Searching for Birth Parents or Adopted Children: Finding without Seeking in Romance Novels

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Abstract

Using concepts from Catherine Sheldrick Ross’s “Finding without Seeking: The Information Encounter in the Context of Reading for Pleasure,” a convenience sample of 128 romance novels about secret babies is examined to determine what information is imparted about the processes by which adoptees and birth parents search for each other.

Full Text:

References


Evelyn Robinson, Adoption Reunion: Ecstasy or Agony? (Christies Beach, South Australia: Clova Publications, 2009).


Joan Johnston, Sisters Found (Don Mills, Ontario: Mira, 2002).

Misdemeanors: What I Did To Find My Birth Parents. Giving a Child Up for Adoption. 3 Reasons Why There Isn’t Just One Open Adoption Definition. 7 Ways to Support a Seeker. Adoption Through the Eyes of an Adopted Child. Adoption from Florida. The Truth About the Adoption Triad. Interestingly, more female adoptees search than male adoptees. Much of the time, men just accept the fact that they were adopted and move forward. Women, on the other hand, tend to want to know more information (not surprising!). So since the attachment has begun- adoption or not- the baby no matter if adopted at birth or at 3 months old or 1–2 years old- will have some sort of curiousness or desire to seek out the biological family. And most of the time it is the Mom. If it is the Dad being looked for it is usually to. Why do adopted children decide to find out more about their biological parents besides to know more about their origins? Does it have to do with feeling secure? Do people who were adopted as children always want to find their biological families? Carees for children who are not related to other family members. Extended Family. A couple without children. Guardian. An adult who is chosen by a family to take responsibility for a child if the parents are no longer able to provide care for the child. Family. A group of people related to one another by blood (birth), marriage, or adoption. Relationships. A pattern of interaction with one or more persons over time. Generation. All the people who are born and live in about the same time span. Friend. Someone you care about, trust, and respect.