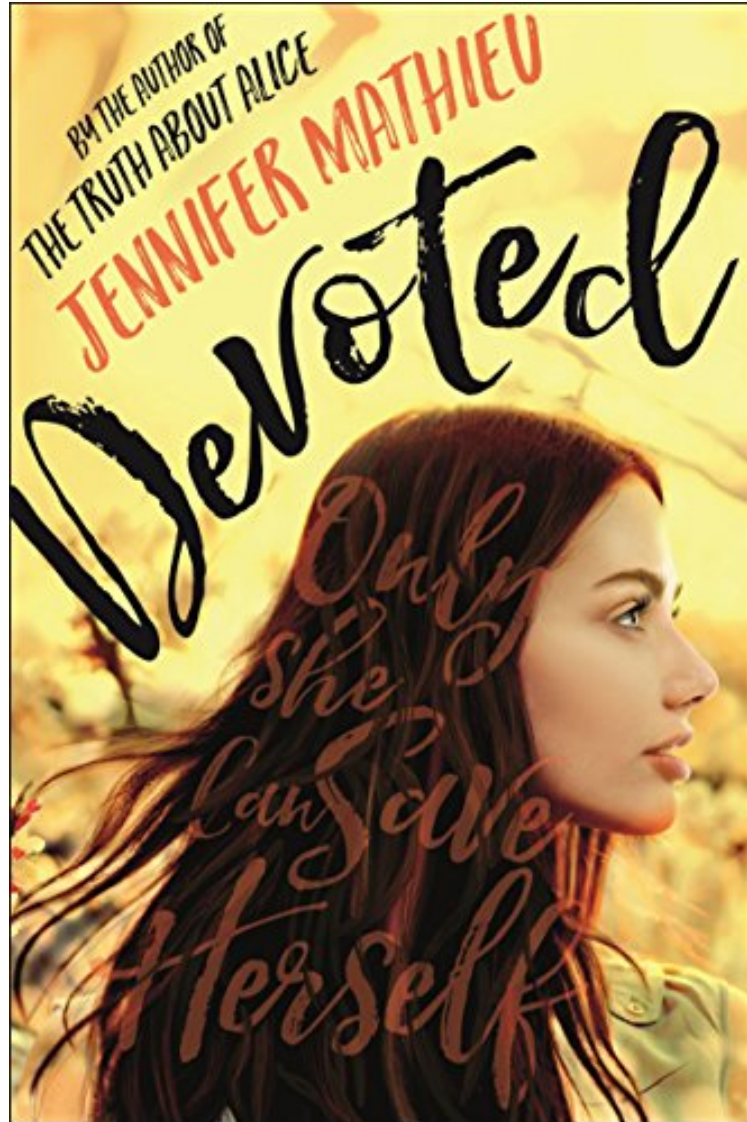


(Mobile book) Devoted: A Novel

Devoted: A Novel

Von Jennifer Mathieu

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Von Jennifer Mathieu : Devoted: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Devoted: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Amazing bookVon AnnalenaI should preface this review by saying that I usually don't use .com because I don't live in the US, so that's the reason there are no other reviews from me. Because this book wasn't published in my Native language, I read it in English and am writing the review here because I think more people will see it this way.I should also say I am oddly obsessed with Christian cults in general and Quiverfull in particular, so any (hopefully

