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Lit : A Memoir (P.S. Book 3)



Synopsis

Mary Karr's bestselling, unforgettable sequel to her beloved memoirs *The Liars Club* and *Cherry* and one of the most critically acclaimed books of the year. Lit is about getting drunk and getting sober; becoming a mother by letting go of a mother; learning to write by learning to live. The Boston Globe calls Lit a book that "reminds us not only how compelling personal stories can be, but how, in the hands of a master, they can transmute into the highest art." The New York Times Book Review calls it "a master class on the art of the memoir" in its Top 10 Books of 2009 Citation. Michiko Kakutani calls it "a book that lassos you, hogties your emotions and won't let you go" in her New York Times review. And Susan Cheever states, simply, that Lit is "the best book about being a woman in America I have read in years." In addition to the New York Times, Lit was named a Best Book of 2009 by the New Yorker (Reviewer Favorite), Entertainment Weekly (Top 10), Time (Top 10), the Washington Post, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Chicago Tribune, the Christian Science Monitor, Slate, the St. Louis Post Dispatch, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, and the Seattle Times.

Book Information

File Size: 1765 KB

Print Length: 404 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0060596988

Publisher: HarperCollins e-books; Reprint edition (October 14, 2009)

Publication Date: November 3, 2009

Language: English

ASIN: B002SVQCW4

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #84,629 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #60

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Customer Reviews

I wish I could give "Lit" more stars - this is a truly heroic memoir. Her experience with alcohol addiction and depression raised the hair on the back of my neck. May her redemption, like her addiction, continue ODAT. While this book can be read independent of her two previous memoirs, the backstory provides an added depth that is only hinted at in "Lit". I highly recommended reading Karr's remarkable collection as a whole - and allow some breathing space between volumes.

I read and enjoyed her previous two autobiographies. Like many of us, she was damaged in childhood and became an alcoholic. What I did not expect was far more than a twelve step yarn, with the usual redemption and ever after happy sobriety. She grappled with Christianity and faith. Deep waters, indeed. She was very unlikable in early recovery but she never stopped growing. A powerful and inspiring book

I hate to give bad reviews on books, but this one I had to. Perhaps it was me, but I found this book to be confusing to say the least. Other people may be more insightful and are capable of understanding this book. I did not, sadly, I struggled with her style of writing. But this was just my review, you may read it and grasp a better understanding than I did.

This was a great read during a dark time in my life - she's witty and damn funny. It illuminates childhood trauma/addiction link and also her conversion to the Catholic faith..which ultimately helped her to go on with life without alcohol. All her books are laugh out louds and you will recognize the alcoholic or drug addict in your family in Mary Karr's writing.

I have read several of her memoir genre books and I have not been disappointed in any of them.

I've just finished reading "Lit" by Mary Karr for the second time. "Lit" is her third memoir. She has also written "The Liar's Club", which chronicles her scary childhood, and "Cherry", which covers her adolescent years. "Lit" is about her failed marriage and her descent into alcoholism, followed by a depressing sobriety that lands her in a mental ward. Finally, she recovers and begins a slow spiritual awakening followed by success in her career. The thread running through all three of Karr's books is her less than perfect mother who had a psychotic break during Karr's childhood. Karr is

first and foremost a poet and her prose is lyrical and witty. She must be the long lost offspring of Sylvia Plath and Frank McCourt. She can turn the most horrendous subject matter into a laughable tale, so much so that she had me laughing out loud several times. Mary Karr has turned her dark life into a beautiful work of art, and I find it inspiring and awesome. She has amazing insight into human nature and Lit has to be one of the best memoirs ever written about overcoming personal demons. David Allan Reeves Author of "Running Away From Me"

Only okay. Didn't even read the last couple of chapters. Self-indulgent and tedious.

If you aren't aware of your own demons or easily throw stones at the weaknesses you see in others, then this book will just seem like another "poor me and the family I rode in on" story. If you're willing to risk a look in the mirror, and possibly feel understood along the way, then this book will pick you up, throw you down, and leave you feeling redeemed. Superbly written. Deep. Spiritual. Lovingly tender. Highly recommended.

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