

Event Date: December 6, 2008, 4 p.m.  
Location: Chapel of the Chimes,  
4499 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland, CA  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Grieving Author Buries Dream of Mainstream Publishing: Funeral Guests Invited to Bury Their Dead Dreams Too**

OAKLAND, CA -- Bay Area writer, Mary Patrick Kavanaugh, puts to rest grandiose dreams of publishing contracts, movie options, book tours and the Oprah show at the December 6th funeral service for her rejected novel, *Family Plots: Love, Death and Tax Evasion*. Friends and family, sick to death of hearing about “the book, the book, the book,” support her in her effort to just self-publish and move on.

After seven years of writing, editing, revising, and even refinancing her house *twice* to underwrite the costs of this dream, the author is resigned to doing what she does best, planning funerals—a skill she unfortunately mastered while gathering material for her novel. When her sister (who didn't like how she was portrayed in the autobiographical novel anyway) suggested she start another book “like a real writer,” the author slapped her and said, “No. The dream is dead.”

*Family Plots* was pitched as a “fresh and funny autobiographical novel about a young mother trying against all odds to create a normal family life with her new husband, a criminal attorney, who—it turned out—was committing a few crimes of his own.” Despite a snappy query letter that opened many doors, the book just didn't sell.

“It's not as if she were rejected because they never saw the manuscript,” said an unnamed source that might have been her agent. “They read it and decided they just weren't that into her.”

The sixteen New York publishers who rejected the manuscript have been invited to serve as pallbearers at the open casket service, however friends and family fear this sets up the fragile author for even more disappointment. The author declined to comment, stating she was too busy planning the goddamn funeral, “so back off.”

The event will be open coffin. Many manuscript drafts, rejection notices, refinance papers, vision boards, an MFA in Creative Writing, and possibly even the authors much

watched DVD copy of *The Secret*, will be on view prior to the service for final farewell. Guests are invited to bring remnants of their own dead dreams to bury with the author's dashed hopes.

To prevent the service from becoming too maudlin, there will be an array of gay singers and an after-party with a tasty snack buffet. Surviving self-published copies of the rejected novel will be sold in the lobby to offset the costs for this generous display of appetizers. Pity purchases are welcome and encouraged, and can also be made online at [www.mydreamisdeadbutimnot.com](http://www.mydreamisdeadbutimnot.com). Site visitors may also download a free Reader/Writer's Group Guide as well as the practical Dead Dream Funeral Party Planning Kit, which assists partygoers to release any old ideas that have morphed into obstacles to happy and carefree living. (Great plan for New Years Eve.)

The funeral service will be held on December 6, 2008, at 4 p.m. at [Chapel of the Chimes](#) in Oakland. Those unable to attend may sign up to pay their respects via the [live webcast](#). For more information, funeral directions, or cheap advice about burying your own dead dreams, visit [mydreamisdeadbutimnot.com](http://mydreamisdeadbutimnot.com), where dead dreams and dashed hopes may be buried in virtual cemetery plots.

Come pay your respects today.