



What They Never Told Us:

True Stories of Family Secrets and Hidden Identities Revealed

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SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. What has been the effect of popular consumer DNA tests and genealogy websites in terms of unintended discoveries regarding parentage, relatives, race, or ethnicity? How common are such unexpected results?
2. Several people in the book discovered through a DNA test that they were a different race and/or ethnicity. What was the impact on their identities and their relationships with their parents?
3. Were there certain stories that really stood out for you? Stories that you found either particularly inspiring or sad or both
4. Did telling these stories of hidden identities and family secrets change you? If so, in what way?
5. What is the emotional and psychological impact of discovering you or your family were not who you thought you/they were?
6. Why is it so important to understand the social history context behind these stories?
7. Are there groups that can help people cope with these identity shattering discoveries?
8. Prior to writing this book and collecting the stories of others, what had you learned about your own family? Tell us a bit about your own journey to understand and redefine your racial identity.
9. Why did you decide to share the stories of others who uncovered secrets about their parentage and biological history, as well as, like you, their racial identity?
10. What do you hope readers will take away from these stories? Are there important lessons for all of us in these deeply personal tales?