



The Spirit of Want

William H. Coles , Betty Harper (Illustrator)

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A successful woman lawyer falls in love with a TV-evangelist accused of sexually molesting a child. She loses the case and while on appeal he escapes the country. She leaves family and new husband and child to follow him to Africa. She is faced with deep questions about who he really is and she returns in penury to try to rebuild her life and career only to discover the devastating effects of unrequited love.

The Spirit of Want Details

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Author : William H. Coles , Betty Harper (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review The Spirit of Want for online ebook

Peacejanz says

This book is all over the place, as if the author tried a bit of everything to see what would stick. Not much did. The focal point seems to be a rich, well educated attorney who ruins her life to follow an evangelist. Sex. Drunken driving, Deception. Killing. Sexual abuse of minors.

The author leaves many things hanging, such as what happened to the doc who raised so much money and mistreated his family? On top of this is the poor writing, e.g., the treatment phased her. ???

It looked good but was so misleading. Save your time. I received a review copy of this book from Goodreads.

Debbie Payne says

I received this book in exchange for an view from Firstreads. This was a book I wanted to like but from the get-go, it was obvious that this wasn't the book for me. I thought the book was fairly well-written,albeit strewed with misspellings. The characters were not likable. When I read a book, I become invested in the characters. I care what happens to them and there was none of that for me in The Spirit of Want. I have to confess that I did not get through the entire book. I will put this book aside for now. Sometimes we read an book and like or dislike it depending on what is going on in our lives at any given time. If a second chance reveals that I like this book more at another reading, I will amend my first impressions.

Ashley says

I honestly wish I could say that I enjoyed this book more than I actually did.

Perhaps it was my inability to relate to the main character; as she was just SO unlikeable. It drove me a little nuts.

Art is art, however... regardless of the errors and problems within the writing itself. I mean, I understood the book, I just wasn't happy with it. & it's incredibly difficult for me to say that as there are very few books that I flat out disliked.

Matt says

i received this book through a GoodReads giveaway

i'm going to be forthright and say that i'm not sure how much i enjoyed this book. It seemed to me like a very promising first draft that was published too early.

The elephant in the room: there's an egregious amount of grammatical and spelling errors throughout the book. This is a personal peeve i have, but i tried not to let that affect my opinion overall.

The characters came across a bit flat and i had a difficult time investing any sort of interest into them. It's entirely possible that those types of characters are a corollary to the book's focus on ethical situations, but it

did make it feel slightly tedious at parts.

All of that aside, Coles tackles a really demanding theme with precision and rigor. There truly was a lot going on in this book, and it [almost] never came across as convoluted. The epilogue, however, left me quite underwhelmed and i honestly believe it would have been best left out altogether.

Had this book been revised and touched up a bit more, i think it could have most definitely been something great. As is, it leaves an equivocal taste in one's mouth.

Essie Harmon says

what can I say about this book? First off, I can tell you that “The Spirit of Want” is a well- crafted emotional journey and a wild ride and fans of this genre will love sinking their teeth into this one! The story flows from scene to scene effortlessly, and William H. Coles shows exceptional ability when it comes to vivid storytelling. He has the ability to make the reader feel like we are really there in Lucy’s and/or Luke’s world (depending on whose ‘chapter’ it is), and part of their life throughout the years. While mostly a character drama, this novel touches on so much more----it has flashes of brilliance, deep insight, and is downright profound at times... all while demonstrating the need for love and balance in our life and the struggles one must go through. Couldn’t put it down and can’t wait to read more from Coles.

Alisha Webster says

This was just not my cup of tea. Lucy and Elizabeth were horribly written, which is a problem with most male writers. I feel like it had too much going on and was hard to keep up with. It started to get better in the middle but ended rather slow compared to the rest of the book. 2/5 2 because it did get better in the middle.

I received this book in exchange for an honest review.

Gayle Slagle says

The Spirit of Want by William H. Coles was a complete disappointment. The characters are shallow at best and are never developed. It is difficult to enjoy a book when the characters are totally unlikable and uninteresting and seem to change on each page without explanation. The story line is at times ridiculous and unbelievable and also seems to change with each page without explanation. The writing itself leaves much to be desired, with short, choppy sentences and incorrect word usage. I try to find something good about books that I review, but I honestly cannot think of one positive thing to say about this book.

BellaReadz says

I have mixed feelings on “The Spirit of Want” by William H. Coles. On the whole, I very much liked the storyline and the author’s literary style. I was engaged and invested in the outcome and with Luke and Lucy’s fates, and thought it to be an organic resolution, if not bittersweet. However, there were some editing things I found to be distracting at times—sometimes it is hard to tell who the speaker is in the conversations,

and while I thought it was cool to show the story from several characters' 'perspectives'. Since it is written in 3rd person omniscient it seemed unnecessary to have the chapters have character names on them (it confused me for a bit). But this wasn't a deal-breaker for me at all, because the plot was very good and the dialogue was charming and insightful and I was really into all the drama... just execution-wise could use some polishing. The characters were so well developed I felt like I knew them personally. All in all a good book, and I'd like to read more novels by Coles. Recommend for adult readers of lit fiction and drama.

Faye Ridpath says

I received this book for free from Goodreads First Reads.

The main character, Lucy is not likeable at all.

The characters do complete 180's with no explanation.

No character is developed enough at all for me to care what happened to them, even when things happen that should make me cry.

The spelling was terrible...Talking about a foul shot in basketball and spelling it "fowl"...Talking about the body part, the waist, and spelling it "waste".

Rosemary Kenny says

The Spirit of Want - a review by Rosemary Kenny

'Rising star' ocular surgeon Luke Osbourne meets Lucy MacMiel, daughter of his employer and mentor A.J; she's a high-powered lawyer and in that respect the pair are well-matched financially and intellectually, although in different careers.

