



Tuesday Night Miracles

Kris Radish

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In this poignant and transformative novel, bestselling author Kris Radish weaves a tale of five women yearning for change—and the potential for happiness that lies within every heart.

Free-spirited psychologist Dr. Olivia Bayer suspects she'll need a miracle to help the four wildly different women in her anger management class. Grace, a single working mother, can barely find a moment's rest. Jane, a high-profile real estate agent, is struggling in the recession. Kit, in her fifties, has had it with her taunting older brothers. And Leah, a young mother of two, is starting over after ending a troubled relationship. All have reached a crossroads, and Dr. Bayer has an unconventional plan to steer them on the right track. As the class gets taken everywhere from a bowling alley to a shooting range, the women's Tuesday meetings transform from tense, reluctant gatherings into richly rewarding experiments in female bonding. As Grace, Jane, Kit, and Leah open up—revealing secrets, swapping stories, and recovering long-lost dreams—old wounds begin to heal, new friendships are forged, and miracles manifest in the most surprising ways.

Tuesday Night Miracles Details

Date : Published (first published January 1st 2012)

ISBN :

Author : Kris Radish

Format : Kindle Edition 498 pages

Genre : Fiction, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Adult

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From Reader Review Tuesday Night Miracles for online ebook

jb Byrkit says

Kris Radish has become one of my favorite authors. She really knows women and how to write about women.

Tuesday Night Miracles is right up there with my other favorite of hers: Annie Freeman's Fabulous Traveling Funeral.

The group of women in this book have all come together for anger management. A moment when they found themselves out of control and a destroyer of common sense. The Doctor in the book who runs the class is also a woman and she is trying some experimental therapy. The Doctor also has a wonderful dog named Phyllis and Phyllis has her own story to tell (which I love the voice of the dog). The dog is so simple and really brings that home.

As the story unfolds with the lessons in how to be happy, each woman feels alone at the beginning unable to use her voice (characteristic of woman-afraid to open their own mouths and express feelings). I pulled for each woman and wanted each one to succeed. In the end there are successes and failures (which is true of anyone's life). Radish knows not everyone has a perfect ending and can allow that to happen in her writing and still make the story feel complete.

This is now one of my top favorite books....it is really full of lessons each person can use to push forward in life.

Notty says

I absolutely loved this book. From the first page I was hooked. Have now emailed my book club to tell them that it is a 'must read'. Am now going to search out her other books!

I was amazed at how insightful this author was with anger.....yes we've all had those moments that we're thankful there wasn't a knife or a gun around! Awesome, awesome book!

Jody says

I usually love Kris Radish's books. "The Elegant Gathering of White Snows" and "Dancing Naked at the Edge of Dawn" have permanent places on my bookshelf. I was so excited to find out she had a new book out, but this one was my first disappointment from this author. I had trouble connecting with the characters and felt that Radish didn't delve as deeply into the souls of the women who inhabit this story as she has done in the past. And her use of the dog's voice to give us details of Olivia's personal life did not work for me at all. Ultimately, it felt like this book was "phoned in" in order to fill a publication deadline or a contractual obligation. And that is too bad, as the subject matter is important.

Pamela Barrett says

Four women are instructed by the court to take Anger Management classes. They meet on Tuesday nights with the esteemed Dr. Olivia Bayer, who swears this will be her last group before she retires; if she retires is up in the air, because she has decided to do something different, even unorthodox, with these women and if it fails it could be the end of her long career and a worst case situation for the women.

Kris Radish has written an entertaining novel that is also thought provoking and touches something real inside all of us who dream, lose touch with our dreams, and feel overwhelmed by the struggles we face. Uncomfortable as their stories were at times, in the end I rejoiced with all the women as they discovered their own journey. 4 stars.

Deena Marie says

once I invested in the characters, I felt like I was on each journey with them. couldnt put it down...

Kathy Guilbert says

I loved the first half of this book! But had to force myself to read the second half; too long and tedious. Also the changing point of views, often several times on one page, drove me nuts. Too bad as it had such potential.

Debbie says

Glad to have been lead to this book as a book club read. New author to me, but I liked her.

