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The Sacred Lies Of Minnow Bly



Synopsis

Now a Morris Award finalist and Golden Kite Honor Book! A hard-hitting and hopeful story about the dangers of blind faith and the power of having faith in yourself. The Kevinian cult has taken everything from seventeen-year-old Minnow: twelve years of her life, her family, her ability to trust. And when she rebelled, they took away her hands, too. Now their Prophet has been murdered and their camp set aflame, and it's clear that Minnow knows something but she's not talking. As she languishes in juvenile detention, she struggles to un-learn everything she has been taught to believe, adjusting to a life behind bars and recounting the events that led up to her incarceration. But when an FBI detective approaches her about making a deal, Minnow sees she can have the freedom she always dreamed of if she's willing to part with the terrible secrets of her past. Gorgeously written, breathlessly page-turning and sprinkled with moments of unexpected humor, this harrowing debut is perfect for readers of Emily Murdoch's *If You Find Me* and Nova Ren Suma's *The Walls Around Us*, as well as for fans of *Orange Is the New Black*.

Book Information

File Size: 1039 KB

Print Length: 2 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0147510163

Publisher: Dial Books (June 9, 2015)

Publication Date: June 9, 2015

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00O2BKKQ2

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #17,153 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #2 in Kindle Store > Kindle Short Reads > 15 minutes (1-11 pages) > Teen & Young Adult #5 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Physical & Emotional Abuse #12 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature &

Customer Reviews

The Sacred Lies of Minnow Bly by Stephanie Oakes intrigued me in so many ways. I was immediately drawn into the story from the very first sentence! A girl who has no hands - extremely sad. A girl whose hands were cut off purposely by someone else - horribly tragic and frustrating. Minnow's hands were taken from her just because she didn't want to marry someone who already had eight wives. When Minnow was five, her family joined a religious cult lead by a prophet named Kevin. Therefore, they were known as Kevinians. This compelling story has so many different facets, so once I started reading it, I had a hard time putting it down. The cult life, Minnow's anger and confusion, the sadistic prophet, Jude and his struggles, Minnow's escape and first confrontation with a city dweller, and the forensic psychologist Dr. Wilson and his affect on Minnow. This book is inspiring with the message that it doesn't matter what anyone else thinks or believes, it only matters what you think!:)

This book was so wonderful and so horrifying all at the same time. I would get going with the movie playing in my head, but reach a point that was so graphic, so terrifying that it would screech to a halt and I would want to put the book down, BUT I COULDN'T! This book was soooooo amazingly good. But it covered so many aspects of life that threaten the very nature of our being. I have always been fascinated with religions, cultures and those far off people and places that do not see the light of cities. So the moment I heard about this, I knew I wanted to read it. I was so not disappointed. I felt every single emotion one can experience while reading this book. I cannot get over this is Stephanie Oakes' breakout novel. I am so excited to see what else she writes. (no pressure) Minnow is a brought into this religious cult at the age of five, so she doesn't have a lot to do with the decision. As she grows older she gets caught between the knowing things are not right and not wanting to disappoint the people who have taken care of her. Her father being a big part of her life and the reason they are in the cult in the first place. Minnow makes decisions to save others at her own detriment, but while all of this is being revealed, Minnow struggles with learning how to be in the real world. Will she have learned her lesson to think for herself or will she continue to be guided by those around her?

I love this book. I gave a copy to my professor to see if she would include it on her Popular Literature syllabus, because I think this is a really unique story. However, she is very familiar with

Montana and said the location is a little far-fetched for the events that play-out. I, however, am not familiar with Montana, having only driven through it one time, so I had no trouble believing the events could have taken place. Minnow is a great character, and I very much anticipate anything else Stephanie Oakes writes in the future!

The plot is rather unique given the character and the circumstances. It's difference which is great but at the same time there are things that if you start to poke holes completely fall apart. I won't spoil it but I felt the ending no matter the writer's intention could have been fleshed out just a tad more.

Excellent story. A little explicit in part but realistic. You couldn't help but feel sorrow for Minnow, she had to overcome so much grief. I never heard of a cult that did any good. Beware of false prophets. Hope to read more of Stephanie Oakes books.

Unlike any other book I've read. By the description it seemed like a horror story. It's a story of beauty & power & strength. Writing is fantastic. Do not miss this coming of age tale highly recommended

The life of Minnow Bly is true for all. Some times things are needed lies to survive. Beliefs are needed to help with an orderly life. To make sense of things hope is always needed.

I loved this book! It was interesting from the beginning, and you didn't really know what really happened to Minnow until near the end of the book. It's a dark tale full of love, lust, pain, and friendship. It's interesting to see the world from the point of view of someone from 'outside' society. If you like stories that keep you wondering and throw you in the middle of a story, this is the book for you!

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