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Angel's Choice



Synopsis

All I remember is the sensation of things slipping away from me.... In one night Angel Hansen's life changes forever: She has sex for the first time. Not that she remembers the act itself -- not the pain or the pleasure. But she is left with something that will never let her forget it: an unplanned pregnancy. Angel must make a choice. Abortion? Adoption? Keep it? None of these choices are easy and none of them are perfect. But there is one thing Angel is sure of. Whatever choice she makes, it must be the right one for her. Braced with that knowledge, Angel faces the toughest decision of her life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Grade 9 Up "Angel Hansen, 17, has been in love with Danny Stanton for what seems like a lifetime. When he rejects her at an end-of-summer blowout party, the drunk teen ends up having a one-night stand with someone else, which results in her becoming pregnant. Beginning with that fateful night, journal-style entries take readers on the 10-month journey that Angel must make as she defies all odds and decides to keep the baby. She finds an unexpected ally in Danny, who walks away from his jock image to step into the role of boyfriend/replacement father. While the story moves along at a fairly rapid pace, there are times when the characters are somewhat puzzling, such as Danny suddenly shifting his feelings for Angel. This first-person narrative offers a vivid portrait of the dark side of fleeting hookups and teen pregnancy. It will resonate with older teens." Caryl Soriano, New York Public Library Copyright © Reed Business Information, a

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Lauren Baratz-Logsted is the author of many adult books, including the international bestseller *The Thin Pink Line*. This is her first book for teens. She lives with her family in Danbury, Connecticut.

Angel Hansen is in love with Danny Stanton, but he's dating Ricky D'Amico, so Angel leaves the end-of-summer blowout with Tim O'Mara, and one thing leads to another. Angel doesn't remember the act that left her with an unplanned pregnancy. And she didn't seem to be totally aware of the decision that followed, but then suddenly all was clear and she made a different decision; a deliberate choice instead of reacting to the words and actions of others. She made the choice she felt was right for her. With all of the teen pregnancies in the world today, it makes sense to have stories that tackle this delicate subject. *Angel's Choice* is a good teaching tool for teenage girls, boys and parents.

In Lauren Baratz-Logsted's *ANGEL'S CHOICE*, Angel faces the most difficult decision of her life, whether to keep her baby, give it up for adoption, or have an abortion. Angel has trouble making choices. She usually just reacts to things that happen to her, but this time she follows her heart. And she finds support from a most unlikely person. *ANGEL* is beautifully written. I cried with Angel, felt her pain, and respected her choice. This is a story to read over and over.

Nice story but a little too slow for me. I found it boring.

This was a wonderful book, written in the voice of an adolescent girl. What a great story. The author did a great job at relaying the girl's difficult decision making and how she consequently matures and changes throughout the book. The book is about choices. Great lesson. I highly recommend it.

Author Lauren Baratz-Logsted has a writing voice that captures young adult angst with ease. I am a huge fan of her writing and she always amazes me with her stories. With *Angel's Choice*, I again fell into the trap of reading straight through the book with no breaks. I was hooked from the first page and couldn't put it down. This book touches on the subject of teen pregnancy and the decisions teens face when presented with it. Do they tell anyone? Do they keep the baby or not? Do they get picked on at school and tormented daily for their choices? What would you do if put in the same situation? Would you turn your back on a friend just because she doesn't agree with your choice?

All these questions are touched upon in Angel's Choice and the author handled them beautifully. I cried with Angel when she felt fear and confusion. I felt her anguish and torment when others criticized her for the choices she was making. I loved the relationship that evolved with Danny and the downfall she was experiencing in with her best friend. I just felt for the whole situation and wanted Angel to be okay. This book touched on a topic that many parents hope their child doesn't experience, but it also gives you the perspective of what that teen could go through as well. A book that teens can gain knowledge from and parents can gain perspective from as well. Another beautifully written novel by a wonderful author.

To me, the most important factor in any book is the characters and their voices. This book, judging by how much I love it, really delivered. Angel Hansen finds herself pregnant in the middle of senior year, and while everyone else is worried about getting into college, their SATs, usual high school stuff, she's got much bigger things to worry about. Does she ever complain about it? No. Does she ever let herself wallow in self-pity? Again, no. She is, throughout the book, met with many conflicts that she does not wiggle herself out of--she combats them full-on. By no means is her pregnancy easy. Being a pregnant teen in today's society means you're constantly the object of judgment, ostracism and alienation. It takes its toll on a person. But, again, does Angel cower away? You guessed it--she doesn't. The choice she makes has strong repercussions in very important relationships in her life--with her best friend, Karin, her parents, her aunt, and Danny, a guy from school who is more than a friend but less than a boyfriend. This is what makes this novel so, so authentic. Nothing comes without a certain weight. And of course, Angel is a truly identifiable character. Sometimes while I read this book, in the many times I have read it, I was struck by how many introspective passages sounded like my own thoughts and my own reasoning. She's got her weaknesses, her fears, her imperfections, all of which perfectly shape an admirable heroine. All in all, this book's got it all: superb writing, characters you can relate to, authenticity, and one great main character. 9/10!

Teenage pregnancy can't realistically be lived in only 250 pages, but Lauren Baratz-Logsted handles this controversial topic more successfully than most. ANGEL'S CHOICE begins like many other teen pregnancy stories with one bad decision; however, Angel's voice narrates a little something extra into the story that's really hard to explain. There is the upset family, the lost friendships, the ostracism in the school classroom, plus the roller coaster of emotional and physical turmoil a teen pregnancy entails. Angel is faced with the choices of abortion, adoption, or becoming

a young mother. She knows what a friend before her has chosen but realizes it isn't right for her. The less-than-happy teen father and her own unhappy parents have ideas of their own. Ultimately, the choice is hers and hers alone. Although this subject is complicated and huge, the dialogue in much of the novel seems real and genuine. Angel confronts her obstacles bravely. After discussions with her grandmother and her aunt, she learns others before her have made similar painful decisions. Her attempts to remain a normal teen often succeed but are tempered with realism and an uncertain view of the future. Angel's final realization is that survival would not be possible without the support and love of those around her. This is a book that should be included in any collection aimed at helping teens face the decisions of today and their consequences. Reviewed by: Sally Kruger, aka "Readingjunky"

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