

The Pornographer's Daughter: A Memoir of Childhood, My Dad, and Deep Throat

By Kristin Battista-Frazee



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More than forty years after *Deep Throat* arrived on the cultural scene and inspired a sexual revolution, questions about the ethics of pornography and its impact on society are still being asked today and remain as controversial as ever. Kristin Battista-Frazee was only four years old in 1974 when her father, Anthony Battista, was indicted by the federal government for distributing the now famous porn film *Deep Throat*. As her father unexpectedly became an early pioneer in the emerging porn industry and transformed himself from Philadelphia stockbroker to porn broker, this indictment threatened his family's stability. The stress drove Kristin's mother, Frances Battista, to worry endlessly if her husband would be put in jail. She became so depressed that she attempted suicide.

Kristin survived this family trauma to live a surprisingly normal life. But instead of leaving the past behind her, she developed a burning curiosity to understand her family's history. Why did the federal government so vehemently prosecute this case? And why did her father get involved in distributing this notorious porn film in the first place? Did the influence of pornography in fact make Kristin a better person? Answering these questions and reconciling her dramatic family history with her life as a wife and mother became her mission.

The Pornographer's Daughter is an insider's glimpse into the events that made Deep Throat and pornography so popular, as well as what it was like to come of age against the backdrop of the pornography business.





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Editorial Review

Review

"Kristin's historically fascinating story parallels our world yet today. Here is a collection of unique characters and storylines that you couldn't make up if you tried. I couldn't be more excited to option her memoir as our inspiration for an incredible television series." —Steve Barnett, producer of "300" and "The Spiderwick Chronicles"

"Kristin's story is a fascinating and fun look at an era and series of events that changed our country. Even more compelling, at its core is an emotional story about a family and their struggle to stay together after being thrown into a tremendous amount of trouble." —David Koechner, actor, comedian, *SNL* alum, and producer known for his roles as Todd Packer on "The Office" and Champ Kind in "Anchorman" and "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues"

"An honest and unadorned depiction of what it's like to grow up in a house where hardcore pornography and live sex shows pay the bills. Set in a twilight zone somewhere between *All in the Family* and *The Sopranos*, the cast features a father facing federal obscenity charges in Memphis, a mother washing down Nembutal with shots of Wild Turkey, and a daughter taking it all in with the eye of a budding journalist. It's miraculous that Battista-Frazee was able to persuade her family to tell her in such unsparing detail what went down when she was a child. The most surprising plot twist, however, is that Battista-Frazee emerged from the chaos and trauma to lead a shockingly normal, middle-class life. "—Robert Rosen, author of *Beaver Street: A History of Modern Pornography*

"A fascinating account about a piece of pop culture history as well as a story about a family caught up in trying circumstances. This book is bound to strike a chord with anyone who has ever tried to make sense of her family history." —Katrina Alcorn, author of *Maxed Out: American Moms on the Brink*

"I've never read a porn book like *The Pornographer's Daughter*. Kristin Battista-Frazee combines memoir, biography, and journalism in an entertaining and informative way that will really suck readers in." —Eric Danville, author of *The Complete Linda Lovelace*

About the Author

Kristin Battista-Frazee is a marketing and communications professional in Washington, DC. She is also a freelance writer for the "Daily Beast" and has published many articles about the adult industry and the controversy surrounding pornography, including "Rick Santorum's War on Pornography Stirs Up the Same Tired Arguments," and "Stormy Daniels on Being a Porn-Star Mom." Kristin also maintains a blog, "Pornographer's Daughter" (www.porndaughter.com), where she discusses her views about pornography's impact on today's culture, as well as other current issues facing women in society today. She resides in McLean, Virginia.

Users Review

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Sarah Jackson:

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