I found the whole premise of this story interesting- four women, all at different stages in life and different places in life in general - all dealing with anger and brought together by Olivia. It was interesting to watch them all come to terms with what brought them to the boiling point, and figure out how to go forward. Early on I found myself really disliking Jane, but as the story goes on and you find out more, I felt myself feeling so much hope for her!

And you cannot forget the added bonus of knowing the thoughts of Phyllis, Olivia's dog. I found her very entertaining.

Not everything was completely wrapped up in a shiny bow at the end, but then I think you can't expect 100% of that in a story such as this.

Good read and I'll be looking for more from this author!

Eileen says

Great book so glad it was picked for our May reading

Carol says

Jane beats a real estate broker bloody with her stiletto heel. Kit lays into her brother with a broken wine bottle. Physically and mentally abused by her husband, Leah finally takes it out on her children. Grace uses her own car as a battering ram on her daughter's boyfriend's car, totaling both vehicles.

I can imagine that any woman - possibly any man, too - would be able to see themselves in the shoes of one of these characters. Angry and pushed to the limit. Committing crimes of passion. Each action completely understandable in the moment. Because none of them backs off at the critical moment, all of these women need a miracle.

Kris Radish's new book TUESDAY NIGHT MIRACLES tells the story of these four women who have one chance to avoid jail through a court-ordered anger management group. Their group is led by accomplished psychologist Dr. Olivia Bayer who has overcome her own anger issues. Close to retirement, Bayer uses non-traditional approaches to help her charges find themselves and each other.

The characters in this book are vivid and believable. The techniques Dr. Bayer uses are ones that any reader could use to stay in touch with herself, provide emotional outlets, and hopefully allow one to step away from the anger.

An excellent read.

Jess says

I stayed up late reading this one. It was interesting. My thoughts are still churning around a few plots that didn't get the resolution that I, the reader, wanted to see. Isn't that how life is though? We don't always get the resolutions to scenarios or interactions that we want to see. Radish left me with some happy endings and some almost happy endings that have enough glimmer of hope that I can almost convince myself to make up the happy ending.

I appreciated each woman's journey that led her to that angry episode which further led her to court ordered anger management classes. An examination of breaking points and the series of events that lead to a black out period where reason and logic cease to exist. I liked the book. However, I had to suspend some disbelief over the tidiness of how the assignments in the radical class led to resolutions of anger for some of the women. These women had years of issues built up and a few assignments (innovative though!) would not seem to be adequate enough, in my unprofessional opinion, to bring about such change so quickly. That being said, I enjoyed the premise. A good book and I hope to read more of her books.

Allison says

Did not enjoy this one. The writing and character development were so shallow. The scenes and dialogue seemed forced. The only reason I gave it more than one star was because the author did NOT end it with the perfect, predictable happy ending.

Charlotte says

<http://charlotteswebofbooks.blogspot....>

I think what I enjoyed most about this novel is that I could see pieces of myself in each of the women. For example, Kit. I could actually see my Mother in Kit. Right down to being the only daughter and sleeping by her Mother's bedside while taking care of her. But it is *ME* that would go after my uncles with a wine bottle, not my mother. LOL. None of these women, with the exception of maybe Leah, have lives not that different from yours or mine. Each of these women have daily issues in their lives that frustrate them beyond belief. Their frustrations have reached a point where the only way they know how to express themselves is through violence. Whether it be verbal or physical. Their classes, which meet every Tuesday night, help them each reflect on their lives and grow as women.

I think that as Wives and Mothers we place so much pressure on ourselves that we sometimes don't know how to release the pressure and let the frustrations go in a constructive way. I think that because of those pressures, Tuesday Night Miracles is a perfect book to generate discussion at your local book club. Please let me know what you think!

Lisaana says

Just loved this book! Four women in court-ordered anger management classes and their mature, creative and passionate therapist go on a journey of discovery. Anger doesn't protect, it isolates. Anger expressed well connects, allows for growth and change, makes possible seeing past one's own experiences and grows compassion for others' lives. The women - Leah, Kit, Jane, and Grace start out a little flat in their anger. Then Ms Radish lets these characters and their motivations, behaviors, humiliations and triumphs unfold. I found aspects of each character resonant for me. The therapist is Olivia, her dog is Phyllis, and I absolutely love the friendship between dog and therapist and the window into Phyllis's thoughts. I would read this one again!

