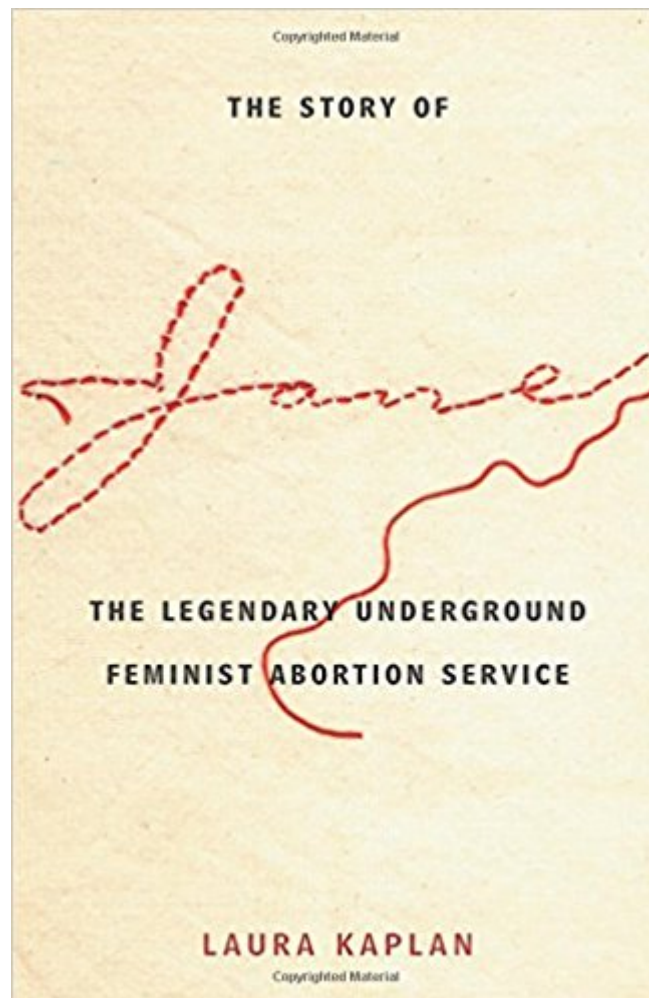




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The Story Of Jane: The Legendary Underground Feminist Abortion Service



Synopsis

"In the four years before the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision, most women determined to get abortions had to subject themselves to the power of illegal, unregulated abortionists...But a Chicago woman who happened to stumble across a secret organization code-named 'Jane' had an alternative. Laura Kaplan, who joined Jane in 1971, has pieced together the histories of the anonymous (here identified only by pseudonyms), average-sounding women who transformed themselves into outlaws."â "Cleveland Plain Dealer" The Story of Jane is a piece of women's history in step with feminist theory demanding that women tell their own stories. It serves to remind people of an important and often overlooked moment in the women's rights movement."â "Seattle Weekly" Laura Kaplan's The Story of Jane is the first book to chronicle this controversial sliver of history, and it is a fascinating, if partisan, close-up of the group."â "Newsday" [Kaplan] draws on her personal recollections and interviews with Jane members and clients and the doctors who performed the abortions to provide a well-written, detailed history of this radical group."â "Publisher's Weekly" Weaving together the voices and memories of her former co-workers, Kaplan recounts how the group initially focused on counseling women and helping them find reliable, reasonably priced doctors....Kaplan's account of this remarkable story recaptures the political idealism of the early '70s...23 years after Roe vs. Wade, the issues and memories raised by the books are close and all too relevant."â "K Kaufmann, San Francisco Chronicle" Laura Kaplan's The Story of Jane is the first book to chronicle this controversial sliver of history, and it is a fascinating, if partisan, close-up of the group....The Story of Jane succeeds on the steam of Kaplan's gripping subject and her moving belief in the power of small-scale change."â "Cynthia Leive, New York Newsday" During the four years before the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision legalized abortion in 1973, the 100 members of Jane helped some 11,000 women end their pregnancies....There is more in this remarkable book that will further raise eyebrows....Kaplan's engrossing tales of the quiet courage of the women who risked their reputations and freedom to help others may remind many readers of other kinds of outlaws who have resisted tyranny throughout history."â "Chicago Sun-Times

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Customer Reviews

"The Story of Jane" by Laura Kaplan. An account of what it will be like if the pro life zealots ever manage to outlaw abortion again. No doubt, what is currently going on in states where the right wing has been almost legislated it out of existence by those determined to impose their religious beliefs upon the rest of us. That's all the belief 'Life begins at Conception' as well as the erroneous term 'baby's' comes from. You would have thought the Prohibition era where alcohol was banned by the same moralistic crowd would have taught these zealots something, but apparently it didn't. Where crime ran rampant in this country and was swimming in illegal alcohol. It did nothing to stop people from drinking. In most cases, it encouraged people to drink. Morality cannot be legislated into existence with useless laws. Laws that only aid crime to run rampant and wind up being paid for by the taxpayer who is left to foot the bill for moral ideologues ignorance. People will always take matters into their own hands and will do what is illegal if they want the service bad enough. Admittedly these ladies were a bit more sophisticated, audacious and ingenious than I always imagined the average abortionist being, but, I was raised in the 50's where sexual information was a dirty word. I got married not having a clue about sex. I always saw abortionist's in a different light, one that was propagated by moralist's bent on painting the worst picture imaginable. So reading this book was an eye opening experience. From all of my research into the subject, they were not the only ones indulging in illegal abortion. It was common for Doctor's at the time to do such things too. There was a whole network of doctor's across this country doing the exact same thing. Dr.

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