a lively, nimble cheerleader for the joys of family.” —People

“[A] funny, sparkling memoir.” —More

“Corrigan writes with warmth and delicate humor.” —The Washington Post
Kelly Corrigan is a new author for me, but I will be seeking out her other works, as I was very impressed with "Glitter and Glue." This memoir was nothing like I was expecting from what I understood of the book when I picked it up -- I thought it was going to be a typical memoir of the author's childhood, with many stories of the differences between the author's mother and father. Corrigan's father is the "glitter" of the family and the title, but he hardly appears at all in the book -- he is the perpetual cheerleader for his daughter, always supportive and never critical. Corrigan's mother, on the other hand, described herself as the "glue" of the family, the practical, and generally critical, mother who rarely seemed to support any plan or scheme of her daughter. But, the book is not much as I thought it would be -- rather the contrast of the mother and father are explored primarily in Corrigan's story of her 1992 summer in Australia when she was a young nanny to a family whose wife and mother had recently died of cancer. Corrigan had always assumed that when she married and had children she would be their glitter, and instead she found herself in a complex situation where there were no easy answers. The Australian family consisted of the father (older and an airline pilot), two young children (the names are not the same as the real life family), the father's stepson, and his father-in-law. In attempting to bond with the children, Corrigan finds that it was not
simply a matter of indulging youngsters who missed their mother -- in fact there is very little discussion between Corrigan and the children about the mother related in the book, as most of that information comes from Evan, the stepson.

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The Songs of Three Chords Good and Mystery
Glue: All the lyrics, chords, and bars. Tabs/notation of all the essential electric and acoustic guitar riffs, picking and phrases.
Too Much Glue
A Hot Glue Gun Mess: Funny Stories, Pretty DIY Projects
The Glitter Plan: How We Started Juicy Couture for $200 and Turned It into a Global Brand
Sprinkle Glitter on My Grave: Observations, Rants, and Other Uplifting Thoughts About Life
Mucha 2017 Square Flame Tree (ST-Glitter)
Tiffany 2017 Square Flame Tree (ST-Glitter)
Japanese Woodblocks 2017 Square Flame Tree (ST-Glitter)
Forest Fairies 2017 Square Flame Tree (ST-Glitter)
Sprinkle of Glitter Diary 2017
Dream Wedding Paper Dolls with Glitter! (Dover Paper Dolls)
Glitter Tattoos Dolphins (Dover Tattoos)
Life with a Sprinkle of Glitter Glitter Ballerinas Stickers (Dover Little Activity Books Stickers)
Glitter Tattoos Unicorns (Dover Tattoos)
Glitter Tattoos Flowers (Dover Tattoos)
Glitter Fantasy Butterflies Stickers (Dover Little Activity Books Stickers)
With the Possum and the Eagle: The Memoir of a Navigator’s War over Germany and Japan (North Texas Military Biography and Memoir)
An Outlaw and a Lady: A Memoir of Music, Life with Waylon, and the Faith that Brought Me Home