



## Stealing Heaven

By Elizabeth Scott

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### Stealing Heaven By Elizabeth Scott

My name is Danielle. I'm eighteen. I've been stealing things for as long as I can remember.

Dani has been trained as a thief by the best there is—her mother. They never stay in one place long enough for Dani to have real connections, real friends—a real life.

But in the town of Heaven, everything changes. Suddenly, Dani must question where her loyalties lie: with the life she's always known—or the one she's always wanted.

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## Stealing Heaven By Elizabeth Scott Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 10 Up—Danielle, 18, has been a thief all her life. Moving from town to town, she and her mom stay around only long enough to canvas the rich and steal their silver. When she was 15, they moved on at Danielle's request, after she had sex for "the first and only time" with her mother's 20-year-old boyfriend. It's a lifestyle the teen is used to, but she's beginning to long for something more. She wants roots, friends, and a place to call home. When they hit the small resort town of Heaven, Danielle knows the routine. Her mom will chat up the men for information and she, now using the name Sydney, is supposed to do the same with her peers. Only something goes wrong, and "Sydney" begins to make friends with the mark, flirt with a local cop, and generally do everything her mom's always told her to avoid. And when it's time for the heist, Danielle is no longer sure she can follow her mom's demands. This story is deceptively touching. Danielle and her mother are both fully developed, as are the secondary characters of Allison (the friend) and Greg (the young cop). The overriding theme of living up to a parent's expectations instead of following your own path is universal, but the twist of a family of thieves gives the story originality.—*Heather E. Miller, Homewood Public Library, AL*

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From [Booklist](#)

Eighteen-year-old Danielle—aka Sydney, Rebecca, or whatever alias her mother chooses—has been stealing since she can remember. She and her theft-savvy mother move from town to town, mining the successful men whom her mother attracts for information that allows them to find and rob the toniest homes. Dani has no school, no friends, and no home until she and her mother land in Heaven, a small, wealthy beachfront town where Dani realizes what it is like to have a best friend and also a boyfriend, who just happens to be a cop. Scott tells a surprising story that features a mature teen who longs for the straight and narrow, even as the adults around her profit from crime and corruption. Dani's first-person narrative includes a few winking references to the lucrative life theft can garner, which feel like odd, misguided shifts from the story's strongest message that Dani is a brave teen who can and does shape a strong future for herself. Grades 7-10. --Frances Bradburn

Review

"With characters ranging from the insincerely charming to the charmingly sincere, *Stealing Heaven* just may steal your heart." (A. M. Jenkins, author of *Damage*)

"Scott tells a surprising story...Dani is a brave teen who can and does shape a strong future for herself." (Booklist)

"The fast-paced, conversational first-person narration makes for good escapist entertainment." (Kirkus Reviews)

"Dani, with her witty dialogue, gives a new perspective full of hope to YAs who feel trapped between family and friends." (KLIATT)

"This blend of old-fashioned love story with lively contemporary details will satisfy readers fond of a solid summer romance." (Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books)

"Deceptively touching...the twist of a family of thieves gives the story originality." (School Library Journal)

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Marjorie Batchelder:**

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? May be reading a book may be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the book untitled Stealing Heaven can be fine book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

#### **Carol Boissonneault:**

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book especially book entitled Stealing Heaven your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a e-book then become one application form conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get prior to. The Stealing Heaven giving you an additional experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful details for your better life in this particular era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

#### **Jerry Rivera:**

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#### **Mary Clement:**

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