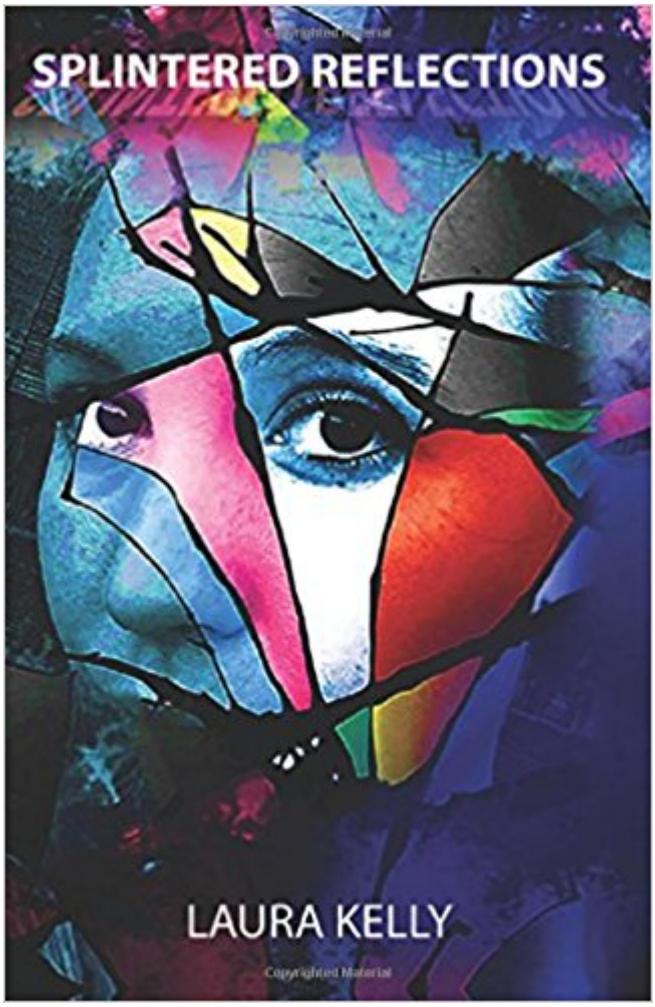
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Splintered Reflections



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Synopsis

Shattered with the disturbing loss of both her parents, Cathy struggles with her identity asking every morning as she looks in the mirror Who Am I?Ã Â Riddled with guilt and plagued by the issues left unresolved with her mother's disappearance, she reluctantly pushes outside the box she has created for herself. Rescued from her isolation by a new friend named Jane, Cathy begins to break free of her shell through Jane's insistence that the world's adventures are to be embraced.Ã Â Further, challenged by a demanding, creative writing Professor, Cathy discovers the cathartic effects of writing as she pours her thoughts and feelings onto paper, transforming not only the blank piece of paper but also herself. Ã Â As if emerging from a fog, Cathy's recovered memories enable her to look within and begin to piece together the shards of her shattered life.Through her small network of friends and mentors, her self-doubt slips away as her confidence begins to grow, and she discovers that the answers she seeks lie within.Ã Â A wistful first love brings a touching element to remind us that there is a Cathy inside all of us.Ã Â Many will identify with Cathy's loss and loneliness, a condition which plagues most teenagers. Ã Â Ã Â While we feel her ennui, ultimately we are uplifted by the triumph of her spirit.Ã Â With subtle grace, complicated wisdom, and striking emotion, Splintered Reflections reminds us of our human capacity for resilience, epiphany, and self-realization.Ã Â This is a contemporary and relatable tale of personal growth, discovery, empowerment, and, finally, self-forgiveness that old and young alike will find compelling.

Book Information

Paperback: 200 pages

Publisher: Sojourn Publishing LLC (August 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1627470018

ISBN-13: 978-1627470018

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,377,687 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Social Issues > Death #133 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Personal Health > Depression & Mental Health

Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed reading Laura Kelly’s book Splintered Reflections and found myself wanting more!Ã Â I caught myself thinking about the story while I was doing other things, and was eager to get back to reading it when I had to set it aside.Ã Â Ms. Kelly painted a picture that enabled me to step into Cathy’s life and feel what she was feeling, and see what she was seeing.Ã Â I believe the mark of a good book is when it stays with you when you finish it, and that is true for this book! Ã Â ~ Erika Gorman "An intriguing and descriptive story from the very beginning.Ã Â An emotional page-turner that left me waiting for more. " Ã Â ~Yvonne WilliamsA must read for anyone who has ever asked the question "Who am I?"The author brings her reader through pages of intense personal and interpersonal questions with incredible character development throughout the whole book while intertwining a fascinating story of family, friends, trust,betrayal, abandonment, doubt, love, pain; capturing all the emotions every one of us has experienced. The author held my interest all the way through to the last page, not afraid of exposing truth.The ending; a surprise; a twist worth it’s wait.Ã Â Kudos to Laura. --~Angie Corbett-Kuiper,Ã Â The YOUniverse Coach, LLC

