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***Security Breach: The Murder Of Tod McQuaid* By Janet Bailey McQuaid**

Biography: Janet Bailey McQuaid was a wife, a mother, a grandmother and a Sweet Adeline singer. She was not a writer. The horrific murder of her elder son caused her to look for a release for the anger and the overwhelming grief that came with his death. She also started this book as a way to tell her granddaughters when they were old enough about their father's murder.

One reader wrote her friends: "I think Security Breach is much more impressive when one thinks that the author used this defining event in her life to actually WRITE A BOOK, which she has done beautifully!"

One reviewer observed (on over side) that: "Jan tells the story as only a mother who has 'been there' can. It is the story of being sadistically manipulated by a trusted employee. And Jan doesn't simply tell readers about the manipulation, she makes readers feel it."

This is a book about an average family, how they reacted before and after their son's last day, and the ensuing struggle and bittersweet triumph over the murderess. Many Security Breach readers write to Jan that they could not put the book down. *Security Breach, The Murder of Tod McQuaid* made Janet Bailey McQuaid not only a writer, but also a champion of the victims in their agony of Victimhood.

Postscript: Jan and Rog were shocked in March 2004 when they were told that the murderess found a flaw in the 1991 trial, next she worked the legal system, and then she received a reduced sentence after pleading guilty to First Degree Murder in December 2003. Jan and Rog, as victims, were denied notice to attend that hearing and other victims' rights as listed in the 1984 West Virginia Victims' Rights Act. Jan and Rog feel the existence of a US Constitution amendment will help hold the states accountable.

More revolting to the McQuaids was finding the errors and omissions by the "State" (Assistant Prosecuting Attorney) between 2001 and 2003. The State counsel repeatedly did not respond to the Writ as ordered by the Court and did not even attend his resultant 'default hearing'. Following error discovery, notice and request for reversal by the McQuaids-given to the Prosecuting Attorney, his statements in the newspaper shocked the McQuaids even more. He contradicted facts presented him thus also misleading the newspaper readers.

Presentation: "Crime as Felt by the Victim's Family" can be arranged for your group. Jan will highlight family using extracts from her book. Rog, her husband, will address "State" expanded Victimhood.

Pending your action: Jan and Rog are financially supporting victims from signed book profits to gain some US Constitutional support. They offer to give a book to 1000 USA libraries in the name of the first 1000 volunteers who each collect 100 voters' signatures on Victimhood Amendment Petitions (VAP). These 100,000 names from community action will permit lobbying for a Victimhood Amendment so "victims" are at least mentioned in the US Constitution. The Web's www.janmcquaid.com has printable VAP copy. The VAP signers can endorse a Victimhood amendment (with constitution compassion for victims) that seeks recognition of the government duty to legislate, execute and adjudicate the victims' rights statutes.

The US Senate and House have upgraded the 1984 Victims' Rights Act from their statutes S2329 and HR5107 that combined was signed by President Bush on October 30, 2004. It is an alternative, matching the defunct Victims' Rights Amendment, but only for Federal Crime Victims. Thus each state will need to adapt the Federal Act for state crime victims while the US Constitution remains silent on the rights of victims.

Please help; send a note to Rog@janmcquaid.com (documents/forms printed from www.janmcquaid.com).

Order book: \$20 Price includes Author's inscription from autographed private stock and shipping within USA. Send to: **Jan McQuaid, PO Box 101112, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.** McQuaids will give S&H effort for Victimhood when buyer submits VAP with at least 25 signatures and check for \$15. Please include check or money order and your name and phone number and an address for delivery.

Contact Jan McQuaid at jan@janmcquaid.com

'Security Breach' a story of true crime felt by a mother who struggled for nine years writing and rewriting this unforgettable story. Many readers write Jan to say they could not put her book down:

Security Breach: The Murder Of Tod McQuaid

By Janet Bailey McQuaid; Sterling House Publishers; \$14.95; 200 pages.

Review by KENDALL BELL Special to The Gazette, Beaufort, SC. Printed Easter Sunday 2004. (Copyright 2004 Used with permission)

Jan and Rog McQuaid can easily recall the happiness of watching their oldest son, Tod, develop a successful security and alarm business in West Virginia. But that happiness quickly turned into despair one day when Jan received a telephone call from Tammy Wilson, one of Tod's employees. Tammy informed Jan that Tod was missing and she seemed truly distraught. But something didn't seem quite right.

Tod hired Tammy, who was down on her luck, although he marked her employment application with the word "maybe" in large letters. There was something about her that caused Tod to wonder whether or not he should take a chance on the young woman. But Tod was the type of person to help others in need so he hired her.

Over the next several days, as the phone calls between Jan and Tammy continued, Jan became aware of inconsistencies in Tammy's stories. It soon became apparent to Jan that Tammy knew more than she was willing to admit. So Jan began an investigation of her own. And what she learned in the next few weeks became the basis for her book, "Security Breach: The Murder of Tod McQuaid."

"Security Breach" gives readers an inside look at the pain and frustration of not knowing whether your missing child is alive. And that pain is the same regardless of whether the child is 5 or 35 years old.

Jan tells the story as only a mother who has "been there" can. It is the story of being sadistically manipulated by a trusted employee. And Jan doesn't simply tell readers about the manipulation, she makes readers feel it.

When Tammy called to tell Jan authorities had found Tod's body, Jan noticed that Tammy didn't seem

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distraught. Instead, there was an odd coldness and callousness in her voice.

But it wasn't until police told Jan not to release any more information to Tammy that Jan's worst fears were truly confirmed. When Tammy is charged in Tod's death the real questions begin: But why was Tod killed? And how many others were involved? How could this happen? These are only a few of the many questions the McQuaid family asked themselves.

As the story unfolds, Jan gets answers to many of her questions. But many more will go unanswered forever.

Still, Jan recounts the experience of having to listen as lies about Tod were told during court testimony. Somehow she endured the pain and suffering to see that Tod's killer or killers were brought to justice. She walks readers through many of the things she and her family were forced to endure as victims.

"Security Breach" is a compelling read for people who like to read about true crime. It's not a pleasant story. But it's a story that Jan knew she had to tell. Because only by exposing people such as Tammy Wilson can the world become a little bit safer place for everyone.

A touching element near the beginning of the book is a letter that Tod's daughter, Elizabeth, then 11, wrote several years after he died. Near the end of the book is a beautiful poem the then 17-year-old Elizabeth wrote. And this is what makes "Security Breach" different. This isn't just a story about a murder. It's a story about what a family has to endure and how the pain continues beyond the present generation. It's a story about coping and accepting life even when it isn't fair.

"Security Breach" is a story that will keep readers turning the pages. This is a book that readers will remember for a long time.

Kendall Bell is a member of the Southern Book Critics Circle.

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