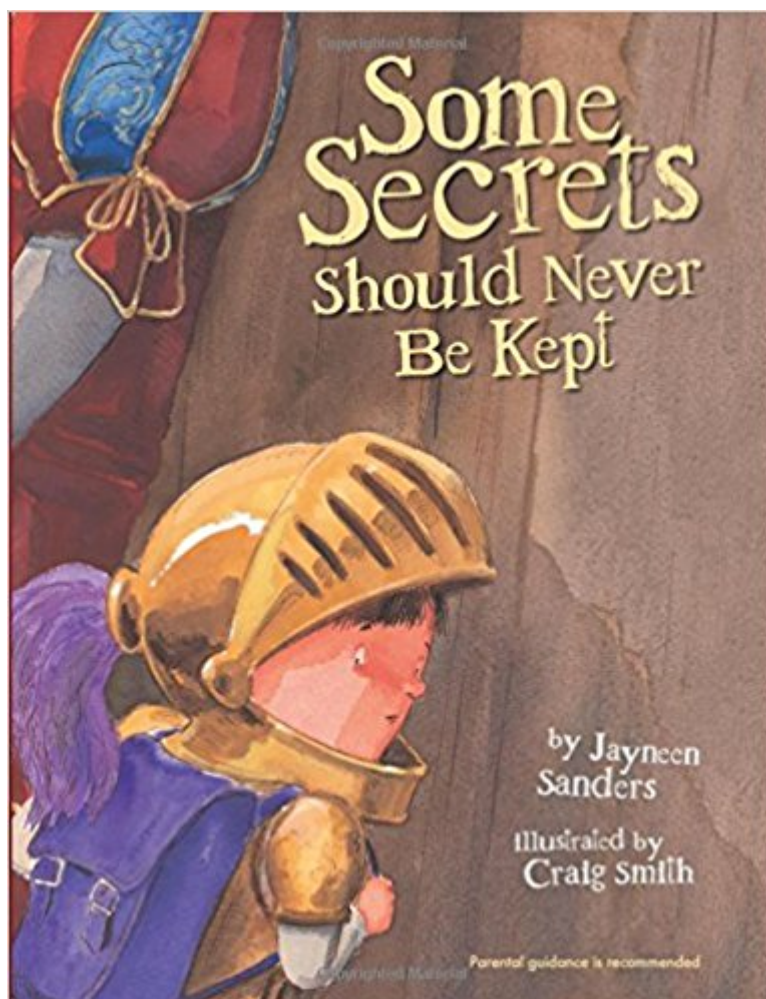


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# Some Secrets Should Never Be Kept



## Synopsis

'Some Secrets Should Never Be Kept' is a beautifully illustrated children's picture book that sensitively broaches the subject of keeping children safe from inappropriate touch. We teach water and road safety, but how do we teach Body Safety to young children in a way that is neither frightening nor confronting? This book is an invaluable tool for parents, caregivers, teachers and healthcare professionals to broach the subject of safe and unsafe touch in a non-threatening and age-appropriate way. The comprehensive notes to the reader and discussion questions at the back of the book support both the reader and the child when discussing the story. Suitable for children aged 3 to 12 years. Story is a great medium to discuss difficult topics. 'Some Secrets Should Never Be Kept' was written to ensure children are armed with knowledge if they are ever touched inappropriately; and from the first unsafe touch, a child will understand to tell a trusted adult and keep on telling until they are believed. It is an important book and one that all children need to hear. Forewarned is forearmed! This book is supported by free activities and child protection resources on our website. 'Some Secrets Should Never Be Kept' is available in 7 languages including English, Spanish, German, Chinese, Japanese, Italian and French. Body Safety Education (also known as protective behaviours or child sexual abuse prevention education) involves so much more than focusing on stranger danger. In fact, 95% of sexually abused children will know their abuser and only 5% will be strangers. It is also crucial for children to learn that they must never keep secrets that make them feel bad or uncomfortable (in fact, we teach it's best not to have secrets in families, only happy surprises). The trouble with secrets is that they are the main tool used by child molesters to ensure children remain silent about the abuse. Ensuring the secret is kept is of utmost importance to the perpetrator. Therefore, threats and insisting no-one will believe the child is used as a way of controlling the child to be silent. Through Body Safety Education parents and children will learn the importance of there being no secrets between us. Parents and carers need to be on the lookout for signs of sexual abuse in children and grooming behaviour which is often focused on themselves as well as their children. The answer to the question, 'How do I keep kids safe from sexual abuse?' is simple; teach them Body Safety Education from a very young age. Always use the correct names for their genitals, ensure they know that the parts covered by their swimsuit are known as their private parts, and that private means 'just for you', and consequently not for sharing. This is known as the swimsuit lesson. When you teach your child that 'your body belongs to you' you are empowering them with confidence through knowledge. Body Safety Education also involves teaching your child that no-one can touch their private parts, and if they do, they must tell a trusted adult until believed. Kids need to be safe as well as feel safe. Teaching a child that private means

'just for you' and that their private parts are found under their swimsuit is a valuable lesson that can prevent child molestation. The sexual abuse of children is regrettably very common. Approximately 1 in 3 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday. You can help stop child abuse by teaching social and physical boundaries to kids and that some parts are not for sharing. A child needs be able to proclaim loudly and with conviction that, 'My body belongs to me', 'I am the boss of my body' and that 'From my head to my toes, I say what goes'. Please note: the author uses 'safe and unsafe touch' or 'inappropriate touch' as preferred terms for good and bad touch which may be confusing for a child as bad touch (inappropriate touch) can often feel good, i.e. be pleasurable and this can cause confusion for a child.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This gorgeous book arrived in our mailbox on a Friday afternoon and was promptly read to my 4yo son. I had planned to write a review, but I didn't anticipate the response my son would have to the story, which made me even more determined to share my thoughts. The author, Jayneen Sanders from *Some Secrets Should Never Be Kept*, gave some brilliant notes for the reader, in the first few pages. I gave it a quick scan and followed the first piece of advice, which was to talk about the cover. A little boy wearing a knight's helmet was a winner from the start with my little man, but he was quick to suggest that the little boy on the cover looked sad. Good, I thought, we're off to a good start. Now both of my children have been raised with a variety of protective behaviours resources, and get quite excited when new resources arrive in the mail. Because of this I was a little vague with

my intro about this book, not wanting my son to give me the pre-programmed responses, so I was very much taken aback as we read. Before sharing his heart wrenching observation, allow me to share my thoughts. This book has such a beautiful, rich feel about it. Aesthetically, it is well bound, rich in colour with easy-read font. The illustrations are fabulous, setting both the scene and the mood as the story progressed on each page. The words, the flow of the story are easy to read, yet not so simplistic that it would be disregarded by an older, independent reader; there is a terrific balance. The story captures the new reality for a little boy and his mother, whose situation in life has changed rather dramatically post-divorce. Lady Susan is now working in a grand house as a cleaner, and she is grateful for the flexibility and generosity of her employer, Lord Henry.

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