constructive) criticism is criticism on a very high level - it's just tiny aspects. Devoted is one of the best books I have recently read. I usually almost exclusively read thrillers, so coming from me, that means something. Jennifer Mathieu did an amazing job of grasping the concept of the Quiverfull reality (as far as I can judge as an outsider), and the strict rules that these kids (mostly girls) grow up with. I usually do not like coming-of-age stories, but I finished this within two days. It was not a thriller, but it kept the suspense up because I wanted to know what happens to Rachel. It is more of a character study, but because everything that happens to Rachel is so new and foreign to her, it is exciting all the time because the reader feels with her. I also really liked both the main characters of Lauren and Rachel. I would LOVE to read a sequel, knowing what happens to Rachel after she starts her own life (can't say more than that without spoilers). Maybe her sister also starts questioning the parental values? That would make for a good story line, I think. OK, the following could contain spoilers! Now for my very few critical aspects: - It, to me, seems unlikely that a girl who hasn't really questioned her life too much just runs away at the prospect of going to "Journey to Faith". In these communities, these camps are sold as "time to focus and pray". The negative view mainly comes from (worldlier) outsiders. It seems more likely to me that she would go and the tension between her and her parents would build up over time, erupting in her leaving. Then again, that would have made for a much longer book, maybe that had to be sacrificed for the sake of the novel length. - Calvary seems to be used often as an example for a fundamentalist church in books and movies. I have only ever been to one Calvary, but it was fairly mainstream. Women wore pants, shorts even; people had tattoos. Maybe Calvary is not the best example. Also, the extreme fundamentalists often home-school (control about everything!). - It is mentioned that one of Rachel's friends went to public kindergarten. Fundamentalists who home-school usually don't send their kids to public kindergartens/pre-schools either. Again, all this I only realized because I know a lot about this topic. Any other reader probably doesn't even notice. Thank you, Jennifer Mathieu, for writing this amazing book about one of my favorite topics, and please don't leave us hanging and write a sequel!

Kurzbeschreibung Rachel Walker is devoted to God. She prays every day, attends Calvary Christian Church with her family, helps care for her five younger siblings, dresses modestly, and prepares herself to be a wife and mother who serves the Lord with joy. But Rachel is curious about the world her family has turned away from, and increasingly finds that neither the church nor her homeschool education has the answers she craves. Rachel has always found solace in her beliefs, but now she can't shake the feeling that her devotion might destroy her soul. Pressestimmen This thoughtful, character-driven study of one girl's struggle to reconcile her strict, conservative Christian upbringing with the modern secular world is an exceptionally nuanced treatment of religious choice. "Booklist, starred review" An engaging, illuminating, but never sensationalized portrayal of one plucky teen's self-discovery and pulling away from a controlling, restrictive (and real) religious movement. "Kirkus s" This exploration of life within and removed from a fundamentalist community makes for riveting reading, all the more poignant for the sympathetic characters in both worlds. "Publisher's Weekly" Devoted chronicles that calling to pursue one's heart's desire, a feeling that most teens will connect with and understand. "School Library Journal" "This thoughtful, character-driven study of one girl's struggle to reconcile her strict, conservative Christian upbringing with the modern secular world is an exceptionally nuanced treatment of religious choice. Booklist, starred review An engaging, illuminating, but never sensationalized portrayal of one plucky teen's self-discovery and pulling away from a controlling, restrictive (and real) religious movement. Kirkus s This exploration of life within and removed from a fundamentalist community makes for riveting reading, all the more poignant for the sympathetic characters in both worlds. Publisher's Weekly Devoted chronicles that calling to pursue one's heart's desire, a feeling that most teens will connect with and understand. School Library Journal" "This thoughtful, character-driven study of one girl's struggle to reconcile her strict, conservative Christian upbringing with the modern secular world is an exceptionally nuanced treatment of religious choice." -- Booklist, starred review "An engaging, illuminating, but never sensationalized portrayal of one plucky teen's self-discovery and pulling away from a controlling, restrictive (and real) religious movement." --Kirkus s "This exploration of life within and removed from a fundamentalist community makes for riveting reading, all the more poignant for the sympathetic characters in both worlds." --Publisher's Weekly "Devoted chronicles that calling to pursue one's heart's desire, a feeling that most teens will connect with and understand." --School Library Journal Werbetext From the author of Zoella's Book Club pick, MOXIE, come a feminist coming-of-age story about self-discovery and taking life into your own hands ...