



Sundae Girl

Cathy Cassidy

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Jude's family are crazy, quirky, bizarre . . . her mum brings her nothing but trouble and her dad thinks he's Elvis! All she wants is a hassle-free life – but it's not easy when she's chasing a trail of broken promises. Things go from bad to worse, but could the floppy-haired boy from school be her knight on shining rollerblades . . . ?

Sundae Girl Details

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Author : Cathy Cassidy

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From Reader Review Sundae Girl for online ebook

Maddie says

I loved this book. I love Cathy Cassidy. I think she really knows about what our teenage lives are like! The story is about a young girl called Jude, whose family is not the most normal of families! Her dad and his girlfriend are obsessed with Elvis Presley and Doing 60's/70's Tribute Shows. Her Grandmother has Alzheimers and her Grandfather is constantly looking after her. And then her Mother is an Alcoholic. She has dog called Toto, because of the fact her Mother loves the film 'The Wizard of Oz'. Jude is then liked by a boy called Justin Carter at her school, who follows her around and won't leave her alone.

Her Mother starts drinking and smoking again, and when Jude thinks that nothing can get worse, Kristina Kowalski starts on her case. When her Father's wedding comes up and her Mum takes her to the other side of Scotland, Jude cannot get through to her Grandfather back at home, no matter how many phone calls she makes. She remembers Carter and calls him. He races around back at home, making visits back and forth between Jude's Mum's Boyfriend, Giovanni, and Jude's Grandparents taking messages. Jude soon finds out, with the help of Carter that her Grandmother has had a stroke, and Giovanni comes to pick them up from Scotland in his Ice Cream van.

Sadly, Jude's Grandmother dies in the end, but on a happier note, her mother does start to go to AA meetings and gets her Drinking problem sorted out in the end. She ends up marrying Giovanni in Italy.

I thought this book was brilliant! I think Cathy really tells it as if she is Jude herself, and gives a lot of detail! Infact, I'm going to read this book again tonight!

:)

Charlotte says

This is the last Cathy Cassidy book that I own and haven't read, so I have officially finished them all.

This book is about Jude who is 13 and lives with her Mum who is a struggling alcoholic. her Grandad and Gran who has Alzheimer's. Jude also has a Dad who is a Elvis impersonator so Jude feels that her family is crazy and just wants to have a normal family.

Throughout the book a boy called Carter is trying to get her attention and Jude doesn't want Carter to find out about her crazy family so keeps pushing him away, but he's very persistent.

Cathy Cassidy books remind me of Jacqueline Wilson's books as they cover more serious topics but write them in a child friendly way, but without glossing over anything.

Jude struggles when her Mum starts drinking again and tries to forget and believe her Mum when she says she hasn't got a problem or that she'll change and won't drink, but her Mum keeps lying saying that she's given up the drink and then Jude finds out that her Mum is still drinking.

I found Jude's mum quite hard to like as she did some really terrible things and said some horrible things to her family.

This book is recommended for children aged 9+

Faye says

Jude is a shy girl that has a messed up life, in her point of view. Jude's dad thinks he's Elvis (he is an Elvis impersonator), her Gran has an illness where she forgets things all the time, and Jude's mum is getting seriously close to drinking herself to death. All she wants is a hassle-free life, and Jude is about to discover

that she already has all she needs, thanks to a floppy blonde-haired boy called Kevin Carter...

I really like this book. It's full of possibilities, problems, and things you don't realise that you have. I love reading about Jude, Carter, Mum, and all the other characters in the story, and I hope you enjoy it as much as I have!

Although I loved this book and reading about the characters, I have one complaint. It isn't generally about this book, but more or less ALL of Cathy Cassidy's books:

When a character is feeling uncomfortable or upset or angry, Cathy ALWAYS uses the phrase "My sticks in my throat". I wasn't going to complain about this, but when I read this book and it had the same phrase AGAIN, it had come to a point when I need to complain. I, personally, think that it's okay if you use a phrase a few times, but not so many times. "New book, new phrase." That's what I say.

I recommend this book to children the age of 7/8+, and the age group Year 3+ (if you are a year 3 and love to read and know a lot of difficult words!).

I loved how Cathy Cassidy wove words into sentences and how the sentences were describing and how they formed the story together. I think that Cathy Cassidy has amazing ideas of stories to write, and I'm excited to read more of her books already! I think that Cathy's books are very interesting. Well, there is one that I didn't find so enjoyable, but I definitely think that this one is!

Keep reading, daydreaming, and never stop believing!

Faye xx

erica says

this one was less a favorite of mine. I felt Jude's embarrassment and reluctance, but I really wanted her to have a friend to trust enough to confide in. and the other characters didn't seem as strong to me. I also wanted her dad to be more involved. but it's true enough that families deny the problem and for that it was realistic. again, information regarding where to go for help at the end of the book would have been appropriate.

