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Assuming Names: A Con Artist's Masquerade (Criminal Mischief) (Volume 1)



Synopsis

When it was over, there were a lot of questions. The detectives were embarrassed but they still wanted answered, "How did a 15-year-old runaway successfully pose as a world traveled countess?" The newspapers turned it back on them, practically sneering, "How did she do it while under investigation by the FBI, DEA, and Interpol?" The Mafia had been demanding the same thing for six months, "What is your real name?" And the psychologists asked the question they always ask, "Why?" It's the why of it that will keep a girl in trouble. Assuming Names is the true story of a young con artist. It's the tale of a runaway that assumed the title of countess and then went on to fool the FBI, DEA, and Interpol "as well as a number of other celebrities and institutions" with an elaborate tale of world intrigue.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed this book. Assuming it is all true and the events described weren't given much in the way of literary license, we get to ride along in the head of an amicable, compulsive sociopathic con artista. How fun is that? The author, going by the name Tanya Thompson, learned early in life how to exploit her good looks, charm, fearlessness and extreme intelligence to avoid boredom, real work and to have astonishing adventures. She describes what it's like to be an admitted sociopath. You just can't help but laugh at how her mind works. Or doesn't, as the case may be. You don't have to like her or what she does (presuming she's still in the game), but you do have to respect the giant huevos and her very devoted guardian angel. It is entirely reasonable to have doubts about the authenticity of all the events described, but if you just give yourself over to it, you'll have a good time

following Tanya's escapades. If she's shining us, well, so what? The salvation of your soul and your bank account probably don't rest secured on how much stock you put into her autobiography. Her first official con (not counting the times she would flirt with older men until they came after her, then ran to hide behind her retired Marine daddy) was a fifteen-year-old's attempt to gain an official, government-issued ID in the name of an entirely fictitious British countess. When that failed, she figured out how to steal identities of real people, instead. Okay, you do feel sorry for the real people who really got burned, but the author claims she is capable of feeling guilty, so she contained her cons to stealing things that are usually covered by insurance. That does have a way of assuaging your own guilt for enjoying her cons along with her.

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