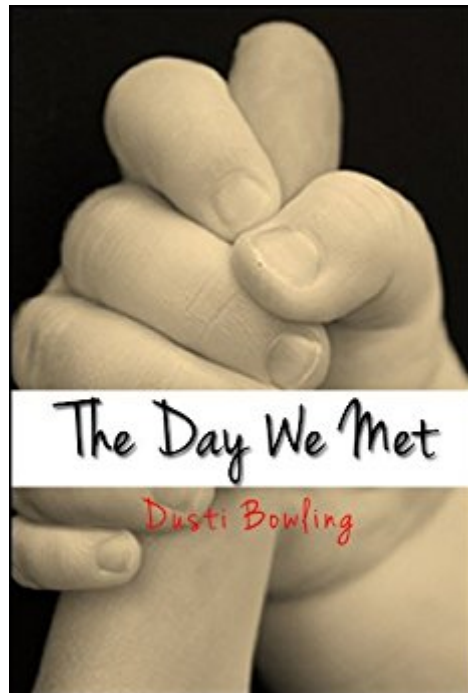




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The Day We Met



Synopsis

Sixteen-year-old Lenna James goes to church, attends youth group, and hangs out with the church geeks at school. At least, she did. Enticed by a chance with the boy she's had a crush on for years, Lenna abandons her values and her lifelong friends to hang out with the popular crowd. What she gets in return couldn't be further from her expectations. Feeling used and alone and facing an unexpected pregnancy, Lenna struggles to regain control of her life, her parents' trust, and the love of her best friend, Will. But when her pregnancy takes an unexpected turn, taking away what little control she thought she had, she must find the strength to make the most heart-wrenching decision of all. She feels lost no matter what she chooses. Will she finally choose to look up for help? A beautiful story of love, faith, and forgiveness, *The Day We Met* will make you laugh, make you cry, and touch your heart forever. *The Day We Met* is a Christian novel, most appropriate for ages thirteen and up. Other books by Dusti Bowling: *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* (coming September 5, 2017) *Grace and Daisies* *The Boy Who Loved Me*

Book Information

File Size: 463 KB

Print Length: 277 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Ketina Publishing House (November 7, 2013)

Publication Date: November 7, 2013

Sold by: Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0069HMPKQ

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #419,491 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #31

in Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Relationships

#93 in Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Religious > Christian > Relationships #359

in Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Other Religious Fiction

Customer Reviews

As an Independent Book Reviewer, I find it a huge honor and privilege to read so many amazing books, as well as work with some awesome publishing companies. I receive numerous emails weekly offering me opportunities to read and review a vast array of genres, authors, and story lines. Some come from authors I have never worked with in the past, or maybe not heard of before. Honestly, I tend to stick with those I know and have worked with closely; however, there are times when I've stepped out of my comfort zone and found that book that speaks to me in a way I didn't expect. Dusti Bowling, the author of "The Day We Met," certainly falls in this category. Here's why: "The Day We Met" is a beautiful story of unconditional love, friendships, and powerful life lessons for young and old alike. Lenna is a typical 16 year old. She has a great family, and a close group of friends. She and her friends are most definitely not in the "Popular" category, but rather, the "church geeks." Lenna attends church with her Mom and Dad and is involved in their youth group. As with many teens, Lenna goes to church because it is what her family does. She hasn't experienced what it means to have her "Own" relationship or walk with God. Lenna has had a crush on a certain young man, Aidan, for what seems like, forever. Aidan is very good-looking and just happens to be the most popular guy in school, and sadly, has no idea who Lenna is. One day, Lenna is asked by one of the "popular" girls to attend one of "their" parties. Lenna is certain that Aidan will be there and in all of her thoughts, hopes, and even nervousness, preparing for this party, she never could've believed she would find herself in a bedroom, alone with the boy of her dreams, patting a place on the bed where he sat, and hearing the words, "come and sit down." Lenna experiences all of her "firsts" with Aidan. She quickly learns, however, Aidan could care less what happened behind those closed bedroom doors. He returns to his life, his friends, and not acknowledging Lenna in anyway whatsoever. That is, until, he is given the news that she is pregnant with his child. "The Day We Met" will take you on an emotional journey, sharing the thoughts, hurts, and fears experienced by Lenna, her parents, and those whom she calls "friend." Lenna is such a brave and courageous young woman who learns at such a young age, the lessons of how our choices can change our life in just a matter of moments. It is what we do with those lessons that make us who we are. Learning what it means to come to a place where we can either choose to walk with Christ and allow Him to bring goodness to what seems an impossible situation. I was moved to tears many times and truly appreciated the support system that the author gave Lenna in this story. Seeing the vulnerable side of her parents as they too walk through all the questions and concerns, as well as, lessons of their own, that this situation brings was just beautiful and so moving. I live in a town that has a very high teen pregnancy rate. Sadly, I have seen too

many times the devastation that comes to those who are like Aidan and his family when they deny responsibility. On the other hand, I have also seen the blessings that come to those who come face to face with the truth of their actions and choices. When we cling to Christ we can face any storm, any situation, no matter how difficult they may seem. I would highly recommend this book to Boys and Girls alike ages 13/14 & up, Youth Pastors, and to Jr. High and Highschool teachers. They could not only read this book but might even be able to share it with someone who could truly benefit from reading Lenna's story. Thank you Dusti Bowling for allowing me the privilege of reading and reviewing your book! "The Day We Met" is a definite 5 ' ' ' ' 's!!!

If you were to know me in person you'd know I don't read. I have blonde hair, blue eyes, and I do modeling for photography so, I can talk people into doing stuff like reading for me. Somethings different about this book. I saw the cover and it sparked an interest. I like special things about people. For example, and extra finger or two, a cleft plate, or a testimony. I'm not an emotional person. I don't read much less cry when I read. This book was different. It made me realize God really has always been there for me. I have my own birth story; I was born on the exact day they had always predicted, the right gender and everything but, when I was born my stomach blew up like a balloon. I stopped breathing. They took me away from my parents less than two minutes after I was born. Similar to in this story. They both thought they weren't going to get their new child back. My parents were lucky enough to where they did, she wasn't. Either way, God was there. God is always there! No matter where you are, what your doing, he's still there.

I don't recall ever reading a book about teen pregnancy before this one, but it's something that I feel very strongly about so I was looking forward to reading a YA Contemporary on this topic. The started off with a bang. It took not time at all to get into the storyline and I felt the characters were pretty realistic and easy to follow along with. I knew something was going to go wrong just by reading the summary, but I didn't expect things to go so badly. Parts of the story were really heartwrenching. The Day We Met was a very emotional, realistic story about a brave girl that ended up with a horrible situation on her hands.

Every teenage girl strives to fit in somewhere. This is the story of a girl who abandoned her values, morals, and beliefs to fit in with the popular crowd in high school. Many girls are like that. I was a 16 year old girl once- I know the struggle. Instead of getting down and depressed saying "woe is me," Lenna really had to be strong and face decisions as an adult. The only thing I would change would

be the point of view. I wish it was third person omniscient so the reader can see Will's point of view as well. The first person told by Lenna helped the reader understand how she was feeling, but I wanted to understand how the other characters felt too. Overall, I really enjoyed this book. I recommend every young teenage girl read it. Lenna thought, "oh, one time- I can't be pregnant." Every girl should read this and really consider the consequences of what could happen just one time. It made me question my decisions of the past, and I'm an adult. I hope this novel is sent to girls everywhere. Really makes you stop and think.

This book was not always easy to read. Ms Bowling did well in describing the angst of poor choices especially mixed with a hormonal teenager. A good story. I will probably read other books by this author.

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