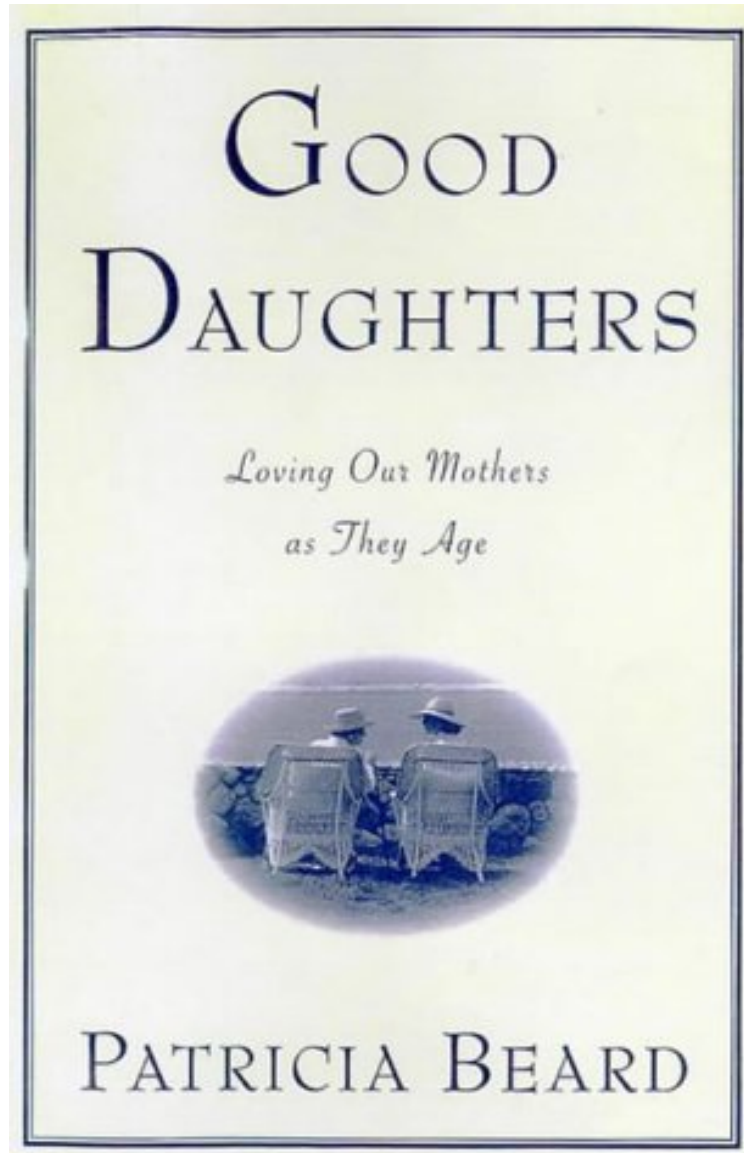


(Download ebook) Good Daughters : Loving Our Mothers as They Age

Good Daughters : Loving Our Mothers as They Age

Patricia Beard

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Patricia Beard : Good Daughters : Loving Our Mothers as They Age before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Good Daughters : Loving Our Mothers as They Age:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If your mother is growing "old," and you're a daughter, this book is a Must Read!By ShopperI read this when it was first published--at a time when I was "the daughter" helping my mom age into her 90s.Now *I* am the mother (76) and my daughter is starting to help me age. I'm reading the book again--

from the other perspective and finding it so valuable. This time, I'm making margin notes before I give the book to her, hoping she will find it as helpful as I did and am discovering anew. The generational changes don't affect the delicate yet precious mother-daughter relationship!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Quite Disappointing. By Romance fan I read the other reviews on line about this book, but found it did not live up to its high marks. I had a very difficult relationship with my Mom, who just recently passed away. While I thought the book was good at showing the different kinds of Mother-Daughter bonds, I found its treatment of the hard relationships to be lacking in sympathy for the daughters of difficult mothers. In particular, she appears to judge quite harshly one woman whose mother who was dying and was on a breathing machine. She essentially said that if the daughter had been closer to her mother, the doctors who refused to remove the breathing tube (which was causing the mother discomfort) might have acted differently. I am appalled both by the lack of empathy for the daughter and the complete lack of understanding of the modern medical establishment that this comment showed. I was looking for something to help me move on, heal, come to a better place about my life with my Mom. This book did not help.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Poignant new treatment of mothers and daughters

By A Customer GOOD DAUGHTERS treats a crucial subject -- how to deal with aging mothers -- at a crucial time when the population of older mothers and mid-life daughters is expanding. This book contains valuable data and poignant profiles which reach across women's experience. The author writes beautifully and insightfully. I have already recommended this book to friends and teachers of women's studies. There is something here for every woman and every student of contemporary American life.

