In *Losing My Sister* author Judy Goldman has found a beautiful way to articulate the small nuances of family relationships that so easily become immense emotional battles and simultaneously bring a foundation joy and connection to our lives. As Goldman observes, “Those ties of kinship, reverberating through the generations, may have their perils, but they also gave me something sold and lasting.” Goldman writes about her life with her sister, interweaving stories from their childhood with the lives they lead as adults. She is keenly aware of the roles we assume within families and that if we try to step out of those roles others become uncomfortable. Growing up she was the quiet one, like their mother, and her sister was the strong one, like their father. As her parents and then her sister become ill, Goldman finds that she wants to be the strong one in the family, and the discord this brings about between her and her sister is somewhat surprising. Through her descriptions of all of the struggles, happy times, and the bonds they shared, Goldman deftly shows the reader what it really means to be family. While describing a dinner with her siblings and her father who was gravely ill at the time Goldman writes: “It’s one of those evenings when nerve endings feel closer than normal to the surface of the skin, in the way that, in the midst of great sadness, life can slow and spirits soar. We drink wine and eat more than we should and laugh and tell our glad-to-be-part-of-this-family stories.”

Although the idea of reading about family illness, fights among siblings, and the high emotions that surface from such close familial bonds may not sound appealing at first, Goldman is such an observant and intensely talented writer that the reader feels grateful to her for sharing such an intimate story that may be relevant to their own. Originally from Rock Hill South Carolina, Goldman has spent much of her life in Charlotte. Goldman has written two novels, *The Slow Way Back* and *Early Leaving*. *The Slow Way Back*, published in 1999, was a finalist for the Southeast Independent Booksellers Association’s Best Novel of the Year and won the Sir Walter Raleigh Award for Fiction and the Mary Ruffin Poole Award for Best First Work of Fiction. Excerpts from *Losing My Sister* appeared in *Real Simple Magazine* and *The Charlotte Observer*. This memoir is highly recommended for public and academic libraries with an interest in North Carolina literature, memoirs, or Jewish life.

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