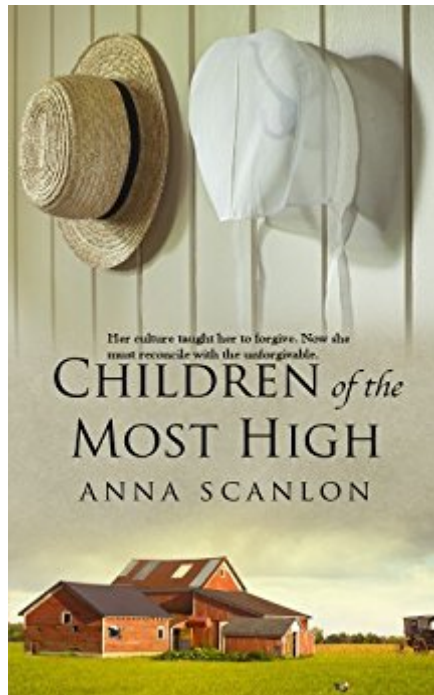


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Children Of The Most High: Book One



Synopsis

Sixteen-year-old Rebecca Graber has lived in the safety of her close-knit conservative Amish community her entire life. She has been dating Zeke Stolfus, the Bishop's son, since her first singing and anticipates the day when the two will marry. Rebecca's life changes overnight when Zeke, the boy she loves and trusts, forcibly takes her virginity. Taught to "turn the other cheek" like Jesus would have done, Rebecca's religion requires her to forgive Zeke and put the rape in the past. Family relationships and community ties are put to the test in the wake of Rebecca's trauma. Feeling abandoned by her religion's minimization of the assault, she embarks on a journey where she discovers the answers in the most unlikely of places. This powerful novel examines what forgiveness truly means.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have read a lot of amish fiction, but none like this one! Omg..I found myself talking back to the

book...shaking my head, getting mad, sad and other emotions. I can't wait to read the sequel!

This is an eye opening story from an unexpected point of view. While a little slow in areas it is still a good story and I look forward to reading how she comes to terms with herself and whether forgiveness or "justice" occurs.

A confusing story, enjoyed the chactures. The vending of the book left me hanging. Don't think I will try another book by Anna Scanlon. This one didn't meet my expectations! Sorry Anna try again....

I enjoyed the book. Many twist and turns not expected. I loved the ending. Would like to see second book that included more about his mother and father.

Great book, just in the end was like a cliff hanger. I hope a continuation is in the works, yeah book 2 please.

I have never given a book this low a score before. She had an idea for a good story line but failed greatly to know much about the Amish life, traditions, or faith. Research better would be my first recommendation and next - lost me with her ending. There were unnecessary fillers that dragged out the story before getting on with the story line. I am wondering if the author had any feed back from the editors or readers before it was published. It had great potential.

It is my opinion that the author appears to be unaware of Amish traditions and rules and t story is hindered by this. Story is bogged down by the problem of the protagonist without moving the plot forward.

Children of the Most High is an unforgettable book. I absolutely devoured it: Rebecca's story drew me in from page one and I couldn't put this book down. The premise of Children of the Most High is devastating---the book starts out with Rebecca's rape---yet so compelling. I had to know if Rebecca would overcome her circumstances, and if her attacker/boyfriend, Zeke, would be brought to justice. Despite the crux of the book being the aftermath of Rebecca's rape and its impact on her family, and the Amish community at large, Children of the Most High is a book about forgiveness. Rebecca's innocence is taken, and her picturesque view of her future is shattered the night Zeke rapes her. For years, Rebecca has planned out she and Zeke's future, and is content to live her life

among her close-knit community of Plain People. She never questions those in authority or envisions another type of life for herself. Her only breach of her community's strict rules is her secret love of reading. Rebecca hides her library books (she's not even allowed to get a library card!) and loves to escape into other worlds, as well as learn as much as she can (she had to stop school after 8th grade per her church's rules for girls). So the fact that Rebecca starts a journey to discover herself, and how to learn to forgive Zeke, is huge, and so completely foreign to her family and the her Amish community. I loved Rebecca's spirit, and how she grows throughout the story. It was inspiring to see Rebecca get stronger as the story progressed. The way Rebecca valiantly tries to reconcile the Amish way of turning the other cheek and leaving justice to God, with her feelings of anger, hatred, and betrayal was the essence of her personal journey. I was so invested in Rebecca's story, and longed for her to triumph over her situation. As in *Unravelled*, Scanlon's previous book (which was also fantastic; read my review here), *Children of the Most High* is written with comfortable assurance. I can tell that Scanlon researched the Amish and their way of life to the point where she most likely became an expert on them. I greatly admire a well-researched book, especially fiction, because it shows the author's dedication to writing a great story. *Children of the Most High* has a slightly open ending. I finished the book with one question, that was really more of a suspicion, but I would have liked to have it confirmed. There's something to be said, though, for authors who have the confidence to leave their endings slightly open. It shows moxie, and leaves the reader thinking about the book long after it's over (at least for me it does). In the end, I couldn't stand not knowing, so I emailed Anna Scanlon to ask my question. She replied and gave me great news: there will be a sequel to this book. Yay! I can't wait to read more of Rebecca's story! I highly recommend this powerful, moving book. I can't wait to read more from Anna Scanlon!

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