



## On a Whim

*Robin Jones Gunn*

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## **On a Whim** Robin Jones Gunn

Ever since high school, Katie Weldon has wondered what it would be like to be Rick Doyle's girlfriend. As a college senior she's about to find out.

In the swirl of Katie's upgraded dating life, she receives an unexplained bouquet, an unexpected call from her mother, an unprecedented girls' night out with Christy, and an unhappy moment when her beloved car, Baby Hummer, takes its last wheeze. Rick's new roommate, Eli, complicates things by inviting Katie on a midnight jaunt to see a meteor shower. Under a canopy of stars Katie grasps a new view of the universe---out there as well as up close. As if she had nothing else to do, on a whim, she singlehandedly starts a fund-raising campaign for clean water for Africa.

With Rick caught up in making plans for the future, how will Katie navigate her way through the remainder of her college career with no money, no transportation, no spare time and no idea what God is up to?

On a Whim is the second book in the Katie Weldon Series.

## **On a Whim Details**

Date : Published December 30th 2008 by Zondervan (first published January 1st 2008)

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Author : Robin Jones Gunn

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## From Reader Review On a Whim for online ebook

### Jerry says

#### A Quickie Review

Continuing the seemingly never-ending life and times of Christy Miller, Katie Weldon, and friends, this book features Katie continuing to deal with the stresses of everything from her relationship with Rick Doyle, to her car breaking down, to her strained interactions with her mother. Anyone who has enjoyed the books leading up to this one should find plenty to love about it. It also makes a good point: Even when interactions with the opposite gender seemingly stay friendly, they can lead to problems! (Katie definitely learns that lesson here.)

Score: 4/5

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### Krystal says

As I said, I love these books! My only complaint is that since the series started, the characters have only aged 7 years and I have aged 21! What's up with that?!?

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### Anna says

Never fails, finishing one of Robin Gunn's novels you can't help but feel inspired and awed. I loved this second Katie Weldon book. Katie is a firecracker! She makes the book fun and exciting. It's a roller coaster ride with her as the protagonist.

Half way in the book there was a moment where Katie is meeting up with her best friend, Christy Spencer (*I still can't get over that name change though*) for lunch, the two have a heart-to-heart moment and talk about their past years and all the major events that have led up to their lives now. It made me tear up. Thinking back to all the precious God things I have witnessed. Part of why I recognized those things is because of Christy, Katie, and the many other wonderful characters that Robin Gunn created.

I can't wait to read more!

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### Kerith says

I recommend reading the whole Christy series before diving into this and its predecessor PECULIAR TREASURES. The characters are very developed and one might feel lost. I've found these new Katie stories to be overly thoughtful with little actually happening. Lots of episodic discussions. Plus her relationship with Rick is just not believable -- in this book it seems Gunn is setting the scene for a breakup anyway. There's the new guy for Katie, and the new girl for Rick. It was so obvious.

The books have also gotten more and more "romantic" to be the point I can barely take it. But I still love the characters and find I must read anything that comes out about them.

### **Laura says**

I like seeing things from Katie's perspective after reading a whole series from the view point of her best friend Christy. Katie is spunky and somehow manages to get herself into a bunch of crazy situations and strange encounters. I enjoyed seeing how she got out of her messes and who she met along the way. There were a couple of characters in this book that I was a little confused as to why they were hanging around, but I figured since there was still another book there was plenty of time for the author to explain later. I'm not really sure how I feel about Katie's relationship at this point...the third book will hopefully set everything right. I would recommend this book.

\*Taken from my book reviews blog: <http://reviewsatmse.blogspot.com/2009...>

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### **Kaylee Buchanan says**

I never write reviews, but I couldn't help with this one. The Katie Weldon Series is the perfect continuation of the whole Christy Miller Series. As much as I loved Christy, Sierra, and College Years, I have to admit the writing was not superb. It's evident in the Katie Weldon Series just how much Robin Jones Gunn grew as a writer in the time she took away from these characters. Yes, it still has lovey-dovey parts, but it is not super cheesy like the other ones tended to be at times. The characters are better and even new characters like Eli feel as complex and developed as characters like Katie and Christy whom we've known for years. I loved both the first two books and I can't wait to read the next two.

