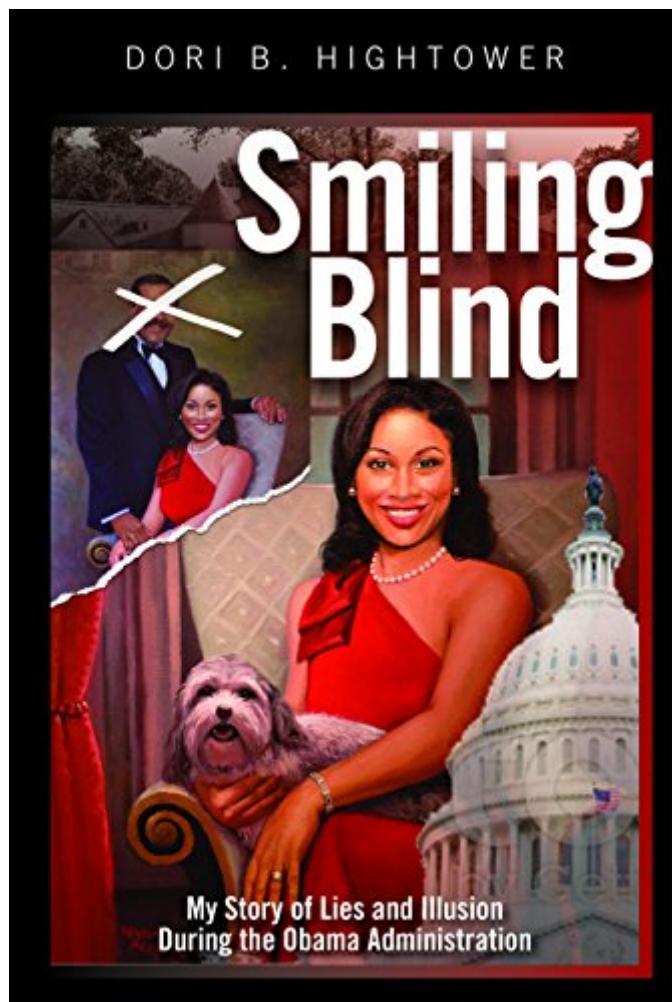


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# Smiling Blind: My Story Of Lies And Illusions During The Obama Administration



## **Synopsis**

Anyone who grew up reading fairy tales and watching Disney films knows the handsome prince always sweeps in and saves the damsel in distress. Dennis F. Hightower created his own version of those tales, starring himself as the prince. But he forgot one thing – the prince is supposed to follow through with a happily-ever-after. He's not supposed to decide one day to walk away, leaving the devastation of broken promises and lies behind. Divorce attorney Dori Bye was definitely not looking to be swept off her feet, but that's exactly what happened when she met Dennis F. Hightower. He appeared to be charming, gentlemanly, powerful and extremely generous. Their courtship included lavish gifts, travel to Europe and the promise of a lifetime of respect, happiness and true love. The romance was like a fairy tale, and the sky seemed to be the limit for the perfect power couple. During the four-month relationship prior to marriage, Dennis became the Deputy Secretary of Commerce in the Obama Administration. The couple purchased a dream mansion in Connecticut. Then everything began to fall apart. Smiling blindly, Dori realized she was being groomed to be nothing more than a "Washington wife," continuously pushed into the background as Dennis used his Black Elite status to gain yet more power. Then, almost as quickly as the power couple became entwined in their relationship, it started to unravel. Dennis resigned his position to return to private industry and board positions, or so Dori thought. Suddenly the big money started disappearing, or appeared never to have been there in the first place. Their dream home was lost to foreclosure. Exposed with the layers of lies, Dennis lost his charm and charisma, along with his power. This is a true story of romance, white-collar crime and a short-lived marriage, followed by a pattern of deception culminating in lawsuit upon lawsuit, including bankruptcy, foreclosure and currently one of the longest divorces on record in Connecticut. About Dori B. Hightower Dori B. Hightower, principal and founder, The Law Office of Dori B. Hightower, LLC is based in Stamford, Connecticut. Her practice concentration is in complex and contentious matrimonial cases. The Law Office of Dori B. Hightower was honored as Litigator of the Year 2014: Solo Practice by the Connecticut Law Tribune. Hightower's compassion and sensitivity in helping her clients through a difficult and often complex process has proven to be one of her strongest assets. Attorney Hightower may be contacted at [dbhightower@dbhightowerlaw.com](mailto:dbhightower@dbhightowerlaw.com) or at 203.569.7444. For more information, go to [www.dbhightowerlaw.com](http://www.dbhightowerlaw.com).

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## Customer Reviews

I'm not one to review books but this was so good I had to. Amazingly quick read and unbelievably honest. A look into the lives of living with a narcissist that is shockingly engaging. I now feel equipped with tools that may help guard me from potential train wrecks that would have made their way into my life. Worth it!

I can't put it down! I never read on a treadmill or exercise bike at the gym (especially on my iPhone), but I can't help myself!! It's a true page-turner | can't wait to see what happens on the next page. My favorite author | Sidney Sheldon, (female heroines) all of his books affected me that way | well Smiling Blind has the same page-turner affect on me. This book hits home with me because I was "disillusioned" in my past marriage, and deeply in love. Reading Smiling Blind, I didn't feel like I was the only one in the WORLD that didn't see the lies and illusions in my marriage. I am thoroughly enjoying this book. I have to also admit I enjoy how the author describes her experiences in the different countries that she has traveled | it takes me there for a second. I like that in books I read where it's so clear and descriptive that I can imagine it and the places in my mind. Personally, this writer fulfills that for me. She is very articulate, open and honest of her feelings in writing this. I highly recommend this book. Again, great read!

Powerful, honest to the bone writing on the first hand experience about marriage gone terribly wrong. This author, a highly successful professional women, caring daughter and devoted mother to her daughter, got caught between very convincing lies, matters of loving and trusting heart, and corrupted legal system. System that after long seven years still did not deliver justice. I highly admire the courage it took to share this story, while it is still unfolding for the author. It is also a page turner, as I could not put it down, until I read it to the last page with all references, for those interested to follow to the final act. This story deserves broad recognition and applaud to Dori B. Hightower, for her many talents, but most importantly for her fierce independence and resolve to find justice and for her courage to be so vulnerable with the reader.

I really admired Dori Hightower's bravery in sharing this story about her marriage and her continuing struggle and journey thereafter. In addition, her interesting commentary on the black elite really resonated with my experiences attending a prestigious prep school.

This book was captivating and thus I couldn't put it down. Honest, a page turner and shows the courage of a strong woman. Great read!

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