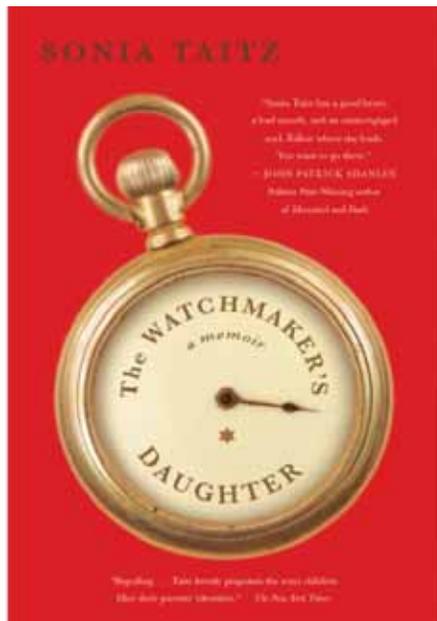


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



The Watchmaker's Daughter

PRAISE FOR THE WATCHMAKER'S DAUGHTER

"Sonia Taitz has a good heart and an unmortgaged soul. Follow where she leads. You want to go there."

-John Patrick Shanley,

Pulitzer, Tony, and Oscar-Winning author of *Moonstruck* and *Doubt*

"Heartwrenching, moving, and yes, hilarious, Taitz's extraordinary memoir explores culture clash, Jewish roots, and the struggle to break the bonds of the past and forge your own kind of Promised Land future. But it's also an astonishing love letter to Taitz's Holocaust survivor parents, one that's so fiercely tender and gorgeously written, that each page seems like a revelation."

-Caroline Leavitt,

People book critic and author of *Pictures of You*

"A heartbreaking memoir of healing power and redeeming devotion, Sonia Taitz's *The Watchmaker's Daughter* has the dovish beauty and levitating spirit of a psalm...a past is here reborn and tenderly restored with the absorption of a daughter with a final duty to perform, a last act of fidelity."

-James Wolcott,

New Yorker* and *Vanity Fair* cultural critic, and author of the memoir *Lucking Out

Combining independence with tenderness, filial duty with rebellion, **THE WATCHMAKER'S DAUGHTER** (McWitty Press; \$14.95; October 11, 2012) offers a binocular view of American life for the daughter of war-torn immigrants, which will resonate widely with so many refugees and their children. A compulsively readable memoir, readers will relate to and immediately adore Taitz's optimism, rebelliousness, humor, and insight.

THE WATCHMAKER'S DAUGHTER begins with the story of the child of two refugees, a watchmaker who saved lives within a Dachau prison, and his wife, a gifted concert pianist about to make her debut when the Nazis seize power. Growing up under the shadow of catastrophe, their child, Sonia, is driven to achieve the highest peaks of worldly success. Her daring ambitions take her from Barnard to Yale's Law School to Oxford University, where she meets a man outside her faith who will change her life, and her family's, in ways she would have never imagined. Taitz's coming of age takes place in the heyday of the youth revolution in New York: sexual freedom, political rebellion, and cultural experimentation run up against the deep caution and conservatism of Taitz' parents and the immigrant community in which she lives.

We first meet Sonia living in a small, dark apartment in an immigrant community in Washington Heights with her brother, parents, and grandmother. Sonia grows up speaking Yiddish and learning the lessons of her faith. Nonetheless, as a young girl, the "American Dream" she learns about every day on the television entralls her, even while it baffles her parents.

Sonia's parents could hardly be more different. Her father is a stoic, pragmatic and mechanical, running the household as a "strict officer." He starts, without any means, a watch repair business across from what will one day become Lincoln Center, only to see it rise to success, and later broken, when a robbery leaves him once again bereft of everything he's earned. Taitz's mother, a dutiful housewife, is still a child in many ways: hoping to be romanced, filled with memories of the past, both heartbreaking and joyful, quixotically encouraging her child into a more traditional feminine role despite all resistance. Working as an able assistant in her husband's shop, the only thing that seems to unite the couple is their constant arguments and fighting; their struggle to maintain the values of old Europe despite the uncertainty and changing circumstances of their new American freedom.

It is with the final passing of her parents that Taitz's story comes full circle. She now has a beloved family of her own, providing a different sort of fulfillment from her successful career. As her parents pass on, we can still see those complicated emotions of longing to please, an effort to understand, and a final appreciation of both her parents' teachings and how far she has ventured, happily, to form a life of her own.



Sonia Taitz is an essayist, playwright, and the author of recent novel, *In the King's Arms* (McWitty, 2011) and the popular humor memoir, *Mothering Heights* (William Morrow, Berkley. Her writing has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The New York Observer*, *O: the Oprah Magazine*, *MORE.com Psychology Today*, and more. She has also been cited on ABC's *Nightline*, in a PBS special on love, and in many quotation anthologies. **Sonia Taitz** earned a J.D. from Yale Law School and an M.Phil in English Literature from Oxford, where she was awarded the Lord Bullock Prize for her writing. She lives in New York City.

Praise for IN THE KING'S ARMS

"Beguiling...Taitz zigzags among her culturally disparate characters, zooming in on their foibles with elegance and astringency"

-The New York Times

"A witty, literate, and heartfelt story, filled with engaging characters and relationships"

-Jewish Book World

"In the province of gifted poets, playwrights, and novelists"

-ForeWord Reviews

www.soniataitz.com

[Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#)

Contact:

Publicity, Lucinda Literary LLC

Lucinda Blumenfeld

212-605-0348

Lucinda@lucindaliterary.com

Publisher, McWitty Press

Ellie McGrath

212-595-4161

mcwittypress@aol.com