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In Search Of Livi Starling



Synopsis

Book one in the 'Livi Starling' series. Despite her best efforts, Livi Starling will probably never make the history books. Her life is far too ordinary. Unless you count her talent for animal noises, her inability to tell the truth, her insatiable desire for a mother, or the fact that her only friend is a painfully shy Jesus-Freak who collects banana stickers. Having been brought up in the sleepy countryside by her older sister, Livi is endlessly curious about the great life she could have had and takes no time in reinventing herself upon their arrival in a new city. However, her quest for greatness is about to be disrupted by two small things: Her father is just around the corner. She is not who she thinks she is. The first instalment in a very British coming-to-faith book series.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Summary: Livi Starling is a seemingly socially awkward English youth who dreams of being something special. After being forced to move from her home in the country to Leeds, she struggles to make friends at her new school. Befriended by her neighbor, Ruby and Ruby's father, Livi begins to discover who she really is.

“weird” family, Livi begrudgingly endears herself to her new friends, hopefully waiting to be eventually accepted into the in-crowd. Livi’s sometimes over-active imagination and dreams of writing her life story land her in some interesting predicaments, all while she struggles with common coming of age questions, such as “who am I, really?” Livi is an unpredictable, loveable character surrounded by other, unpredictable and loveable characters. You will finish this book glad for the opportunity to have gotten to know each one of them. Age Range: I am an adult and enjoyed reading this book. Even though it is written with young adults and teens in mind, and the author gets Livi’s voice perfectly, I felt engaged throughout the read. I truly did not anticipate how a few of the plot details would end up, and found that while the plot did deal with some truly tragic and emotional issues, they were handled very well. I would not hesitate to recommend this book to my 17-year-old daughter. I have 8 and 9-year-old boys, and wouldn’t hesitate to read this book to them as well, however, I doubt average little boys will have the patience for what they would consider is a girl’s book. Favorites: I really did enjoy this book, but there were a few true high points for me. First, I loved how well the author was able to capture the voice of Livi and her friend Ruby. I never once felt as if she was an adult speaking for a child. I always felt as if this was Livi speaking out of the pages. Second, I loved the quote, “Everyone is somebody’s weirdo.” No truer words have been said. I enjoyed that Livi was embracing her individuality, and through the book, teaching other young ladies to do the same. I appreciated Livi’s concerns about Christianity making her “weird.” These are feelings that many adolescents have when considering a relationship with Christ, and it was refreshing to read about her journey in her own honest words. Finally, I enjoyed that every single one of the female characters in the book were highly faceted, realistic, fallible, engaging and strong. Even the characters you do not want to like are likeable. The male characters are, in my opinion, purposely under developed. Their influence in the lives of the women in the book serve to highlight their beauty and strength. I highly recommend this book, and plan on reading others in the series. I would highly recommend this series to young girls looking for a plucky, unique, endearing female hero.

What I liked: In Search of Livi Starling is an amazing book for readers of all ages. I loved how it detailed Livi’s search for herself in a fun way but still kept the impact of the reality of Livi’s life without making light of it. I can say that I was a bit confused through most of this about why it was Christian Fiction. It did eventually come through and is an amazing

testimonial. What I didn't like: Honestly, the one thing that I really disliked about In Search of Livi Starling is that it's told in first-person.

Despite not being in the target demographic for this title (that being teenage/pre-teen girls), I thoroughly enjoyed this book. Livi Starling--both the book and the character--is at times awkward and silly, but ultimately lovable and worth spending time with. If the description on the back cover piques your interest, then this book is definitely worth picking up.

Entertaining, thought provoking, humorous and at times poignant - the author writes in a way that draws the reader - though aimed for a younger audience I found this book difficult to put down and am looking forward to reading the sequel!!

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