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Mirror Mirror: A Contemporary Christian Epic-Novel (The Grace Series Book 1)



Synopsis

240,000+ Words -- A Contemporary Christian Epic-Novel
California golden girl, Sage Wentworth's life looks perfect from the outside looking in. She's got money, friends, and all the social status a girl could want. But underneath the glitz and glamour, Sage's perfect existence holds many dark secrets—secrets even she herself doesn't know. When she is unceremoniously sent to live with her biological father's family in North Carolina for the summer, Sage finds herself swimming in very unfamiliar waters with seemingly friendly sharks poised to eat her alive on every side. Can Sage navigate these treacherous waters long enough to get back home, or has life for this golden girl changed forever? Luke Baker has always considered himself a slacker of the first order. He's not particularly athletic, musical, talented or intelligent. In fact, his "talents" such as they are run more in the vein of helping people when they most need it, and right now, that talent is much-needed by his best friend, Jaycee Lawrence who is facing the arrival of the stepsister she had gladly forgotten ever existed. A whole summer trying to talk Jaycee down off the ledge while simultaneously fighting like mad not to fall for her gorgeous, unattainable older sister? Yeah, this should be fun!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mirror Mirror is a marvelous reminder of why Staci Stallings is my favorite author of inspirational Christian fiction. Her characters are unforgettable, her dialogue thoroughly convincing, and the situations believable. Sage is a resilient young woman, but that resilience becomes active only when she learns that, in God, all things are possible. Mirror Mirror encompasses a romantic relationship, of course, but other relationships are equally important here. Broken family relationships, marital infidelity, lies and slanders, sibling jealousy, and emotional/psychological abuse are at the root of Sage's victimization by those who should have protected her most. The workings of prayer and forgiveness on people who have taken these wrong paths are at the heart of the novel. Juxtaposed against these people who have caused great harm to Sage is Luke, a young man who is inspired by love to confront the many injustices she faces. At times, their struggle seems hopeless, but, with the able assistance of Pastor Steve Mitchell and his wife Jane, they grow in wisdom and love. As readers of Staci Stallings know, the degree of overt religiosity varies from novel to novel. Mirror Mirror contains a good deal of that sort of material, particularly in the latter stages of the book. However, the scriptural readings and quoted sermons are anything but arbitrary --- they play a huge role in teaching forgiveness and healing. Special mention should be made of Ryder, Sage's young stepbrother. Faced with an indifferent father, an irrationally hostile stepsister, and a bitter stepmother, Sage finds only love and appreciation in the young boy. The innocence of this child largely unaffected by the corrupting events that have formed his family, provides her with an emotional anchor when it is sorely needed. Beyond the religious convictions and philosophical principles that inform her work, there is the undisputed fact that Ms. Stalling is an immensely talented writer. I am in awe at how frequently some patch of dialogue or cogent character study reminds me of just how good she is. Although Mirror Mirror is complete in itself, a sequel will be published in August. I very much look forward to it.

If I were to describe this novel in one sentence it would be: the image portrayed is not always what lies behind the glossy photo. The story was laid out beautifully. When Stallings writes, she writes to where it is no longer fiction but to where the people in her novel are real. When one reads this novel

it brings to light that there are actual situations and people in the world who hurt this way, feel this way, and live this way and who really needs God's authentic non-condemning love. Yes, the story is revolved around Sage and Luke, but once you continued to read you are longer just concerned about those two characters but about all that surround them. Your heart is drawn to reasons why certain characters act the way they act, and you long to see them helped. The way Stallings invites God into her writing gives the reader a chance to see the author. What she believes and what she has learned from God in the process of writing this novel. There's a line in the novel that says, "We give from the overflow of what God's doing in our lives." I truly believe that is what Stallings does when she writes her books and novels, and I am grateful for her pouring out what God is pouring into her. We are filled only to be emptied. This is a sincere, heartfelt novel that makes one laugh, possibly cry (Sage cried enough to where I didn't have to), and shout just a tad bit. Excited for the next book in the series!

This story spoke to my heart... any teen who has ever felt out of place or someone forced to confront past deeds. I cried, cheered & laughed throughout the story. Love this author & can't wait for next book in series.

Another GREAT story! Granted, before things get better you have to understand the bad, and I did not enjoy reading about the hatred of the main character in the beginning of the story. Why didn't those church-going people stop this? I also didn't realize that it was going to be a long story and so I was tempted to be discouraged from all the negative, but I've read Staci Stallings before and knew I loved her writing, so I kept going. Yes, it keeps getting better and multiple sub stories get happily resolved. There are so many beautiful and uplifting statements in there to encourage someone who thinks they are worthless, and there are statements to uplift anybody regardless. I could not put it down and about nothing got done around here until I finished. She stays on my favorite authors list.

Sage was sent to spend the summer with the father who had never been part of her life and his perfect family in North Carolina. She faced bitterness and anger at the circumstances of her birth and was only able to survive by putting on her fake persona of a glamour girl from California. Only Luke spent enough time getting to know the real person behind the mask. It was difficult to read the way her father, stepmother, and stepsister treated her and how others thought so little of her feelings. Thank goodness for The unconditional love shown to her by Luke and the pastor and his wife. The sermons gave special meaning to how Christians should look at their lives and the way we

treat others. Looking forward to reading the other books in this series.

This book was well written.. It made you think and do things in your own life. When I finished it I felt like I had made changes in my life too. The way Sage had to go through things was really hard to read, but in the end she was a stronger person. The author really makes you feel like you are there going through Sages life with her. I laughed, cried and prayed for my own family. You will love this book.. Can't wait to read the second one of the series. I have found a great author to follow.

I loved the characters, the story, the writing, and the editing. I have to admit that at times the writing bogged down for me but I kept reading because I didn't want to miss anything. A great, but not a fast read. The sermons were well written and thought provoking. Recommended.

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