

Chan Lai Yee (323)

Name of the book: My Story

Author: Dave Pelzer

Publisher: Orion Books

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The book combines three different books under different titles – ‘A Child called IT’, ‘The Lost Boy’ and ‘A Man named Dave’. The stories are about the author, Dave Pelzer. He was seriously hurt and starved by his emotionally unstable mother. The three stories run through Dave’s life recounting all the events that have shaped him to become the person he is today.

‘A Child Called It’ tells Dave’s life from ages 4 to 12. He tells us about his life before the abuse started, the change in his mother that led to his doom, and gradually all the horrible events that happened to him. He also talks about how he tried to overcome the horrors of his abuse.

The second novel ‘A Lost Boy’ describes Dave’s life from 12 to 18. He tells us about how he finally got away from his mother with the help of his teachers. He also talks about his foster carers, his dad and the relationship he tried to have with him. Through hard work and determination, Dave finally enlisted with the United States Air Force.

The last book ‘A Man Called Dave’ recounts Dave’s life from 18 onwards. He tells us how he managed to face his mother. She asked him to forgive her for what she had put him through. He found it difficult to do so but he managed to let it all go one day after having a touching chat with his son. He also talks about how he met his current wife and how she has taught him to move on and get on with his life.

This book tells a really sad story. It was written because the author was hoping that his experiences might help other people in similar circumstances as his own. You may feel upset after reading this book, but on the other hand you will admire the author’s bravery and courage.