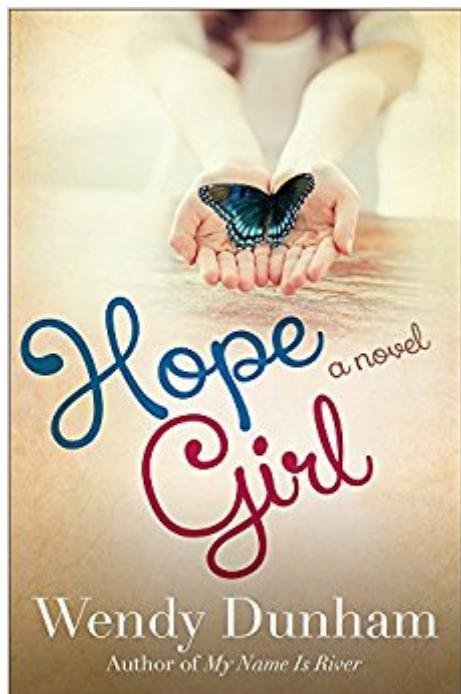


The book was found

Hope Girl



Synopsis

With the discovery of her birth father, 12-year-old River has definite thoughts about how her life should turn out--and that certainly does not include any of the challenges that keep popping up! It's not easy to decide if she should live with Gram, who has been her family for the past ten years, or with her father, who she's over-the-moon to have just met but knows little about. When River gets diagnosed with scoliosis, she fears it will impact her hopes and dreams. River decides to ask God for help. When River makes a new friend, Carlos, she realizes that having scoliosis isn't so bad when she learns what Carlos deals with every day. As this tender-sweet story unfolds, River learns to persevere and stay hopeful that soon she will be part of a real family. Yes, her dream does come true...but not in the way she had planned!

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #228,633 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Teens >

Literature & Fiction > Religious > Christian > Family

Customer Reviews

"As a teacher, it is often hard to find both good literature and engaging stories for my students. 'Hope Girl' is wonderfully written with much emphasis on faith, courage, determination, and hope. My students loved it!" -By S. O'Brien
"Love the setting and characters in this series. The author has such a skilled and light touch when it comes to topics that are serious and weighty. The writing style engages readers and at the same time leaves room for us all to process issues addressed to the depth/degree that is individually appropriate. The discussion questions at the back of the book are helpful for reflection. Wendy Dunham does a masterful job of weaving universal themes and redemptive values into good stories." -B. Huff
"As a writer I recognize the value of good literature...especially literature for children. Wendy Dunham's, Hope

Girl, is a middle grade novel that can be enjoyed by adults as well." ª •Sharon L. Lochman, Spiritualverse.today

In addition to being a writer, I work as a registered therapist with children who have special needs. As I have done in the first book, My Name Is River, I wanted to incorporate a character in Hope Girl with a physical difference, or uniqueness. In Hope Girl, River befriends Carlos, a boy who sustained severe burns throughout his body. What lays behind his scars is a boy with incredible strength and character. I hope this story challenges all of us to look beyond our layers of skin to where our true character is found.

My 10 year old loved this book that infused Christian themes in dealing with struggle. She is even writing a book report on it for class!!

I loved this book! Once I started reading it, I couldn't put it down! The continuing story of River, and how there are some things in life that don't work out as you would hope, but sometimes they are even better!! Very good story!

We love Wendy's books! Here is my daughter's review: "In Hope Girl, there are so many hardships. River (the main character) goes through them a bit angrily at first, but then she starts to "face the wind head on, like an eagle". I know how hard it is to face your problems especially when you are going through puberty. I see so much courage and determination (good stubbornness) in her that I also see in myself. I didn't understand the scoliosis until I talked to my mom who has the same condition. When she was young she wore a brace, but she doesn't now. If you haven't read My Name Is River than I suggest for you to read that first.

Please read Hope Girl. It's amazing! I CAN'T WAIT for the next book. Happy Reading, Mary (12 years old)"

As a teacher, it is often hard to find both good literature and engaging stories for my students. "Hope Girl" is wonderfully written by Wendy Dunham with much emphasis on faith, courage, determination, and HOPE. My students LOVED it! Young girls today have many obstacles in their lives to try to lead "normal" lives. In a world where young girls may seem perfect - or at least in control and "normal" - they often always see themselves as abnormal or not good enough. In the story, "Hope

Girl", River faces many obstacles, and in turn finds herself growing and maturing along the way. Her determination and sometimes stubbornness guides her as she realizes that her dreams may be a little different than she envisioned. Thank you Wendy Dunham for mastering a story where a young girl faces LIFE in itself and that with a little bit of faith, anything is possible!

Ms. Dunham continues River's journey for identity in HOPE GIRL. As River begins to question the "odd" and inexplicably calm responses to tragedy from those around her, she begins a journey to understanding that no matter what the problem in life, the crisis or the heartbreak, Jesus is always there! In the process, to her surprise, she unexpectedly finds that her identity in Christ brings her the love and fulfillment she has always dreamed of but never knew was possible. In addition to exploring the theme of identity, HOPE GIRL also addresses themes relating to what it means to have a real relationship with God, themes of diversity, and true love through forgiveness. HOPE GIRL is a wonderful story giving readers the hope that Christ is always with us - no matter what - and that, if we trust in Him, He will resolve our life's challenges in ways that we could never have dreamed! Ms. Dunham truly succeeds in writing a book inspired to give real hope in times of doubt, pain and fear.

I read this book in one sitting, shortly after finishing "My Name Is River". A wonderful continuing story of River Starling's life, but able to be a stand alone book. Discussion notes at the end make this a worthwhile read for ages 12 & up. Recommended highly.

Hope Girl picks up where My Name is River ends. At this point, River finds out who her real father is and the real story about her adoption. She is close to having the family that she always wanted - but it is always funny how her prayers are really answered! Her perseverance throughout the novel is inspiring, and would inspire any one who would read this novel. This is a very enjoyable read! Highly recommended!

Love the setting and the characters in this series. The author has such a skilled and light touch when it comes to topics that are serious and weighty. The writing style engages readers and at the same time leaves room for us all to process issues addressed to the depth/degree that is individually appropriate. (discussion questions in the back of book are helpful for reflection) Wendy Dunham does a masterful job of weaving universal themes and redemptive values into good stories.

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