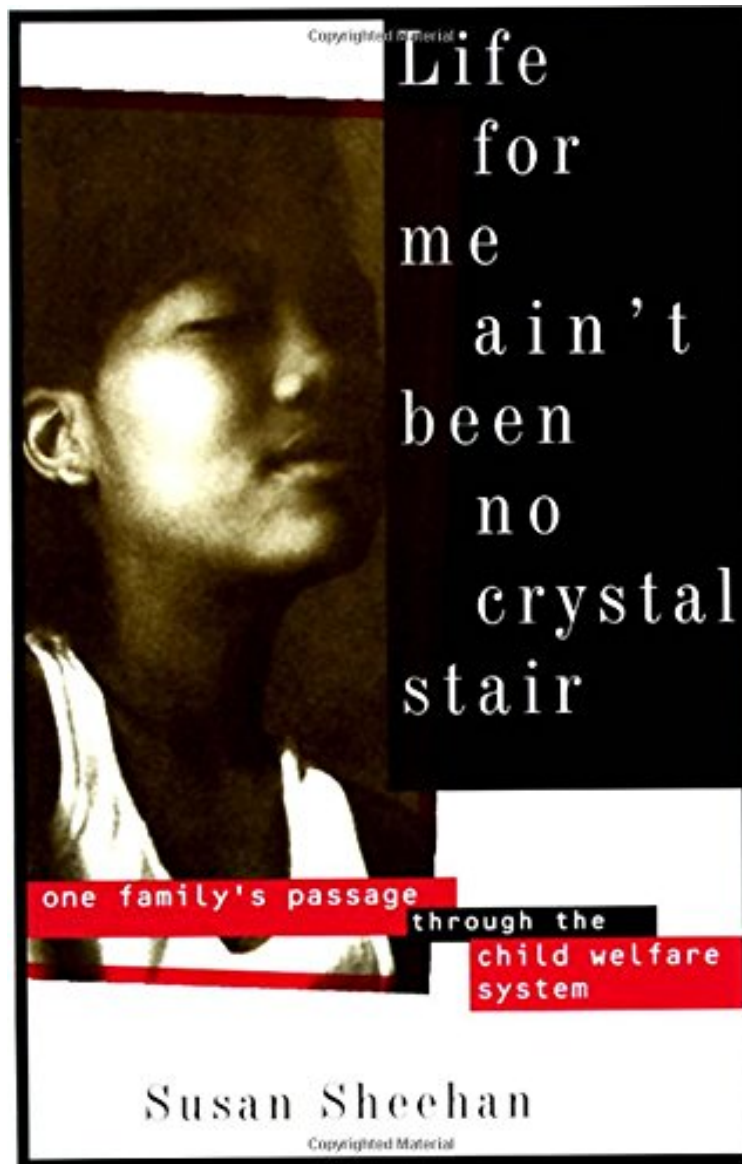


(Ebook free) Life for Me Ain't Been No Crystal Stair: One Family's Passage Through the Child Welfare System

## Life for Me Ain't Been No Crystal Stair: One Family's Passage Through the Child Welfare System

*Susan Sheehan*

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#887063 in Books 1994-09-06 1994-09-06 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .42 x 5.201, .50 #File Name: 0679754504192 pages | File size: 19.Mb

**Susan Sheehan : Life for Me Ain't Been No Crystal Stair: One Family's Passage Through the Child Welfare System** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Life for Me Ain't Been No Crystal Stair: One Family's Passage Through the Child Welfare System:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An important story, told poorly  
By Autumn C. Smith  
A heart breaking story of a family's struggle with sexual, substance and physical abuse, despair and dysfunction; all while trying to navigate through a broken social service system. Sadly, this book is terribly written. The Pulitzer Prize winning author writes She, Florence, Carlos and Matthew had spent a month after the eviction living in the basement apartment of a drunken friend of her mother's where they had had to use candles because the electricity had been cut off. This is not a quote from one of the characters, but the way the author writes sentences -- needlessly verbose with dodgy grammar. Ms. Sheehan also jumps back and forth in time with no rhyme or reason. This is a story worthy of being told, unfortunately, it's told very poorly.  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read  
By Jermaine  
Eye opening and interesting read! Keeps you engaged and let's you into the foster care, drugs/alcohol, welfare systems... And it's cycle  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars  
By Customer  
Great book!!!

On October 7, 1984, Crystal Taylor gave birth to a baby boy whom she named Daquan. Crystal was only fourteen. She was living with a boyfriend whom she was too young to marry, and her mother was addicted to heroin and cocaine. So under the law, Crystal and Daquan became wards of New York State's foster-care system—a sprawling, often slipshod web of boarding facilities, halfway houses, and paid surrogates that cares for almost 60,000 children. *Life for Me Ain't Been No Crystal Stair* is the story of what happened to Crystal and Daquan, as well as to Crystal's mother, who herself had grown up in various foster homes. It is a story of three generations of poverty, addiction, and abuse and also a story of astonishing human resilience. And Susan Sheehan tells it with the same flawless observation, humor, and compassion that she brought to her classic *Is There No Place on Earth for Me?*

From Publishers Weekly  
Pulitzer Prize-winner Sheehan recounts a black urban family's odyssey through the New York City foster-care system. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Sheehan eloquently and unflinchingly describes the structured waste of human potential that systematically deprives our society of honor and harmony. No reader with a conscience, no reader with a heart, will come away from this complicated, infuriating and unforgettable book untouched or unmotivated to instill long-overdue change."--Michael Dorris, author of *The Broken Chord*  
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"Sheehan eloquently and unflinchingly describes the structured waste of human potential that systematically deprives our society of honor and harmony. No reader with a conscience, no reader with a heart, will come away from this complicated, infuriating and unforgettable book untouched or unmotivated to instill long-overdue change."--Michael Dorris, author of *The Broken Chord*