



A Portrait of Dawn

B.J. Young

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Only one person knows Bethany's secret. After she tells her boyfriend, Ryan, of the abuse she and her mother continually suffer at the hands of her alcoholic father, he tenderly holds and comforts her. At sixteen, Bethany needs more than anything, to feel loved and safe. But one night with Ryan changes her life forever.

After Bethany discovers she's pregnant, Ryan drops her off at an abortion clinic. She is forced to face her cold, harsh reality without him. In a split-second decision, she decides to trust her heart and have the baby. With her mother's support, she begins a painful journey that eventually leads her to choose adoption for the child she loves, but cannot raise alone.

After many years of struggling to push past the pain of her dark childhood, Bethany begins to rebuild her life...based upon love, faith, and hope with the husband of her dreams. Suddenly, her past catches up with her.

A Portrait of Dawn is the poignant, inspirational tale of one young woman's pilgrimage through life as she bravely faces the consequences of her actions and learns that every child is born for a reason.

A Portrait of Dawn Details

Date : Published February 1st 2013 by Inspiring Voices

ISBN : 9781462405053

Author : B.J. Young

Format : Paperback 314 pages

Genre : Christian Fiction, Christian

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From Reader Review A Portrait of Dawn for online ebook

Laura says

I read this novel for book club, and was instantly drawn into the life of Bethany, those that surround her, and the faith that carries her. You won't be able to put this one down until you've finished it!

Veronica says

I won this book for free through the GoodReads giveaway program. Please see reading progress for comments regarding my thoughts with this novel. Thank you!

4 out of 5 Stars * Happy Reading!

Carey says

I finished this book even though I felt torn about it for most of the book. It was basically a form of bible study with a shallow plot woven through. Maybe I didn't understand what I was going to read... But I did not feel it was a good fit for my taste in literature.

Allison Kohn says

This is the best book. It kept me fascinated and engrossed from beginning to end. It made me think the author had firsthand knowledge of the lives she portrayed so I was surprised to read that she had a good home life herself. She had to have done her research well to have such a good understanding of what it would be like to live in a home where the "man of the family" had mental problems and couldn't control his temper. I recommend this to anyone who like to read about the grace of God in the hardest circumstances and how his love conquers all.

Kathleen (Kat) Smith says

"The course of a person's life can be altered in just a day, sometimes in a matter of minutes.

The letter I received in the mail yesterday, carried me back to the day my life took a drastic turn. It began like every other day in my somewhat routine life, but this one ended with my life changed forever. It was sixteen years ago, but I haven't forgotten it. How could I? It will be stored in that one private alcove of my mind. The one reserved for the memories of those early years. Memories I don't want, but hey are mine and must be stored somewhere.

Unlike some people, I know the exact day I became pregnant. It was a Friday. One week before my sixteenth birthday."

What an incredible opening to introduce our reader to A Portrait of Dawn by author B.J. Young. We get the opportunity to journey back to the day when Bethany Braun's life took a dramatic change that would not only alter her life but every single life she would touch because of what happened that day. Beth grew up in an abusive household, not so much for her personally but watching her dad, Larry come home each night, and drink himself into another person she grew to fear. He would take out his bad days on her mother and Beth was forced to watch the horror of her mother being beaten. Even when she confronted her mother later, her mother continued to make excuses for his behavior. Soon Beth found that leaving the house when those times came, was better than sitting back and becoming a witness to what she was incapable of stopping. It was when she met Ryan, a boy from her high school that she found she could confide in. It was when she went looking for love in all the wrong places, that Ryan offered her more than what she needed.

Beth knew that if she told her parents she was pregnant, her dad would literally kill her and her mother. Her brother Joel, had left years ago and they lost contact with him, when her dad abused him for the last time. Beth wished she was able to find her brother so she could run away and deal with her pregnancy away from the abusive household she lived in. Ryan only wanted her to have an abortion, but at the last moment knew this was something she could never do, and never told Ryan. She would have to wait for the opportunity to tell her mother and hopefully between them, they could offer a solution to dealing with her father. But for now, they had to continue along with the same old routine, her father expected every time he went to work. It was how he was able to maintain a level of control that kept them both living in fear of ever hoping things might be different for them.

I received A Portrait of Dawn by author B.J. Young compliments of the author herself and received no monetary compensation for a favorable review. This is a novel that needs to not only be read but shared with teen pregnancy on the rise and abortion at an all time high as the answer to this issue. I think B.J. Young did an exceptional job at enabling the reader to walk in Beth's shoes during every heart-rendering, emotionally-charged situation. I literally cried during so many stages of this book, because I could relate to Beth's situation. I did not make the right choice at that time, and have had to deal with my decision every single day of my life. But God can heal those broken places in our life and give us a new one, one of forgiveness, healing and hope. This is just the example of showing how God can take some of life's greatest painful moments and bring about goodness even though we may not see it for years. This one is truly unforgettable and one that will be remembered long after the final page is turned. For that very reason, this one rates a perfect 5 out of 5 stars in my opinion. I look forward to the sequel which we get a sneak peek at the conclusion of this one, Dawn's new day. Perhaps the most memorable quotes of the book is one I will leave you with:

"I woke at dawn and watched in awe as God used the sky for His canvas. He began to paint for me a picture of my coming day; it was a parade of resplendent color that took my breath away. Then the fog came and my hope was that tomorrow's dawn would bring new wonder."

I will never look at a sunrise again the same way.

Jodie Dye says

Wow!! This was an incredible story. I absolutely loved the whole book. I honestly felt like I was reading parts of my own story which brought out a lot of emotion. I cried a lot through this book because the author made it very personal. I look forward to getting the sequel to this book and I would recommend this book for anyone who likes a good novel.

Dawn Williams says

Very good book about a young gal who gets pregnant and how that impact her life. The characters were well developed and it was a great story.
