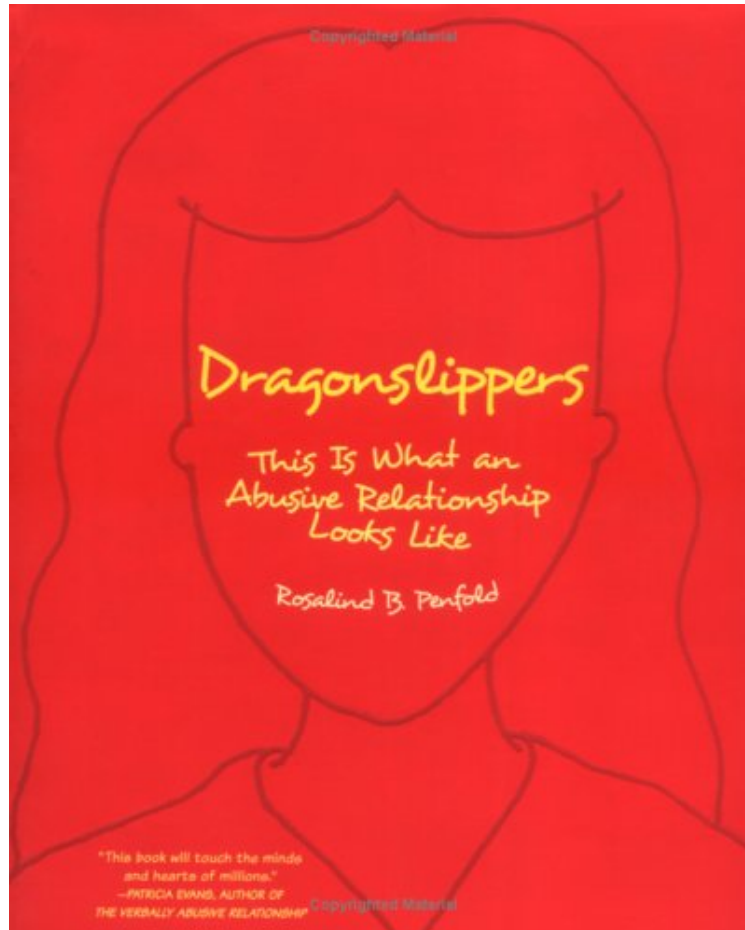


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## Dragonslippers: This is What an Abusive Relationship Looks Like

Rosalind B. Penfold

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**Rosalind B. Penfold : Dragonslippers: This is What an Abusive Relationship Looks Like** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dragonslippers: This is What an Abusive Relationship Looks Like:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. must-readBy Eva-Lise CarlstromSimple drawings, really insightful and valuable content. More insightful than the author was prepared to take at face value at the time, but it's really clear in retrospect. Extremely highly recommended. Everyone should read this and know what to look out for--4% of the US population is sociopaths, and this book gives a really good feel for what it's like dealing with one, including the constant self-questioning and paralysis their behavior induces. Excellent companion volume to The Sociopath Next Door.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent, riveting, stunning, relevantBy B. JacobI purchased and read this book a few years ago (2009) and eventually have purchased copies for people and jobs that I've worked at. When you buy this book, you are not buying a textbook or a person's personal experience. You are buying the emotions and feelings that come along with surviving violence. You are given the opportunity to peek into someone's

grief and hope. I have worked as an advocate (and related positions) for survivors of domestic violence for the last 10+ years. This book is in my top 3 that I recommend to fellow advocates and anyone interested in knowing more. I wish this author would write more or even accept the acknowledgment of how amazing her book is (her name is a pseudonym). If you are reading this-- thank you for sharing a part of yourself with us. We are undeserving but grateful. This book has impacted me so much that I still look for excellent graphic books wherever I go (and the only books I'll buy that are not e-books anymore) but have such a hard time finding something that is not fantasy. Any recommendations from fellow readers are appreciated. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. To say this book is enlightening, and an eye-opener ...By VTR To say this book is enlightening, and an eye-opener is an understatement. You experience the abuse first hand in her thoughts and her drawings. This book is a work of art ~ not in its illustrations, but in putting a very powerful topic right out there ~ in your face. It is brutally honest, maddening, frustrating, all at the same time. Everyone should read this, both men and women! It sheds light on a topic that is too often swept under the carpet to fester.

Rosalind B. Penfold is an appealing, successful thirty-five-year-old businesswoman running her own company when her parents, worried that she works too hard, invite her to a country picnic-party one weekend. There she meets widower Brian and is swept off her feet. Romantic and exuberant, with four loving children, Brian seems like everything a woman could possibly want, and Roz falls deeply in love. But soon Roz begins to notice troubling signs that Brian is not what he seems. A pattern of lies and petty cruelties begins to emerge that, over the course of their decade together, comes to encompass a litany of physical, mental, and sexual abuse appalling in its scope and malevolence. Often too traumatized and ashamed to admit the true extent of what she is experiencing, Roz instead pours her anguish into a series of graphic diaries that provide a touching, profoundly shocking, and completely original portrait of domestic abuse. An extraordinary visual testimony, *Dragonslippers* presents the many warning signs of abuse and offers a frank examination of the psychology of both abusers and victims. Above all, this is the story of a woman who fights for and finds the strength to break free.

From Publishers Weekly In this deft, honest work, writer-illustrator Penfold documents how she traveled from successful businesswoman to abused wife and back again. With a simple, naïve drawing style and matter-of-fact tone, Penfold illustrates just how a confident person can be seduced and dominated by another. Her story starts when she meets Brian at a party and he sweeps her off her feet. A widower, he's ready for a full-time woman in his life, and Roz rapidly becomes absorbed into his sphere, sharing outings and devoting her weekends to his four children. But warning bells start ringing even before they leave for their whirlwind wedding in Greece, and his Jekyll and Hyde routine begins almost immediately after. Penfold, a well-adjusted and compassionate woman, is at first confused by his behavior and reluctant to write off her husband as an abusive, possibly schizophrenic, probable alcoholic. She questions herself, and tries harder, sticking around because she feels deeply responsible for his children, even as his behavior becomes ever more erratic and horrifying. Penfold's simplistic art and direct style are nothing fancy, but they still enable her to tell a compelling story—readers will be relieved by the strength she shows to leave this doomed relationship. (Apr.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Dragonslippers brings new meaning to a picture being worth a thousand words. Rosalind Penfold has brought to the pages of this remarkable book graphic evidence that speaks louder than all the petitions and statistics surrounding abusive relationships. The warning signals she depicts are the litmus test for every relationship. Her story is painfully clear, horribly true, and thankfully triumphant."