Becky says

I am so glad our book group picked this book to read. I have never read anything by Kris Radish but I plan to in the future. For some reason I thought her books were on the humorous side, which I am not a fan of.

4 very different women each have an event happen in their lives (each their own, not one event involving all

4) & they end up having to take a court ordered anger management class, led by an earth mother type psychologist, Dr Olivia Bayer.

We learn a little about each woman & how they came to be in this group & we also learn about Dr Olivia & she learns so much from these women.

I saw a little bit of me in 3 of the 4 women.

We didn't get complete resolution with each woman, but I think if we had, the book would have ended on too tidy of a note.

Added bonus to the story- Dr Olivia's dog, Phyllis!!

Ann says

Choosing Tuesday Night Miracles, by Kris Radish, and settling in for a serious read is like taking a long, brisk walk on a crisp cold day. This novel revived me and pulled me into the lives of characters with problems many of us can relate to. There is no sedentary involvement on the reader's part. Not since How To Make An American Quilt by Whitney Otto have I been so interested in a group of women and their stories.

Dr. Olivia Bayer is a therapist closing in on retirement without truly taking a risk in her profession. With secrets of her own, she steps out in her free-spirited way and takes the lives of four women into her hands. This is a novel about anger. And we all know that there is a fine line between anger and bad choices. All of Radish's characters have crossed this line.

Jane is young, beautiful, trendy, and washed up as a one of the top real estate sales professionals in Chicago. Her career along with many others in her field became nonexistent due to the economy. She is the wife to an engineer. And the fact that her husband is still following a successful path causes her more than just a little angst and envy. Because she has allowed her life to be defined by both her mother's unrealistic standards and perfectionist traits, she has no substance, no depth. She holds people at arm's length. Her friends have fallen to the side. Jane no longer understands how to be in any kind of relationship if she ever did. One morning, as she gets ready to close the deal that will save her career, she directs years of pent up self-loathing at an unsuspecting victim.

Kit, in her fifties, takes care of her dying mother, and then one night she snaps in a fit of overwhelming anger. She comes from a traditional Italian family, where the men are the bosses. This has stripped the women in her family of a voice. Kit's husband works double shifts and is never home. Her grown daughter has fled the family and never calls. Once in her life she had friends, a good job, and some happiness. She's forgotten what her dreams were. Now there is only a void.

Grace is a nurse and a single mother of two daughters. One is a rebellious teenager and the other is a college student who has revealed a life Grace can only push out of her thoughts. Somehow she has lost herself in caring for others. So much so that she no longer knows what she truly wants. Her parents so disapproved of her divorce, Grace had to raise her girls with no family support. She weighs all her decisions and choices on an internal voice that belongs to her mother, who is nothing but critical. In a fit of rage she strikes out.

Leah is a young mother of two, who finds herself beginning life again from scratch in a homeless shelter with her two children. Her fear is overwhelming. The simplest pleasures, most of us take for granted, are luxuries for Leah. Her dream is to give her children a sandbox. A sandbox. While under pressure, she loses control and wonders if she can ever forgive herself.

These women and their anger brings them in front of Dr. Olivia Bayer, whose unconventional treatment comes under question.

"Getting there is not going to be a walk in the park. This is the moment when Olivia absolutely has to stop doubting herself. Even as she wants to take Leah home and feed her warm soup, make Jane walk out the door barefoot, tell Grace, who should know better, to dig deep, and remind Kit that the journey is often much more important than the destination, she must let them all figure it out by themselves."

Instead of traditional anger management meetings, these women are met with assignments that defy all reason. They carry these out with much grumbling. This exploration brings all the women to the ultimate choice: should they change and move forward or remain in the past?

I fell in love with the author's intricately layered characters and storytelling. Her ability to capture problems so prevalent in women's lives today is uncanny. This book is so much more than just another story about women's issues. The readers will go on a journey and discover a lot about themselves in the process. Miracles still manifest in the most outstanding ways.
