

(Free read ebook) File size: 67.Mb

# The Crying Tree: A Novel



*Par Naseem Rakha*  
audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF  
/ ePub / DOC

Dtails sur le produit Rang parmi les ventes : #500065 dans eBooksPubli le: 2009-06-21Sorti le: 2009-07-07Format: Ebook Kindle

(Free read ebook) The Crying Tree: A Novel

**Par Naseem Rakha : The Crying Tree: A Novel** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Crying Tree: A Novel:

 Download

 Read Online

## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurDramatic, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting, The Crying Tree is an unforgettable story of love and redemption, the unbreakable bonds of family, and the transformative power of forgiveness in the wake of a tragedy.Shortly after Irene and Nate Stanley move to Oregon with their two children, Bliss and Shep, the unthinkable happens: Fifteen-year-old Shep is shot and killed during anapparentrobbery in their home. The murderer, a young mechanic with a history of assault, robbery, and drug-related offenses, is caught and sentenced to death. Sheps murder sends the Stanley family into a tailspin, with each member attempting to cope with the tragedy in his or her own way. Irene lives week after week, waiting for Daniel Robbins execution and the justice she feels she and her family deserve. The weeks turn into months and then years. Ultimately, faced with a growing sense that Robbins death will not stop her pain, Irene takes the

extraordinary and clandestine step of reaching out to her sons killer. Years later, Irene receives the notice that she had craved for so long Daniel Robbin has stopped his appeals and will be executed within a month. This announcement shakes the very core of the Stanley family. Irene, it turns out, isn't the only one with a shocking secret to hide. And as the execution date nears, the Stanleys must face difficult truths to find a way to come to terms with the past.

Extrait The Crying Tree Naseem Rakha C H A P T E R 1 October 1, 2004 THE DEATH WARRANT ARRIVED THAT morning, packaged in a large white envelope marked confidential and addressed to Tab Mason, Superintendent, Oregon State Penitentiary. Mason had been warned the order might be coming. A couple of weeks earlier, the Crook County DA had let the word slip that after nineteen years on death row, condemned murderer Daniel Joseph Robbin had stopped his appeals. Mason dropped the envelope on his desk, along with a file about as thick as his fist, then ran his hand over the top of his cleanly shaved skull. Hed been in corrections for twenty years Illinois, Louisiana, Florida and on execution detail a half- dozen occasions, but hed never been in charge of the actual procedure. Those other times hed simply walked the guy into the room, strapped him down, opened the blinds on the witness booth, then stood back and waited. Hed worked with one guy in Florida whod done the job fifty times. It becomes routine, the officer told Mason, who was busy puking into a trash can after witnessing his first execution. Now Mason slid into his chair, flicked on his desk lamp, and opened Robbins file. There was the mans picture. A front and side shot. He had been nineteen years old when he was booked, had long scraggly hair and eyes squinted to a hostile slit. Mason turned the page and began to read. On the afternoon of May 6, 1985, Daniel Joseph Robbin beat, then shot fifteen-year-old Steven Joseph Stanley (aka Shep) while in the process of robbing the boys home at 111 Indian Ridge Lane. The victim was found still alive by his father, Deputy Sheriff Nathaniel Patrick Stanley, but died before medical assistance could arrive. The remaining family members wife and mother, Irene Lucinda Stanley, and twelve-year-old Barbara Lee (aka Bliss) were not present during the incident. The Stanleys, who were originally from Illinois, had been living in Oregon for a year and a half when the incident occurred. The superintendent leafed through more pages court documents, letters, photos then leaned back in his chair and looked out his window. A squat rectangular building sat on its own toward the north end of the prisons twenty-five-acre grounds. The last time someone had been executed out there was seven- plus years ago. Mason had been working his way up through the ranks at the Florida State Prison out of Raiford, aspiring for a job like the one he had now head of a large correctional institution, good salary, power. He blew out a long, disgusted breath. Why now? The Oregon penitentiary was way overcrowded, inmates doubled up in their cells, half of them out of their minds; fights were breaking out left and right, gangs getting tougher to handle; there were race issues, drugs all while funding for counseling and rehab continued to get slashed. Why now, and why this? Mason reread the warrant. The execution was scheduled for October 29, 12:01 A.M. Less than a goddamn month, he said, shaking his head. Then, as if to rouse himself, he clapped his mismatched hands, one as dark as the rest of his black skin, one strangely, almost grotesquely white. There was no complaining in this job, he told himself. No moaning about what needed to be done. No stammering or stuttering or doing anything that might show the slightest bit of resistance or hesitancy. No. Everything in his career had been leading him to this kind of challenge: his demeanor, his words, his actions would all set a tone. And he knew exactly what that tone had to be.

Revue de presse This complex, layered story of a family's journey toward justice and forgiveness comes together through spellbinding storytelling. Deputy sheriff Nate Stanley calls home one day and announces he's accepted a deputy post in Oregon. His wife, Irene, resents having to uproot herself and their children, Shep and Bliss, from their small Illinois town, but Nate insists it's for the best. Once they've moved into their new home, Shep sets off to explore Oregon's outdoors, and things seem to be settling in nicely until one afternoon when Nate returns home to find his 15-year-old son beaten and shot in their kitchen. After Shep dies in Nate's arms, the family seeks vengeance against the young man, Daniel Joseph Robbin, accused of Shep's murder. In the 19 years between Shep's death and Daniel's legal execution, Bliss becomes all but a caretaker for her damaged parents, and a crisis pushes Irene toward the truth about what happened to Shep. Most of the big secret is fairly apparent early on, so it's a testament to Rakha's ability to create wonderfully realized characters that the narrative retains its tension to the end.

--Publishers Weekly A more common name for the "crying tree" is the willow, and one grows near Steven (Shep) Stanley's grave in Blaine, OR. This 15-year-old was killed in his home, and his best friend, Daniel, has been found guilty of the crime and waits a lethal injection on death row. Gifted musician Shep was definitely the center of the world for his mother, Irene, and the intensity of her grief is exquisitely portrayed in this moving, unsentimental tale of loss. After years of severe depression, withdrawal from her family, and alcoholism, Irene comes to realize that if she

does not forgive her son's killer she will be destroyed. She secretly writes to Daniel in prison, and they begin corresponding. Then Irene receives written notice of the execution date and knows she must act. VERDICT

Gifted storyteller Rakha has crafted a beautiful and passionate novel that never becomes maudlin or unbelievable. All of the characters are genuinely human, and the author even manages to save a few surprising plot details to the end. Highly recommended, especially for readers interested in the subject of loss and coping. - Library Journal "Rakha writes of one of her central subjects, 'and it wasn't anything she knew how to handle.' Not so for the author, who has crafted not only a compelling read, but one whose message lingers: At what point does that to which we cling for our survival become the very thing that robs us of our life?"The Oregonian "The Crying Tree is a powerful novel full of moral questions as well as surprises. Like real life, there are no easy roads for these characters, but they make their way, one step at a time."Las Vegas -Journal"The Crying Tree is hauntingly beautiful and sad as Rakha examines themes of hate, forgiveness, redemption, acceptance and love. Here, Rakha brings hard questions for which there are no black-and-white answers to the fore. Readers are forced to question their own beliefs as Rakha's characters delve into their own."Deseret News"Absorbing and deeply melancholy. Delving into the controversial subjects of capital punishment, forbidden relationships and forgiveness for horrific acts, [Rakha's] debut novel seems designed to inspire heated debate in book clubs." BookPage"This is a gripping, well-paced tale, compassionate without being mawkish." -The Guardian