

The Will to be True: In The Shadow of the Blackbird

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Reviewed by Carol Hoyer, PhD, for Reader Views (05/10)

In today's society we seem to have gotten caught up in power, image and money, forgetting about those we love or care about. The author's characters Stephanie and Peter Atkinson are just like that. Peter is a high-profile businessman who has no personality and shows little emotion for the needs of his wife. He is emotionally unavailable and abusive. She on the other hand is upfront, caring and wants more from her husband. Now that Stephanie is home she is bored and wants to either have a child or go back to work. Peter wants her to "stay home and be the good little wife." Our second couple, Gregory and Beth Richardson, has some of the same roles, except Beth is the one who is cutting, malicious and very negative about life and her marriage. Gregory is kind, fun, attractive and easy going. How did these couples connect and what happens? How can you love someone yet love someone else?

The author has taken everyday problems that many experience and has put them into a thriller with many ups and downs and soul searching. I will have to say that even though this is a book of fiction, the way the author describes her characters - their inner thoughts and complications - it really is a thought-provoking book to read. You can't help but get caught up in the couples and fight for the underdog and hate the villains. Ms. Andrade writes with passion and honesty. "The Will to be True: In The Shadow of the Blackbird" is full of excitement that once you start reading you won't want to put it down.