



# The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story

*Richard A. Pride*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story

Richard A. Pride

## **The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story** Richard A. Pride

An intriguing blend of biography, oral history, sociology, and politics that stretches the boundaries of each category to examine one particular story of the South during the Civil Rights era.

What does it mean to tell a life story? Can it truly be done? Is there a single version of "truth" to be told about a person's life?

In this complex and fascinating book, Dorothy Danner of Mobile, Alabama, emerges as an intriguing example of Sartre's "universal singular." Born into a wealthy and well-established Southern family, she bears and reflects many of the marks of her gender, social place, and historical moment. Struggling through adolescence, after her mother's early death, with what she perceived as emotional abandonment by a distant father, Danner acted out a social script involving servants and private schools in the South, an elite Northern college, and extensive travel abroad. She departed, however, from her expected role by engaging in psychoanalysis, explorations of sexual identity, too much liquor and some experimentation with drugs, as well as multiple marriages and the somewhat mysterious suicide of her first husband.

Danner further stepped outside the boundaries and expectations of her social world by throwing herself wholeheartedly into idealistic and controversial causes, including world peace, animal rights and, perhaps most prominently, the Civil Rights movement. In the early 1950s, she took into her home as a foster daughter a young African-American girl (whose name was changed from Carrie Mae to Caroline) and began raising the girl in privileged circumstances, including two years of travel and schooling in Europe. After returning to Mobile, Danner attempted unsuccessfully to use the child as a battering ram to break down Alabama's segregation laws, provoking the wrath of the Ku Klux Klan. Soon afterwards, Danner moved her household to the first of several predominantly African-American neighborhoods in which she lived until very recently.

These and other of Dorothy's actions embarrassed and alienated her white, upper-class friends and distanced her from her father, her husbands, and eventually, her foster daughter. Things did not turn out as Danner ostensibly intended, and her telling "confession" reveals why.

In reconstructing this story of a complex and often frustrated woman, Richard Pride combines careful historical and social science scholarship, extensive oral interviews, and current critical theory on understanding and effectively conveying the meaning of a human life. He has created a work that is reminiscent of Janet Malcolm's *The Silent Woman: Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes* and Ian Hamilton's *In Search of J. D. Salinger*. The voices and perspectives of Dorothy Danner herself, of her estranged daughter Caroline, of Caroline's perceptive ex-husband, of Dorothy's more orthodox cousin, and (through a series of surprisingly devoted letters) of Dorothy's father, combine with Pride's own sensitive vision of events and personalities to form a portrait of a woman who both transcended and was a victim of her times and her own limitations.

 [Download The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life S ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life ...pdf](#)



## **Download and Read Free Online The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story Richard A. Pride**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Robert Crumrine:**

The book untitled The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story is the reserve that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the reserve content that will be shown to you actually. The language that publisher use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The copy writer was did a lot of exploration when write the book, hence the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also will get the e-book of The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story from the publisher to make you more enjoy free time.

#### **Adam Schneider:**

The guide with title The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story possesses a lot of information that you can learn it. You can get a lot of profit after read this book. This kind of book exist new information the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world right now. That is important to yo7u to know how the improvement of the world. This book will bring you inside new era of the the positive effect. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read it anywhere you want.

#### **Elizabeth Brown:**

The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort that will put every word into joy arrangement in writing The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story although doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource info that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information can drawn you into new stage of crucial contemplating.

#### **Trisha McClain:**

Beside this The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story in your phone, it could possibly give you a way to get closer to the new knowledge or data. The information and the knowledge you might got here is fresh from your oven so don't be worry if you feel like an older people live in narrow village. It is good thing to have The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story because this book offers to your account readable information. Do you at times have book but you don't get what it's all about. Oh come on, that won't happen if you have this in your hand. The Enjoyable set up here cannot be questionable, similar to treasuring beautiful island. Use you still want to miss the idea? Find this book and read it from currently!

**Download and Read Online The Confession of Dorothy Danner:  
Telling a Life Story Richard A. Pride #9W1YKOQJAT2**

## **Read The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story by Richard A. Pride for online ebook**

The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story by Richard A. Pride Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story by Richard A. Pride books to read online.

### **Online The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story by Richard A. Pride ebook PDF download**

**The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story by Richard A. Pride Doc**

**The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story by Richard A. Pride Mobipocket**

**The Confession of Dorothy Danner: Telling a Life Story by Richard A. Pride EPub**