

# MailOnline

## Straight to the point

**My mother died earlier this year, leaving £9,000 in her bank account and making my sister executor of her will. The bank handed all of my mother's money over to my sister and I'd like to get hold of a copy of the will to see if anything was left for me. Despite many requests, my sister won't let me see it. What are my rights?**

*A.S., Wapping, London.*

Unfortunately, in this case there is not much you can do.

Andrew Kidd, wills and probate solicitor at law firm Silverman Sherliker, says that without a special legal document called a grant of probate, the contents of a will remain a private matter.

This means that only your sister has a right to see it — even if your mother bequeathed something to you in the will.

While £9,000 is a significant sum, normally probate orders are only granted to wills where the assets are around £15,000. Estates worth less than this can be dealt with fairly informally.

Executors are legally obliged to follow the request of the will — so unfortunately you are reliant on your sister to hand out any money that belongs to you.