Adult daughters, even with the best intentions, can find the last years of their mothers' lives heartbreaking, frustrating, and filled with anxiety and guilt. Yet in this compassionate, lyrical book, journalist Patricia Beard shows that the end of life is a crucial stage in the mother-daughter relationship and that it can be satisfying and fulfilling. "Good Daughters" explores what it means to be a good daughter to an aging mother, why it is so hard, and how daughters can neutralize -- or at least recognize -- the old feelings that interfere with making clear-headed, warm-hearted decisions. Drawing on extensive research and interviews with gerontologists, sociologists, psychologists, and hundreds of women, the author offers insights and practical measures to enhance the mother-daughter bond.

.com Mother and daughter: for both members, it's a long and complicated relationship. With today's increased longevity has come the growth of the "sandwich generation": baby boomers who are caring for both their aging parents and their own young children. What does this mean for the mother-daughter relationship? In *Good Daughters: Loving Our Mothers As They Age*, journalist Patricia Beard explores the emotional impact of aging and asks the essential questions, "How can we make peace with our mothers?" and "Why is it so hard?" Based on dozens of interviews, Beard attempts to understand what works--and does not work--in women's relationships with their aging mothers. *Good Daughters* is structured into three sections: "Reality Check," a discussion of the changing mother-daughter relationship as women age as well as changes in the culture; "Profiles," an in-depth description of mother-daughter pairs; and "Loss," an exploration of the grieving process--for both mother and daughter--as death becomes imminent. *Good Daughters* is sensitively and thoughtfully written and brings a great deal of insight to this difficult topic. Readers struggling with the issue of what it means to be a daughter of an aging mother might want to augment this fine book with Alix Kates Shulman's brilliant memoir, *A Good Enough Daughter*. --Erica Lutz

From Publishers Weekly "Can we feel what it is like to be old when we are in the middle of our lives?" asks Beard (*Growing Up Republican*) in this sensitive and well-written study of the relationship between baby boomer daughters and their aging mothers. The author, a journalist who herself has an aging parent, has pinpointed a sociological and personal concern that has emerged as women live longer and their daughters are frequently called upon to become their primary caretakers. In this self-help manual for those who are or will soon be assisting their mothers through their last stages of life, the author addresses the complexities of the mother-daughter relationship, sometimes characterized by ambivalence and unmet expectations on the part of both women. Beard draws on academic studies and interviews with both professionals and ordinary women to describe the difficulties stemming from the role reversal that occurs as elderly women become more dependent. Daughters who are struggling to do the right thing by their mothers will find a wealth of true stories, encompassing mothers and daughters who have a loving history, daughters whose mothers were once abusive, and women who currently live with their mothers or are separated from them by distance. In this valuable, accessible resource Beard also addresses the unique closeness that often exists between mothers and daughters in African-American families. National advertising. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal Beard, a journalist and the author of *Growing Up Republican* (LJ 8/96), a biography of Christine Todd Whitman, moves into new territory with this book on mother-daughter relationships. The interaction of adult daughters and aging mothers is a topic that has not been previously addressed by many popular psychology titles, and Beard does a fine job not only of describing the situation but also of providing examples to illustrate her work. One of the main aims of this book is to show daughters how to cultivate mutually satisfactory relationships with their mothers. Beard effectively builds on the groundwork laid by titles such as Mary Pipher's *Reviving Ophelia* (LJ 4/1/94) and Ann F.

Carons Mothers and Daughters: Searching for New Connections (LJ 10/15/98). Highly recommended for both public and academic libraries. Sheila Devaney, Peace Coll. Lib., Raleigh, NC Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.