



## 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:

#### **Eleanor Sotomayor:**

Reading a publication tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With reading through you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their particular reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the guides. But also they write about the ability about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write for their book. One of them is this Stealing Heaven.

#### **Tasha Banda:**

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#### **Patricia Morales:**

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