



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**From 50 Years of Silence to #1 Amazon Best Seller & New Release:**

Darlene Lekowski's Debut Memoir, *Shattering Silence*, Tops Multiple Amazon Categories on Launch Day

**Sued by Her Own Brother After Revealing Childhood Sexual Abuse. She Fought Back. Countersued. And Won.**

***Shattering Silence: A Story of Survival, Justice, and The Power of Telling the Truth***

By Darlene Lekowski  
with Jess Greenwood



CHARLOTTE, NC — April 6, 2026 — Darlene Lekowski's debut memoir, *Shattering Silence: A Story of Survival, Justice, and the Power of Telling the Truth*, launched on Amazon on April 2, 2026, immediately achieved Amazon Best Seller status across multiple categories:

- #1 Amazon Best Seller in Self-Help for Abuse
- #1 Amazon Best Seller in Inner Child
- #1 New Release in Sociology Books on Abuse
- #1 New Release in Abusive Family Relationships
- Top New Release in Inner Child, Child Abuse, and Abuse Self-Help

More than a memoir, this story is already drawing national attention—fueled by the real-life legal battle behind it—especially during National Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Awareness Month.

After publicly revealing the childhood sexual abuse she endured from her two oldest brothers, Lekowski was sued by one in an attempt to silence her again. She fought back, countersued, and in February 2024, a jury ruled in her favor.

*Shattering Silence* is an unflinching account of the lasting impact of childhood sibling sexual trauma and abuse (SSTA). Beginning with a seemingly idyllic childhood that is fractured at age seven, Lekowski traces the ripple effects of abuse across five decades—through relationships,

identity, motherhood, and career—while carrying a secret that shaped every part of her life. It’s a story of what happens after silence—and what it takes to shatter it.

*“Darlene’s story is a powerful reminder that behind every case is a human being—and that justice requires both legal skill and compassion. Her courage to stand in her truth is exactly why the legal system exists,”* said Jeff Kuykendal, Attorney, MGC Law Firm.

*“Her victory became more than legal vindication—it became a powerful message: your voice matters, and the truth is worth fighting for,”* said Jessica Buchanan, Founder at Soul Speak Press.

Published by Soul Speak Press, a boutique publishing company dedicated to amplifying the stories of women who have been through something, now know something, and can teach us something, **Shattering Silence** continues the press’s mission of transforming lived experiences into meaningful impact.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Darlene Lekowski** is an Amazon #1 best-selling author, speaker, and business leader who transformed decades of silence into a powerful platform for truth, healing, and advocacy.

After fifty years of silence surrounding the Sibling Sexual Trauma and Abuse (SSTA) she endured as a child, Darlene found her voice and chose to stand in her truth—ultimately prevailing in a civil lawsuit brought against her by her own brother.

Her memoir, ***Shattering Silence: A Story of Survival, Justice and the Power of Telling the Truth***—an Amazon Best Seller in multiple categories—is available in all formats, including audiobook in her own voice.

Today, Darlene delivers powerful keynotes to corporate, leadership, and survivor audiences, inspiring individuals to reclaim their voice, let go, and live forward with courage, resilience, and agency.

Lekowski lives in the Charlotte, North Carolina area with her husband, Tom, and is the proud mother of three adult children.

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**Published and distributed by Soul Speak Press**

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**Also Available as a Kindle ebook, Hardcover and Audiobook (with Darlene Lekowski narrating)**

## **Praise for *Shattering Silence: A Story of Survival, Justice and The Power of Telling the Truth***

**“*Shattering Silence* shows that silence may protect briefly, but truth sets us free. It’s a compelling memoir that balances clarity with hope, trauma with transformation.” —Jane Epstein, Sibling Sexual Abuse Survivor, Author of *I Feel Real Guilty*, TEDx speaker and founder of 5WAVES.org**

**“*Shattering Silence* is Darlene Lekowski’s unflinching account of the strength, vulnerability, and lasting impact of childhood sibling sexual assault and trauma. With raw honesty and emotional clarity, she reveals how trauma extends far beyond the body, shaping every corner of a survivor’s life. As Lekowski shares the many stages of her survival and recovery, readers are given a rare and powerful glimpse into the complexities of healing and the courage it takes to claim one’s voice.” — Cindy Hanig, LCSW**

**“In *Shattering Silence*, Darlene Lekowski takes an unflinching look at the abuse she experienced from two of her brothers. This powerful and moving memoir takes on sibling sexual abuse in all its complexity, its impact on family relationships, and the struggle to achieve justice. It is the story of Darlene’s strength and her determination not to let her experience ruin her family or her life. You can’t help rooting for little Darlene, who is stronger than any child should have to be.” — Tanya Rouleau Whitworth, PhD, Sibling Aggression and Abuse Research and Advocacy Initiative at the University of New Hampshire**

**“*Darlene Lekowski* is nothing short of a 21st-century heroine who reminds us that when one woman rises, she lifts countless others with her. This is a brave and haunting book that will deeply resonate with anyone whose voice has been silenced but longs to stand tall, proud and loud.” — Nancy Sharp, author of *Both Sides Now: A True Story of Love, Loss, and Bold Living***

**“*Darlene Lekowski* captures so much of the subtleties of being young and the challenges of trying to understand and negotiate the dynamics of a family and the family we are supposed to look up to and follow. *Shattering Silence* gives a perspective and a resolve which proves that with courage and intention, anything is possible, and we do not need to be defined by our past.” — Rich Nisbet, *Above it All 360 Counselor and Life Coach***

**“*Shattering Silence* is one of the most powerful books I’ve ever read. There is such innocence in her writing as she recalls stories of making friends, learning to skate and just being a kid in the 70’s. And behind it all was a terrible nightmare that no child should ever endure. What struck me most was the enormous amount of bravery it took to retell this story in such detail. My hope is that this book becomes a light in the dark for other survivors and for anyone who has had anyone try to steal their voice.” — Molly Purvines, *The AHA! Emotional Mastery Life Coach***