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Summer Promise: Book 1 In The Christy Miller Series



Synopsis

Summer Promise Book 1 in the Christy Miller Series As 14-year-old Christy leaves her family's Wisconsin farm to spend the summer at her wealthy aunt and uncle's home in Newport Beach, she hopes this will be the best summer of her life. When she meets surfer Todd with his screaming silver blue eyes, she's certain it will be. But when the summer doesn't unfold as Christy had hoped, she wonders if she'll keep her promise to her parents not to do anything she'll regret. Will she do anything to get Todd, to be accepted, to force her summer to give her everything it promised?

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Customer Reviews

I loved these books as a young teen, so I decided to read them again when I was feeling nostalgic. As an adult, I still enjoyed the series but the stories are engaging and wholesome but there were a few messages that I found troubling. Primarily, I did not like the "cultural Christian" aspect of the books; many of the main characters' beliefs are not necessarily Biblical, rather, they reflect cultural values often found in the American Christian church.

Most of these beliefs aren't a big deal, but a few are problematic in that they misrepresent the gospel. Other issues that I had with the content: Christy is completely and utterly boy-crazy with few interests of her own (extracurriculars, ambitions, dreams) beyond a few short-lived stints. Because of this, her character falls just a wee bit flat, and also sends a pretty strong message to young girls reading the series. I would like to have seen Christy mature as a character in her boy-craziness, but even later on in the series she still struggles with obsessing over her crushes/ boyfriends. Additionally, Christy becomes a Christian in the books as a young teen, but almost immediately adopts all of the values/ morals of the Christian faith (i.e. easily begins doing devotions, disdains dating non Christians/ smoking/ swearing/ etc.) with little evidence of a real struggle over her values. It is simply an unrealistic depiction of growth as a young Christian and embodies a little bit of a judgmental attitude. Honestly, there are a lot of instances throughout the series when Christy reads like my mother as opposed to a young girl trying to find her way and experiencing growing pains. I wish that she had encountered more doubts and questions in her faith. Granted, I would absolutely recommend these books for any teen girl. I've even bought them as gifts. Overall, they are worth a read and capture so much of the magic of coming of age. However, some of the content is worth at least discussing and does not necessarily reflect Biblical truths.

I will always love the Christy Miller series, because it introduced me to, and made me fall in love with, the Christian romance genre. I'm a huge fan of falling in love with your best friend, first loves staying together and everything, so I love the story of Todd and Christy. Todd was my first "I want one!" fictional character "crush". I am trying to get my little sister to read these books - I just bought them for her birthday tomorrow from :) - and I hope my daughter will someday.

This book is a three-books-in-one volume, so I've given an overview of each story below. I think these books are great. They follow fifteen-year-old Christy Miller as she struggles through her teenage years. They are well-written and fun. Christy is an endearing character who gets into a lot of mischief just trying to live life. I highly recommend this series to teen girls of all ages.

Book 1 Summer Promise Christy Miller is thrilled to spend the summer with her aunt and uncle in Newport Beach, California. But Christy doesn't fit in. Her skin is pale and her swimsuit is old and green. Aunt Marti gives her a makeover that includes a new hairstyle and wardrobe. Christy's hair is so short, now, and the clothes might not be her favorite styles, but she does feel older and sophisticated. She decides that she likes her new look. Christy also likes a cute surfer named Todd, but she isn't sure he likes her back. She's invited to a get-together one night and hopes that Todd will be there.

Instead, she discovers a wild party with deadly consequences. Christy struggles to understand what's happened and how to move forward. Can Christy find her true self without breaking her summer promise?

Book 2A Whisper and a Wish Christy's life is changing. Her family is moving to California, but before Christy can get too excited, she discovers that her family won't live in Newport Beach like Aunt Marti and Uncle Bob. Christy's dad gets a job in Escondido, an hour and a half away from the beach and Christy's friends. Christy has to start over making new friends. She doesn't have as much freedom with her parents as she had with Aunt Marti and Uncle Bob. There are a lot more rules to follow at home. And a brush with the law on a trip to Palm Springs won't help prove to her parents that she's growing up. Can Christy do what's right and still obey her parents?

Book 3 Yours Forever Christy can't wait to spend Christmas in Newport Beach. Not only will she see all her beach friends, but Todd has moved to Newport Beach permanently! Christy is confused about her relationship with Todd. He never says anything to help her understand how he feels. Her friend, Heather, talks Christy into flirting with Doug to make Todd jealous, but this only seems to make everyone mad at her. Why are relationships so hard? Even Aunt Marti isn't speaking to Christy!

Again, I highly recommend this series for girls ages 12 and up. Christy is a delight to read and she struggles with a lot of tough things in this series. There are four, three-book volumes in the re-released series, and a college years volume.

Well, I am a lot like Christy, I always said I was a Christian, but I never thought about it like this book has made me think about it, I was confused with it a lot at the beginning, but now I'm ready to surrender my heart to the Lord Jesus, and My God, I'm ready for anything that they throw at me, I'm read to let the Lord take my life in his control.... I am happy to know that people feel this way about the Lord, and Jesus Christ. The story's that Todd used to explain this stuff to Christy, well, it helped me think about it more, and I think I'm ready to be reborn again, as am I read to climb into God's boat, I'm read to let him in and let him walk around my home not make him stand in the corner, I want to understand more, about God and Jesus Christ...

I love this book and all the other ones related to it. I am sending these out for my nieces to read since they are just getting to their teenage years. These books hold so many stories and helpful motivational topics for kids to make the best choices in life. I really hope they remember these books when they are faced in a hard time.

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