

## **Synopsis of *My Mother's Yard***

*My Mother's Yard* is the story of Lisa Temple, a successful businesswoman living in Los Angeles. When her mother passes away, Lisa flies back to Kansas for the funeral. As Lisa drives into her small and insignificant hometown, she stops in front of a dilapidated house whose yard is filled with the rusting remnants of 22 cars, trucks, backhoes, trailers, and campers.

She gets out of the car and looks over what is left of her childhood home. And despite the fact that her mother hasn't live there for years, she can't seem to bring herself to walk onto the property. Getting back in the car, Lisa takes care of the funeral arrangements, attends the services, and buries her mother. All that is left is to sign the papers and leave town for good. But there is a problem.

Though Lisa's mother hasn't actually lived in the old house for years, her brother, Bret, himself a chronic hoarder, has repeatedly refused to sell the property, holding on to some twisted sense of responsibility and the vain hope of resurrecting something of the family name.

Because he won't sign over his half share of the house, and in an effort to divorce herself, finally, from her estranged brother and a string of insincere relatives, Lisa agrees to relinquish her claim on the property. But while at the bank Lisa is caught off guard by the kindness of Carl, the bank employee charged with finalizing her mother's estate.

Carl can clearly see that Lisa is in pain and, uncharacteristically, Lisa agrees to have lunch with him. Over a shared meal at the town's only eatery, Lisa begins to open up about who her mother was, how she survived her childhood, and how she escaped to make a new life for herself.

*My Mother's Yard* is ultimately a story about forgiveness and moving on; about the power of the human spirit and the strength of children to endure heartache, sorrow, disappointment and loss.