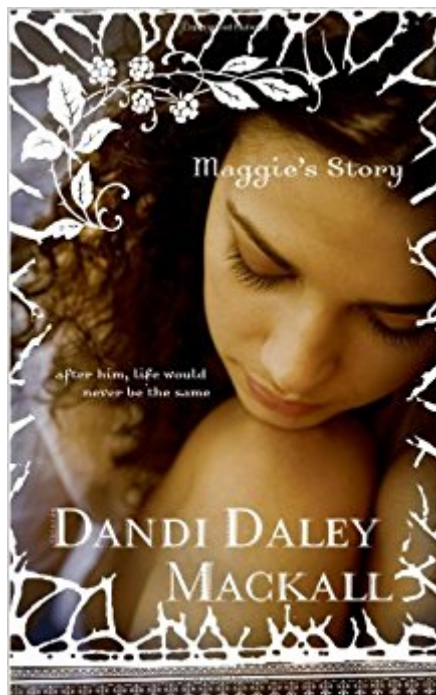


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Maggie's Story



Synopsis

Maggie's Story Maggie Dale is stuck at a dead-end job in a podunk town in rural Ohio. Her life is on the fast lane to nowhere, until a stranger named Joshua comes to town and shows her that she can be a part of something bigger than herself. This contemporary retelling of Mary Magdalene's story will capture young adults ages 14 to 19 looking for a biblical perspective on the character disparaged by *The Da Vinci Code*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dandi Daley Mackall is the author of over 400 books for children and grown-ups, with sales of over 3 million, she has published with HarperCollins, Dutton/Penguin-Putnam, Harcourt, Simon & Schuster, Disney, Hanna-Barbera, DreamWorks, and many others. Dandi; her husband, Joe; their three children (Jen, Katy, and Dan); and their horses, dogs, and cats live in rural Ohio.

really good book. practically a redo of the jesus story, but in this book jesus comes to a modern world. what i luv about this book is that it 'enchanced' the story of jesus coming to the world and made it interesting and relate-able, since it's written and set in the modern world. if your lazy like me and aren't keen on reading the original story in the bible or want to read a good interesting relate-able recap of this bible story....then i would totally recommend this book!

The Da Vinci Code did a great job of confusing Mary Magdalene's role in the Gospels. It's hard to understand the implications of society in biblical times, and harder to relate it personally. This book

shows a side of Mary Magdalene that most wouldn't have considered otherwise. I am a college student who was immediately intrigued by this book, but also concerned. To rewrite the story from a point of view that isn't often heard, and in another time and place completely (I live in Ohio and know all the cities mentioned in the book) could be dangerous for any writer. It's a difficult and complex task. However, Mackall did a great job. There were times where I entered a parable cringing--cautious that she wouldn't have done the story justice--but left with a great smile and sense of satisfaction. She pulled it off, and from this I would assume, she gained a lot of trust from her readers. The story is not supposed to recreate the gospels, it's supposed to be a parallel so that we can understand what really went on during the first coming. Of course it's impossible and never would have happened in Ohio or in this century! But that's not the point. For teenagers who are troubled by Bible lingo, "Maggie's Story" definitely brings everything into perspective. The disciples weren't saints before Christ. They were people as bad as drug dealers, people who charge you an arm and a leg for health insurance, and the paparazzi. The Bible says Christ chummed around the prostitutes, liars, and thieves, but I learned that he also chose them to carry his message to others. I never realized that before this book. I never realized that Christ chose the wrongdoers to be his first 12 disciples, because the Bible never said much about their past transgressions. Through "Maggie's Story," I learned how difficult it would have been to do all that Christ had done then, because it would have been ridiculously hard now. It is said that Christ fulfilled over 400 prophecies from the Old Testament, which is nearly impossible to recreate in a young adult novel in our times, but the book's purpose is not to show the cosmic view of Christ's life and sacrifice. This is an intimate account from a misunderstood woman, whose life was changed forever. "Christianity is not about bad people becoming good--it's about dead people becoming alive." This is a perfect illustration of Maggie Dale coming to life in Christ, adoring Him, being forgiven by His blood, entering the body, and spreading the word.

If Jesus had come during our time, what would our reaction have been? We scoff at the Jewish leaders in the New Testament for not seeing Jesus as the Messiah, when clearly all the signs point at him. Yet if someone now comes and says the same things, we label them as a lunatic, insane, unstable. Maggie's Story takes a modern day view of the story of Mary Magdalene. The book takes her story from the Bible and puts it into a 21st century setting. Maggie is a bartender living a sex, drug filled life. Pete and Andy own a garage shop. Matt is her drug dealer. Jude is a reporter. The setting is set in Ohio. Jesus is portrayed by a former construction worker named Joshua Davidson. (get it? son of David?) The reader is taken through the life of Jesus/Josh through Maggie's eyes and

how she feels about him and his ministry. And there is no Da Vinci Code in this story; no sexual relationship between Josh and Maggie here. I found this book interesting. The characters were young and the miracles and other events are made more relatable and easier to understand. You sympathize with Maggie and her situation. Yet I kept having trouble fully getting into the story. I found it hard to accept the modern setting without Jesus having originally happen. I realize that this is just a modern retelling but if Jesus didn't originally exist how is it the 21st century? The modern era started after Christ was born. Modern events could not have taken place without Christianity. The US wouldn't have even existed. I also noticed that there was no mention of Josh's birth. I guess that the virgin birth still would be hard to explain even in modern times? Also I know that as Christians that we're suppose not to judge people and this is going to sound bad, but if I saw a bunch of girls traveling with a group of guys and they were all living in the same van together, I might think negative towards those girls. The leader may say he's religious but the atmosphere would look sketchy. Maybe I'm just looking too hard and reading too much into this. Like I said I did enjoy it. I would recommended this for teens or anyone who wants to know more about Mary Magdalene. It is a thought-provoking read.

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