EXCERPT: Ã Â Chapter 1The steamy mist parted as I made my way to the mirror.The question was vibrating in my mind as I moved closer and closer to the mirror causing emotions to stir, a mixture of dread and anticipation churning inside my stomach just like the haze that was swirling around me.Ã Â I could smell the sweet scent of citrus floating in the air as I saw my form appear in the mirror.Ã Â I was a stranger looking back at me.Ã Â I took a deep breath letting the refreshing scent fill my lungs hoping that the scent would wash away my darkness.Ã Â I swallowed before slowly letting my breath out and asking the question - Who am I?Ã Â The steam from the shower surrounded me touching my skin like a forgotten kiss.Ã Â I continued to stare into the dark pupils that were glaring back at me, my long brown hair hanging in damp strands around my oval face.Ã Â I moved closer to the Ã Â Ã Â mirror hoping that if I stared long enough I would see that the answer was always there.I just needed to look a little deeper, a little harder. Ã Â I took another deep breath before asking the question again. "Who am I?"Ã Â This time desperation was in my voice.Ã Â Blank almost lifeless eyes continued to look back at me.Ã Â I had to wonder if they were mocking me. Ã Â I looked deeper into the eyes patiently waiting for the answer to explode like a series of fireworks.Ã Â Yet every morning it was the same - silence.Ã Â Ã Â The only sound was my breathing, steady at first but soon increasing with the hope that today might be the day. Ã Â Who was that person staring back at me?Ã Â The question was always swirling in my mind sometimes making me dizzy, most of the time the question was just an endless hum. Ã Â A pit of disappointment in the center of my heart expanded.Ã Â Why do I continue with this sad ritual I

thought?Ã Â Ã Â Ã Â I pushed myself away from the mirror with a heavy sigh thinking that maybe tomorrow I would get an answer.Ã Â I dragged myself back to the bedroom my shoulders slumped and my heart heavy.Ã Â I slide my body back into the security of my bed pulling the covers over my head to block out the morning light that was trying to break through letting me know that it was the start of a new day. Maybe if I sank deeper into my covers I could escape the loneliness and guilt that surrounded me. Ã Â The oneÃ Â person whoÃ Â could give me some glimmer of an answer to my question was gone.Ã Â I cried myself back to sleep knowing that she would never return.

This is a touching story about a lonely guilt-ridden young woman who cannot get beyond the death of her mother and who is troubled by the existential question of "who am I."She is befriended by three strangers who become part of her life and try to pull her out of herself and back into the happiness and confidence that she has lost with her mother's passing.The twist at the end is what makes this story truly unique. For every lost and lonely soul, there must be someone who reaches out in love and friendship to bring that person home.

This book was recommended by a friend so I gave it a try. While the subject matter and point of view would not be something that would normally interest me, I found the book to be inviting. It kept my interest throughout and the writing style easy to follow. The twist near the end was good as I didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t see that coming and I enjoyed how the author tied it all together. Certainly gives one perspective regarding interpersonal thoughts. I enjoyed the book as a casual read but can see how others might look deeper into it, especially when dealing with personal loss.

This novel captures the emotional outcry of a young woman who because of losses feels "splintered" spiritually and emotionally. This book is both personal because it is a self reflection and interpersonal because the reader becomes an integral part of the emotions that are captured by the author.

This debut author is an inspiration to all who have a story to tell. The main character grapples with a serious question (Who am I?) that is skillfully balanced with humor. I would especially recommend this book to any teacher who questions the impact he/she has on a student. Profesor H. is a fascinating character who shows what can happen when we demonstrate to someone that she has potential. Walking with the main character as she recognizes her own potential is a literary treat.

Laura captures how women think - the multi-dimensions of thought that go through our heads. How our past impacts our thoughts and the meaning we put on past events and how that plays out in our everyday lives. I loved the self discovery of the main character Kat and had to giggle at some of the internal dialog Kat had in her head! This book was delightful and makes you realize we all have these internal dialogs in our head and sometimes it takes good friends to help see a fresh prospective!

This is a great book that has lots of very relatable thoughts we all have and valuable lessons to learn. If we change the way we look at things, the things we look at will change. Hats Off to Laura Kelly!! Well done. You had me hooked from the get go. Write On!!! Can’t wait to read the next one.

The book was written in a style using lots of detail. The story could have moved faster and just as effectively without the detail.

I really enjoyed reading this book! Without realizing it, it took me on an unexpected journey. It’s easy to relate to the character as she is dealing with her life and yet, you will come out of it surprised. Great first book for this author, Laura. :)

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