

### ***Shattered Reality***

Kimberly Cheryl

CreateSpace (2008)

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Reviewed by Irene Watson for Reader Views (9/08)

Kimberly Cheryl, in “Shattered Reality,” recounts her traumatic experience and emotional journey after finding out her daughter had been sexually assaulted by her uncle; an uncle that was like a second parent to her immediate family. Once out in the open, she was ostracized by the uncle’s family, as well as other members of the family. However, Kimberly goes on a mission, with the support of her immediate family, to expose her well-known, community-minded uncle.

The author describes the long struggles with the legal system, court battles, and prosecuting attorney to no avail. The case keeps getting thrown out even though there are five witnesses as well as testimonies from authorities that her daughter is telling the truth; indeed she was sexually molested over a three-year period by this man.

“Shattered Reality” contains a testimonial letter from Kimberly’s daughter expressing her emotions and the outcome. It also contains statistics, signs on spotting an abused child, fact sheet, tips, and resources.

Kimberly and her daughter must be commended. They took the risk and are now advocates against sexual assault of children. Kimberly’s daughter volunteers in the community by helping others to overcome the traumatic experience. Kimberly herself is continuing to work for the cause and is engaged in the third round, this time a civil suit, against her uncle.

Kimberly has tenacity and it shows in her writing in “Shattered Reality.” The story is gripping and heart-rending. One can’t help but cheer Kimberly and her daughter on by supporting the cause – bring to justice the perpetrator and show that sexual assault of a child is not acceptable.