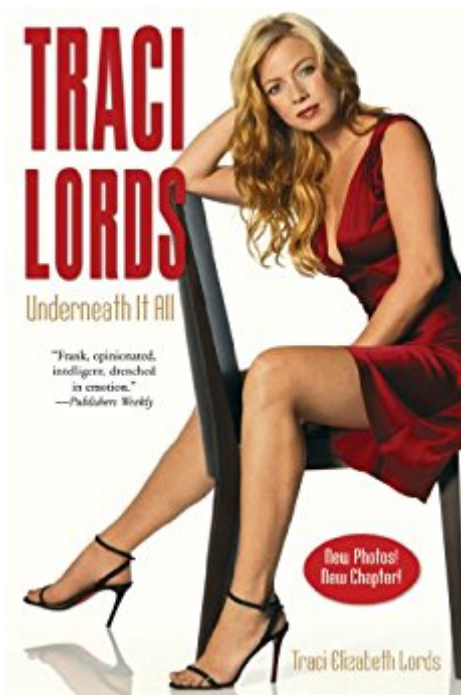


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Traci Lords: Underneath It All



Synopsis

The moving, gripping, and tell-all autobiography of Traci Elizabeth Lords, a former child porn queen, electronica maven, and cult movie and TV star. At 14, Nora Kuzma ran away from home and ended up on the dirty streets of Hollywood. She fell in with a fast crowd, and her dreams of modelling soon landed her a spectacular centrefold in Penthouse Magazine, where at 15 she became internationally known as TRACI LORDS. From there she appeared in numerous adult films and magazines, denying her past and battling a deep addiction to cocaine and men. Three years later she got out. This is her memoir—a tale of loss, redemption, and ultimate survival as Traci Elizabeth Lords takes you into her secretive past, faces her demons, and shares her extraordinary journey of personal growth.

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Customer Reviews

Underneath It All by Traci Lords is an honest and soul-baring account on how the author's childhood shaped her adult years. She charts her early life as a young girl in the Midwest who

naturally has dreams of a better life and is greatly influenced to want more as a result of living part of her life near a university in Ohio. There are a wide range of information pieces that she recalls in her memoir (such as how her biological parents met, the heart-wrenching rape incident that she suffered as a child, how she first came into the racier side of modeling, the roles that both her biological mother and stepfather played in her life). She also creatively tied in her career progression with her love life as she recalled the men who had an influence in some of her professional projects. One of my favorite parts of the book was when she recalled her joy at being cast in the Cry-Baby movie and being cast alongside multiple famous celebrities attached to the film. I can easily understand how the traumatic rape experiences she suffered in her early years indirectly contributed towards her world view on how her own sensuality and life operated. Without providing too many book spoilers from Traci Lords' book, I say this because I myself was traumatized from a rape experience inflicted on me around the age of 5-6 years old orchestrated by my late biological mother for the benefit of who was either one of her lovers and/or clients (I'm not sure because my late adoptive mother (around the time I was 11-13 years old) admitted to me that my late biological mother worked as a prostitute). Anyhow, Lords provides subtle hints on how what happened to her indirectly contributed to the way she felt about the areas of love and sensuality and her brave journey towards seeking therapy. There is so much more in this book written by a woman who poured much of her artistic soul towards telling an honest and unadulterated story.

Traci Lords is a beautiful woman on the outside that survived a lot of unfortunate ugliness in her life, and it almost destroyed her on the inside. If you ever thought the adult film industry was glamorous, the things she experienced will change your mind very quickly. Traci is a real survivor who had to fight her way to get even moderate success in the "normal" entertainment world, and to even be able to trust people at the most basic levels. It was only after a long and difficult path in life that she found her way. I admire Traci for never giving up and for sharing her fascinating story with us. She is an excellent writer, I found her book to be extremely interesting, and I hope she continues to have happiness and success in her life.

If you are one of those that want to read this book to see the inside of the porn industry, especially told by a porn actress then you would be disappointed like me. But If you want to know and learn from the life of a remarkable human being, then that is an absolute reason to read this book. Traci Lords took the porn industry by storm. Her short but solid participation in porn gave her the name of

porn queen but certainly she was a confused girl who was on drugs and did not know what went on at the time. For obvious reasons, Traci did not talk much about that topic in the book and we all can understand why. She must be sick and tired of the same old questions. I keep reading, anyway and found out the story of an extraordinary and strong woman who decided to stand up against all odds. A cruel society that condemned her no matter what she did and how hard she tried to mend her mistakes. This woman not only conquered the film industry. She was a singer, activist and now a writer. I grew up seeing the cover of her porn films and felt so attracted by her sensual look and natural beauty, but now I can see that there is so much more underneath the looks and her great appearance. There is an extraordinary woman that despite all the negative things that she had in her life had the time to find herself and find love! There is much more of Traci underneath it all. Great book.

I read all the reviews before purchasing the book and had mixed feelings - but purchased it nonetheless for the fact that I have wanted to read it since it came out. I applaud Ms. Lords for spilling her heart and life out as she did in this book -- IN HER OWN WORDS. I thought her writing was very well and the telling of HER STORY was enlightening and kept me engaged to the very end. Ms. Lords endured a great deal of horrific experiences that I could not imagine living through - let alone come out of it with happiness and her head held high. Had it been anyone else, they would have taken their own life and/or OD'd on their drug of choice and crawled back under the rock -- she did neither. Through persistence and survival mode, she reinvented herself over and over again. She kept her tenacity and fought back with every ounce of her being -- that's for sure. Bottom line, I am very pleased that I purchased the book and am sad that it took this long to do so. I am also glad that her life has turned into what she always wanted -- happy with someone to love and with someone who loves her right back. Congratulations, as no one deserved such an outcome than she. (To those who ever condemned her or her past - shame on you. I will bet you could have never survived 24 minutes - let alone hours in her shoes.) I would recommend this book to any adult who wishes to read it.

Wow this book will get you it reminded me of Justine from the marquee de sade she couldn't get a break in life. just shows you life takes you to some strange places and life choices can take you anywhere. this book reinforced some of my views of how people are shallow and judgemental and have no right to be morally police, I was angered that the majority of her roadblocks were because of this. Traci lords is a very strong person and I am happy things came out well for her in the long

run.

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