



Where Mercy Flows

Karen Harter

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In this poignant first novel, a woman returns to the home of her estranged, domineering father to face family secrets of the past--and present.

Where Mercy Flows Details

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Author : Karen Harter

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From Reader Review Where Mercy Flows for online ebook

Robin says

Though this is probably a very good work of fiction for an author's first book, I felt that the characters were flat. I did not "get to know" the protagonist's father(Judge Dodd) and could not understand why she felt the disconnect in their relationship- which is what the book's plot is based on. The little flashbacks of evidence provided are very quick and not thoroughly examined so that the reader can understand this hatred or distrust of her father figure. I think the author could have done a better job to explain that strife or make it more believable. The metaphors in the book are cliché and the ending is cheesy, but I suppose that is expected from christian fiction.

Ann says

one of the best, easy ways to relate to the Prodigal Son messages in the Bible, only this time in a fictional modern day story, very touching. this would make a great movie.

Tabatha Shipley says

This is a remarkable first novel by a woman who writes like the poet she began as. This novel reads like a work of non-fiction; the characters were so real to me. I must admit the ending wasn't as shocking as it may have been to some people, I had it figured out quite a bit sooner than I like. That being said, the detail Ms. Harter wove into that ending was a work of art. I found myself rooting for Samantha to succeed through this entire book. I highly recommend this book for it's realism, which earned it 4 stars from this amateur reviewer.

Pam Engman says

Great book! I loved how real the characters were. Choices result in consequences and she did a great job in helping the reader feel a part of understanding the characters. Definately hard to put it down. I was hooked the entire way. I laughed and cried. A definate good read

Annie Myers says

This book started out kind of weak in my opinion, but got better as it went along. I have to say, the ending blew me away. I had kind of figured out what was going to happen, although right up until it did, I was vascillating between two possibilities. But I didn't "get" the metaphor, if that's the right word, until the very end. It was one of those books that I found kind of slow going, but the ending made it worth sticking with.

Alyn says

Samantha Dodd left home when she was 17 to elope with her high school sweetheart. Somehow things did not work out and she is with a 5-year old boy, penniless, sick, making ends meet.

At first I think Sam's character was so pathetic, her knowing she was adopted, her father 'disowning' her, her husband abandoning her the day she gave birth to her son, her contracting a debilitating disease.

But I love the emotional way Harter wrote this book. It really is good, very heart warming, made me shed a few tears. Hard to think that this is the author's first book

Glenda L says

This is one of the best books I have read ... beautifully written. It is all about redemption and forgiveness. I recently read Autumn Blue and had to find another book by this author. Both books are equally as good. Now I read that Karen Harter had pancreatic cancer and has since died. But she will live on forever with these two books. If you haven't read them, please do ... you will really have a treat. I am so glad I found them.

Beth Peninger says

I picked this book up from the library shelf on a whim. I am sure glad I did! What a great story. The author did a superb job in telling a story within a story. You'll have to read it to know what I'm saying. Samantha returns to the home of her childhood after a lengthy stay away which produced a broken marriage and a son. She comes back out of desperation, is fearful of her welcome - or lack of it, and finds her family again. Karen Harter weaves the story together with grace, redemption, love, and forgiveness. In the end Samantha finds salvation in more ways than one.

Lynette says

A book about a woman who has made bad choices in life, disappointing her father. But in the end, a father's love for his daughter is all that matters.

Deb says

Samantha is ill, broke, and alone except for her five year old son. Unable to work because of her illness, she feels she has no choice but to return to the home she ran away from years ago. She hates having to face her father, who she calls "the Judge" after his occupation, because she feels like she can never measure up to his expectations of her. Samantha finds that being back home is good for her however, and she also gets

reacquainted with her mother, sister, and some old childhood friends. But will she ever find the acceptance she wants from her father? [return] This book focuses on Samantha's inner life and her struggle to survive and to find acceptance, though there is a mystery concerning the judge that lurks in the background. This is a good book for when you want to savor a slower paced story that will get you into someone's life and struggles.

BookDigger says

I really liked this novel. Definitely brought tears to my eyes at the end. Wonderful ending. Absolutely wonderful. This novel isn't as good as *Autumn Blue* by her, but it definitely was a great read. Enlightening, inspirational...

Mark Souza says

My wife brought this book home from a writer's conference and gushed about it. I read it afterward and was blown away. It's an incredibly well written and captivating story of redemption and forgiveness. Samantha Dodd is returning home to her parent's home with her illegitimate son, all their possessions packed in their car like vagabonds because she has no choice. She's dying. She has only a short time to mend fences with her stern, disapproving father, a retired judge.

It's hard to believe it was the author's first effort. My wife had become friends with the author, Karen Harter. Karen was suffering from pancreatic cancer at the time. I had heard she was researching her next novel at a university in Ellensburg Washington and was a fly fisher, as am I. Ellensburg is near one of my favorite streams, so I extended an offer to take her fishing. She was a truly delightful person, trusting and giving and full of exuberance. The sun was shining that day and it was unseasonably warm. The leaves on the trees glowed as if aflame. We talked writing. We talked about life. We talked about the underlying themes of her book. And we laughed. That was Karen's last fishing trip. She died a few months later. Sometimes life too closely mirrors art, or is it the other way around? She left behind a brilliant book and memories I'll always treasure.

Trust me on this, I would have loved this book even if I'd never met Karen. It's a great read I highly recommend.

Sharon Huether says

Where Mercy Flows by Karen Harter. The author painted a scene in words at the beginning of the book to guide the reader to this heartfelt story. It could almost be true. The story deals with love, forgiveness from family and self forgiveness. It is a faith based book and gives many examples of Christ's love for us. It was truly a wonderful book.

Carol says

enjoyed the book even though I cried. shows how much love a family can have.

Jane says

This book was well written by Karen Harter. She has written it in such a way that you form a prediction about what you think will happen, but something changes and it's not what you thought. You are able to "become" Samantha and really feel her emotional roller coaster ride. Keep a box of tissues handy, especially for the end. Very good book.