*ILL read

Meteora.Books says

C'est encore une réussite pour moi ! L'autrice sait vraiment aborder de manière habile des thèmes importants et très actuels (alcoolisme, handicap, regard des autres, maladie d'Alzheimer...) dont il faut que les ados entendent parler. Elle le fait avec délicatesse et douceur mais sans détour. J'ai trouvé Jude très forte face à ce qu'elle vit et à aucun moment elle n'est dans le déni. Ce qui est à la fois appréciable mais dur en même temps car la situation n'est pas facile...

C'est un des Cathy Cassidy les plus tristes que j'ai lus, ne vous attendez pas à un récit léger! Mais pour autant, j'ai trouvé l'histoire touchante et émouvante et je l'ai terminée avec un sourire aux lèvres jusqu'aux oreilles!

Bonnie says

childhood

Brenda says

amazing

Anne says

This is a fun, fun book. It gives a young adult hope when everything in her life seems to be failing. My only complaint is that no adult ever called the mom on her alcoholism. Mom's alcoholic behavior and the forgiving and understanding nature from all around her got to be old. It seems tough love was in order. But.....maybe....just maybe....a student reading this needs the message of hope more than the message of tough love.

Maddie says

Cute re-read of my preteen favourite book!

Maureen says

Que dire... Je découvre la plume de Cathy Cassidy avec ce roman et le moins que l'on puisse dire c'est qu'il est poignant.
Cette couverture cache un sujet assez difficile pour une ado de 13 ans qui doit gérer des problèmes d'adultes. J'ai ris à certaines répliques et j'ai versé ma petite larmes à certains passages.
Je le conseille vivement.

Louise says

This book was ok but to be honest I am probably a bit old for it however it still didn't wow me much. It was different to others I have read but I found the mother a bit annoying as she just didn't sort her self out. Because I am a bit old for this book I am not going to say whether I would recommend it or not, I will let the younger readers do that.

Aisha says

I really loved this book and the spark between her and floppy haired boy Kevin Carter was my favorite . A

very sensible family emotional book . Jude is a shy girl who thinks she has the most embarrassing family ever ,her dad is an Elvis with his girlfriend Victoria , her mom is a serious alcoholic who drinks way too much and is quite moody who treats her family and boyfriend horribly , her grandmother who was the ribbon of this family has Alzheimer and her grandfather is supporting her but doesn't react much all she wants is to be normal .

From all this tangled life comes Kevin Carter who keeps trying to make Jude his one by letters , cute treats squeeeeee !! She then has to attend her fathers wedding but her mom comes along and chaos comes she burns Victoria's veil and abuses dad but then after her grandmother dies , her mom joins a mending group her life is getting repaired and you guessed she and Kevin Carter has a beautiful romance between them . Well I would like more of Kevin and her but however her book was marvelous

Ajla says

3.5 stars

Victoria Scott says

If you're looking for a light, happy read, this is it. It took me a day to read, and that's not all in one go. You know, procrastinating on the internet, going out and meaning to buy clothes, etc etc. Despite it being short, I adored it.

Let's start with Carter. Because holy moly I LOVE CARTER! He is the absolute cutest kid I've ever laid eyes on. If I was 13, I would want him to take me on dates. As it is, I'm happy with being his best friend. And shipping him and Jude like mad. Here, let me convince you of his adorableness. Valentine's Day. Carter has been crushing (very noticeably) on Jude for a while now, so we expect him to do something. And what does he do, you ask? He sneaks little lollies, Candy Conversation Hearts for Valentine's Day with messages on them - kiss me, hug me, I love u - into her books, and bag, and locker, and even her boots after sport. I mean, what more could you possibly ask for? I loved how he refused to give up, no matter how many times Jude refused him. He was by far the best bit of this book. Although, I would've liked a little more detail about those two. He just liked her, and that was that. He seemed like the kind of guy that gets bored easily (roller-skates and BMXing, for example). What made her the exception?

While we had the light-hearted Carter, it wasn't all fun and girly. Jude's Mum was the centre of the plot. She was, although she wouldn't admit it, an alcoholic. She denied it furiously, and even her parents liked to pretend it wasn't happening. But it was. She made scenes, she embarrassed Jude, she treated her parents and her boyfriend horribly. But she was what made the book more real. She gave a reason for all the other plot bits that wouldn't have made sense. Plus, she made me like Jude, because I felt so sorry for her. I could go on about this, but I really don't want to ruin it for you. Because you are going to read it, right?

The only thing I'd change is the length. It was meant to be a short, sweet book. But I really wanted more detail. I wanted to know if their happy ever after really lasted. I wanted to know what Giovanni (the Mum's boyfriend) did in his spare time, and how they met, and all those sorts of things. I wanted to know more about the grandparents. Really, I wanted more depth. However, that's not to say it wasn't still amazing! A perfect book to get out of a reading slump, or when you just don't want to think.

Anne-Lise says

Coup de cœur