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### **Lena Morrison says**

I do my reviews in the form of a letter, which is why they are written like this.

Dear Robin Jones Gunn,

Again, this book gets a 4.5. Maybe a 4.6...

This book was really good! I really like reading about Katie. She is such a good character. I love how she's honest and speaks her mind. She finally realizes that she loves Rick in this book. It's sad that she tells him but he doesn't tell her. But at least he FINALLY kisses her!!

Some of my old dislike of Rick comes back in this book. He's just so materialistic and kind of snobby. Not to mention, he flirts a little with Nicole. She gets along really well with him. They are both very "refined" people. Josh is kind of a jerk, though.

Eli is amazing. He is really chill and kind and has a heart for others. I think he and Katie belong together. She would make such a good missionary woman.

The plot was also good. Katie goes through a lot of ups and downs, and she has great friends to help her through. She also learns to trust God more in this book.

Thank you for writing this book!

Sincerely,  
Lena Marie

### **Rachel says**

Katie Weldon-athletic, competitive, spunky redhead-is also good friends with Christy Miller and Sierra Jensen, both of whom are title characters in two other series although many of the stories involve all three friends. Because this series begins when Katie is a senior at college and deals with more complex issues, I think it's better suited to high school seniors and older. At any rate, I really liked the novel and how Katie discovers that she is harboring unforgiveness and pain in her heart; her spiritual growth in the novel is intense, and I felt empathy for her as a character. This is a well-written and fun novel.

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### **Maggie says**

One of my all-time favorites. It was good to read it again. I had forgotten how it ended. Katie went through some things that most college students go through. I appreciate the mostly realistic life problems and responses she has. Although, I don't know too many college students who suddenly receive a large inheritance from a great aunt they've never met. But it makes for a good plot twist.

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### **Ashley Carmichael says**

Having been invested in this character for so long I really want to see more from her than the same old same old complaints. And by the end of the book if Katie had asked to DTR or for an I love you one more time I thought I might scream. As I said previously for the first novel in this series the relationship with Rick is too forced and while I believe that is part of Gunn's point I also think she could have made the point sooner and avoided some of the redundancy and character flaws that keep Katie and Rick static for far too long. However, I do believe there is some realism in what Katie is experiencing and that is what keeps readers invested.

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### **Jane says**

I don't know what it is about the Katie Weldon books, perhaps I can just relate so well to what happens, but I think they are really great. I liked the first one a bit better than this one, but this was still good. There were a few things in this book that seemed a bit predictable, but then there were some cool surprises as well.

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### **Sarah says**

Although there was some predictability with this book, I enjoyed the trip to get there. The characters were a little more realistic in some places than in others, and although the miracle for Katie's financial problems was a little over the top, it was a good solution.

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### **Diana says**

Nice to hear more about Katie, Rick, Christy & the gang. Reading from Katie's perspective is sure different from Christy's.

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### **Donald says**

Boring and way too sappy. I understand what the author is doing, creating a world of niceties and wholesomeness, but come on! Let's have a bit of conflict more than, "Why didn't you tell me you were leaving early?"

"Oh, I didn't?"

"No, you didn't."

"Oh, I'm sorry."

"I'm sorry, too." (not actual dialogue, but close)

Not all that well-written, either. It doesn't flow well and is chunky in places.

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### **Eldon says**

I was a little disappointed with this one, not really sure why. It seemed there were plot lines that didn't go anywhere and Katie seemed less easy to connect with. I hope the next installment "fixes" my uneasiness and ends the series with a "wow" and not an "oh, well."

Update June 24, 2010: Just finished Coming Attractions all uneasiness is forgiven.

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