



## Family Secrets: The Dionne Quintuplets' Autobiography

*Jean-Yves Soucy , Annette Dionne , Cecile Dionne , Yvonne Dionne*

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They were the "miracle babies"--five identical girls born on a farm, who went on to become the biggest celebrities of their day. Now, for the first time, the three surviving Dionne quintuplets tell their story--from their bizarre, socially isolated childhood, to the physical and sexual abuse they suffered at the hands of their parents, to their inspiring triumph over their difficulties. Includes never-before-published photos.

## **Family Secrets: The Dionne Quintuplets' Autobiography Details**

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## **From Reader Review Family Secrets: The Dionne Quintuplets' Autobiography for online ebook**

### **Ellen says**

Interesting true story!

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### **Megan Barnes says**

I had earlier read "We Were Five", which the Dionnes had told to an author a few decades before this book. The biggest change was that now that their parents had died they revealed the sexual abuse at the hands of their father. When Annette told her priest how her father would molest her when he took her out for a drive, he advised her to wear a thicker coat.

The tale of the Dionne quintuplets is very sad. They seem to have fonder memories of when they were institutionalized than after they were returned to their parents at the age of 9. Every one around them used them for their own gain. Now there's no need to travel to "Quintland" to pay admission and peer at the children. We get it right from TLC.

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### **Shannon says**

Disturbingly compelling. I read it in one night. I was saddened by their circumstances as well as by the failure of the adults around them to protect them... esp. those adults in the Church. Praise God, there was mention of one priest finally speaking up for Emelie... at her wake. I was grateful that the girls still loved and trusted God through their ordeal. And, they always had one another.

The Dionne quintuplets (born May 28, 1934) are the first quintuplets known to survive their infancy. They are the only female identical set of five ever recorded. The sisters were born just outside Callander, Ontario, Canada near the village of Corbeil. Their names were Annette, Cecile, Emilie, Marie and Yvonne. My parents, born in the late 1920's, remember their births as BIG news.

Emilie died at 20 due to suffocation during an epileptic seizure. Marie died at 35 due to a blood clot in her brain. Yvonne died at 64 of cancer.

#### **Amazon Book Description:**

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### **Christine Delles hoffman says**

The first book I read about them was filled with such negative feelings for their parents and their father in particular. This book, written after his death, explores the emotional, physical and sexual abuse these kids faced at the hands of their parents. And the hatred they received from their parents and siblings. It's so amazing that they were finally able to break away and live their own lives. Sad that the only happiness they knew as children was as wards of the government.

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### **Maryan says**

This book came to my attention during a recent tour of the Quints Museum in North Bay, the birth home in 1934 of the Dionne quintuplets. Written by 3 of the Quints and Jean-Yves Soucy, it presents a personal account of their lives until their 20s. It is a sad tale of abuse and exploitation by their family, their doctor and the province. Quintland was the original Disneyland that attracted 3 million visitors to North Bay and area during the peak of the depression. A whole new Quint industry sprang up and provided employment for thousands. The girls were close, supporting and protecting each other as best they could. Against all odds all 5 survived into their 20s when one died of asphyxiation following an epileptic seizure. They were all scarred emotionally and the remaining Quints were disowned by their family once this book was published. It is not particularly well written but is an important perspective on the lives of these children and the 30s in Canada.

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### **Baikinange says**

I wanted to learn about the media circus surrounding the Dionnes' early years, and this was not that book. This was an amateur look at their years after they moved back into the family home through young adulthood.

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### **Alison says**

The Quintuplets book- a depressing true story about how life a home was worse then living in QUINTLAND. takes the quints from 9 - early twenties...

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### **Fishface says**

This was a good (at times great) read about the strange, strange lives of the Dionne quintuplets. I knew they were raised in a kind of isolated fishbowl, like sideshow attractions. But a lot of this is news to me, and in a very odd coincidence, right after I complained on GR about how hard it is to find a book about someone who's been subjected to gaslighting, I started reading this book -- the memoir of 5 people who were raised from infancy in the glow of the gaslight and struggled for years to find the clear light of day. I could almost physically feel it as each sister got another piece of her freedom into her hands at last. This one is well worth your time.

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