



## The Crime of Sheila McGough

*Janet Malcolm*

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## **The Crime of Sheila McGough** Janet Malcolm

"[N]o other writer tells better stories about the perpetual, the unwinnable, battle between narrative and truth."  
--*The New York Times Book Review*

**The Crime of Sheila McGough** is Janet Malcolm's brilliant exposé of miscarriage of justice in the case of Sheila McGough, a disbarred lawyer recently released from prison. McGough had served 2 1/2 years for collaborating with a client in his fraud, but insisted that she didn't commit any of the 14 felonies she was convicted.

An astonishingly persuasive condemnation of the cupidity of American law and its preference for convincing narrative rather than the truth, this is also a story with an unconventional heroine. McGough is a zealous defense lawyer duped by a white-collar con man; a woman who lives, at the age of 54, with her parents; a journalistic subject who frustrates her interviewer with her maddening literal-mindedness. Spirited, illuminating, delightfully detailed, **The Crime of Sheila McGough** is both a dazzling work of journalism and a searching meditation on character and the law.

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