Luke and Lucy marry and have a daughter, Jennifer, who becomes the first 'victim' in this multi-faceted modern morality tale by William H Coles. Shunted between her often-absent (whether physically or emotionally) parents, little Jennifer is mainly cared for by her nanny, Elizabeth - often late or overnight, which is sometimes resented.

The characters are well-rounded and the story unfolds in a believable (unfortunately), way.

Luke is a highly ethical young man, filled with personal and (especially when compared to some of his colleagues), professional integrity. He's appalled at the way some of them are more interested in covering their own backsides against unhappy patients and lining their very large wallets than doing their jobs properly.

This brings some stresses to the marriage, but it is not the reason his wife Lucy begins an affair with one of her clients - an 'exposed as unholy' tv evangelist who, under threat of prosecution flees to Africa accompanied by a love-struck Lucy, who recklessly throws away her career and (what should have been more important to her), her family in the process.

What will happen if things go wrong with the 'Reverend'?

Can Luke forgive and forget what Lucy has done and move on - and will it bring him and daughter Jennifer closer together?

What effect does her mother's abandonment have on Jennifer?

If Lucy returns with her tail between her legs begging forgiveness, can Luke ever trust her again?

Is Luke hiding a dark secret of his own - and is that another reason Lucy abandoned their family?

Once picked up, you won't want to put this special story down - don't miss it!

Cale says

I really enjoyed "Spirit of Want" by author William H Coles. I was drawn to the description and liked the easy writing style of the author in the sample, so I read the whole thing. I was really impressed! I liked Coles' way of writing... it is intelligent and literary and very descriptive and insightful. There are bouts of narrative 'telling' that slow the pace, and I think it could have used more heightened tension at times...but I do like going through Lucy and Luke' highly charged and emotional journey as they go through their struggles, from getting married then her taking on the case where she meets and falls for Bain... her pregnancy and abandonment of her family, Luke's relationship with Elizabeth... the shocking reveals and other harsh realities of life. This book seems to have so many subplots it's hard to not stay interested, but I would have preferred more focus. The ending gives satisfaction and I like that we see where and how everyone ends up. Recommend.

Tabitha says

well-written, creative, and thought-provoking, "The Spirit of Want" by William Coles is a great read for fans of literary drama and romance novels. This book has a cast of great characters and plenty of unexpected intrigue and twists to keep us interested. We really feel like we are in the characters' head and heart, and I feel Mr. Coles did a great job of bringing in a fresh voice to a literary genre and it felt original, both in plot, voice, and narrative style. I didn't feel like I've read this million times before. It is very character-driven and fast paced (almost TOO fast at times), with great dialogue and conversations that engage us in Luke, Lucy's, Bain's, and the others' story. I wasn't sure how I felt about the ending, though... kind of sad and the epilogue just sort of 'summed up' everything. Would have preferred to see it play out more. And it could benefit from some better editing - because the pacing, while fast, was erratic (lots of dialogue talking about not much, then some narration that rushed over some very important events). Things like that. Nothing terrible, could just use some smoothing out. Overall an engrossing and complex story and I'd love to read more from William Coles. Happy to see he's written several others!

PacaLipstick Gramma says

I won this book from a Goodreads Giveaway.

Another one where the synopsis is better than the book. If I could give this a negative rating, I would.

Where to even begin? This was the third printing of this book. Did *ANYONE* proofread it? OMG, the errors and typos drove me NUTS. Plus the fact that it was a disjointed, poorly edited, bizarre, convoluted, and just

didn't make a whole lot of sense story. The time span has huge gaps, and jumps all over the place. In the book, the father-in-law was an eye surgeon. Overload, overload, overload. The detail, procedures, and medical terminology was enough to give one a headache. Unless you have gone to medical school or have first hand knowledge of eye surgery, I can guarantee you will be lost. The parents? That is a case study in itself.

Most of the characters were narcissistic, self-centered, egotistical, arrogant, and thought themselves without flaw.

The author has a website to help writers. Ok, maybe some of the characters were autobiographical?

I have only read one other book that has been as bad as this one ~ Patches of Grey. I do not profess to be an author. I enjoy reading. I like books that are good. I have said this before, but I want a book to move me. Be it, too tears, introspect, educating me on a subject, or even anger about a subject. The only way this book moved me was to compel me to throw it away, and put it in the recycling bin.

I can not or will not recommend this book to ANYONE. I could not find a single redeeming thing in this book. Don't "waist" your time.

Robin Morgan says

The following review is my honest opinion for the copy I received in a giveaway on GoodReads.com

One thing I don't do in writing my reviews is to look at what other reviewers have already written, I don't want the ones they wrote to have any influence on me.

I'd looked forward to reading this book after reading its description, which is one of the reasons I decided to enter the giveaway for one of the 100 copies being offered.

Unfortunately I became more and more disappointed in what I read. To begin what I felt the 62 chapters it has to be somewhat excessive with some of the chapters being only 1 or 2 pages long. The adding of a character's name didn't help matters since you had same character associated with a few chapters in a row.

There was no continuity for the characters in this as they could change from one chapter to the next. The book is also in need of some copyediting as well.

I'm not going to say anything about the publisher for this book as there's plenty of information about it already. So for his efforts, the best I can give this book is 3 STARS.

Robin Leigh Morgan is the author of "I Kissed a Ghost," a MG/YA Paranormal romance novel.

Loretta says

I entered the giveaway on Goodreads as the synopsis sounded interesting. I won the book and was disappointed with the story. It covers the lives of six characters from 1984 through 1998. The chapters are short and easy to read.

There is no real character development, but what is presented makes all of them unlikeable.

As others have noted, more editing is required related to spelling and grammar.
