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# Accused: My Fight For Truth, Justice, And The Strength To Forgive



## Synopsis

This is the true story of a woman who prevailed against the most heinous accusations imaginable. Tonya Craft, a Georgia kindergarten teacher and loving mother of two, never expected a knock on her door to change her life forever. But in May 2008, false accusations of child molestation turned her world upside down. The trial that followed dragged her reputation through the mud and lent nationwide notoriety to her name. Tonya's life spiraled into a witch-trial nightmare in which she was deemed guilty before her innocence could be determined by a jury. Her children were taken away without even a goodbye, and her own daughter was forced to take the stand against her in a courtroom. The situation seemed hopeless, and Tonya was shell-shocked and heartbroken. But that didn't keep her from finding the strength to fight. Over the course of two terrifying years, Tonya rallied to take charge of her own defense, flying across the country and knocking on doors on a desperate quest for answers, and defying her own lawyers on more than one occasion. Tonya's goal was not only to avoid conviction; it was to clear her name, and, most of all, regain custody of her children. *Accused* is about more than Tonya's shocking trial and fight for justice. It is the story of a mother's extraordinary love, the faith that sees her through it all, and the forgiveness that sets her free.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

*Accused* by Tonya Craft. This was an excellent book. I saw Tonya on some of the Talk Shows but I had no idea what she must have been going through. I don't think I could ever forgive Joel, Sarah

and the Mothers. Those little girls will someday know what their Mothers put them through and the bitterness they had toward Tonya. Tonya is right -if you are angry, bitter or hate someone, you are only hurting yourself. She showed her greatness by just letting it all go. The Mothers will have to live with themselves and perhaps remember "what goes around will come around."

I was really interested in reading this womans story. I think the book was great and even brought me to tears at one point. As a mother myself, I could not imagine my child being taken from me. I truly believe this women did nothing wrong and I'm happy she is getting her life back, even though it should never have happened.

This book is a well written, disturbing, yet fascinating account of injustice at the hands of an overzealous, good ol' boy network in a small town. It was difficult to read, at times giving me nightmares and causing me to revisit one of the lowest points in my life. I am a former resident of Catoosa County, having lived the better part of 50 years there and the surrounding area. During all those years, having never run afoul of the law, I believed it was a great place to live and raise a family. That all changed for me in one night, when I saw firsthand what it was like to be falsely charged, booked, bullied, and intimidated by the very people I always counted on for protection. When something like this happens to you, you eventually get on with your life, but you are NEVER the same. I have often wondered if those involved gave any thought to the impact of what they did or how it permanently and inexorably changed my life. Sad to say, probably not. It is to Tonya Craft's credit that she could endure and suffer so much and still forgive. Wish the same could be said for me. Godspeed, Tonya.

Very good book. Kept me turning pages all night long. I moved to this area after this happened and wanted to know more about it. Since reading it and talking to locals, there are still mixed beliefs I realize on whether she got off just because she paid good money for defense and experts. I could really see the conspiracy while reading it and it was scary to think this could happen to someone. It is a shame this lady went through this if everything in the book is true. My personal jury is still out, but the book is very well written and I would recommend you read it if you like true crime stories.

Today's headlines are full of sex crimes. Why? Sex sells. It brings out the worst fears in parents and provides ratings for TV. Tonya Craft makes us realize the system is NOT perfect and that many times, a person we judge guilty of a terrible crime is in fact not guilty. But we never hear that side of

the story do we? In this book we do. Hopefully the FBI will look hard at these people, that are supposed to enforce the law but often use it to destroy lives.

A very well written account of one woman"s trip through hell on earth. To think that our justice system has gone so far off the rails is shocking. A true search for Truth !!! And the price one pays in Emotions, Money, Relationships, and Career...not to mention the loss of Her Children. A real page turner !! All teachers, law students, law enforcement , just about everyone should read this .... Trust me... If it happened to her...it could happen to you....

I cannot stop thinking about this book and Tonya Craft. I had not planned to read it, but then she was at the Barnes and Noble in Franklin, Tennessee. Once I started reading, I couldn't put the book down. Like her, I am a teacher. This book frightened, horrified, saddened, and disgusted me. Above all else, it made me sympathetic to Tonya who endured having her reputation utterly trashed. Her book shows how easy it is for false accusers to destroy someone. She fought back, but at an enormous cost, both literally and figuratively. She spent \$500,000 just to defend herself. She was accused and presumed guilty by incompetent and biased detectives, medical examiners, ex-husband and new wife, "friends" and attorneys, among others. The judge in the case was obviously biased. This book is about how she prevailed. Read this book, especially if you are in a position to work with children. I hope her book sells a million copies. She is a hero.

As someone who advocates for the wrongfully convicted, I could relate to everything Tonya endured - from the early accusations to the arrest to the unfair trial. I'm familiar with other cases in which prosecutors fabricated evidence, twisted facts and resorted to character assassination to try to win. I'm also familiar with cases where witnesses are coached to give statements that support the police theory. It is disgusting that children were manipulated in this case. While I want them to be held accountable, I admire Tonya for forgiving everyone and trying to put it behind her. I thank her for sharing her story and exposing the misconduct that nearly destroyed her life. It is important for people to know the truth.

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