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Starry-Eyed: Seeing Grace In The Unfolding Constellation Of Life And Motherhood



Synopsis

Being a mom is all of it: light and dark, highs and lows, fever pitch frustration and all-consuming love. By now, you already know that with great love comes great joy . . . and great pain. It can be crazy-making! But it doesn't have to be. In *Starry-Eyed*, MOPS CEO Mandy Arioto reveals how the brightest and darkest moments of motherhood alike can become a sacred and sanity-saving opportunity to encounter God. There is a way to flourish in the midst of it all, and it starts with embracing the light and darkness in life with expectation and awe. Heartening, enchanting, and always unflinchingly honest, *Starry-Eyed* will show you how to find the unexpected grace in your life as a woman, wife, mother, daughter, sister, and friend. Consider this your heart-to-heart sit-down with a woman who's been there, and can help you find fresh eyes to see how beauty and pain can mingle with purpose.

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Customer Reviews

First, I need to express my absolute disappointment, as a MOPS member, about this literature being promoted by a well-known and absolutely wonderful Christian organization and that I am, perhaps, even more concerned that such literature was written, and therefore reveals the theology and beliefs of their president Mandy Arioto. As I read *Starry-Eyed*, I kept a tally of how many times Mandy mentions other religions or spiritual practices and gives them credence, versus how many times she refers to Jesus Christ and the Gospel. My count of the first came to 11 including Celtic Spirituality, Christian Mysticism, the Winter Solstice, Chinese Medicine, and Neo-Freudian Psychology. While she mentions Jesus by name more times than 11 (but not many more!), Mandy NEVER presents a

clear gospel message. And when she does refer to the crucifixion, she never uses His name, nor does she tell the whole story, giving the reader an understanding of what Jesus' death and resurrection means for her (which is imperative considering what Arioto claims this book will provide to the weary mother). This was, by far, my most major concern. This book reeks of Emergent theology, where truth is relative, Universalism trumps scripture and sin need not be mentioned or dealt with. When referring to the Bible, she writes that it "is considered God-breathed" but not that it actually is. This provides plenty of wriggle room to apply scripture as she wishes rather than discerning passages in context, which is done only on occasion. (Very little scripture is actually used or referred to).

So much wrong in this book. It is not leading to Christ it is leading to New Age theology. She questions God's gender throughout. Ch. 7: In the Belly of the Holy One - "...I have grown up in a culture that has assigned God a male pronoun." "Julian of Norwich understood this divine laboring and explained it by saying that we are born from the very womb of the divine. This is why she regularly referred to God as both Father and Mother." "We are understood by God. We are made in his masculine and feminine image. Julian's theology was particular optimistic, especially considering the times in which she lived. She saw God as a motherâ "perhaps the first Catholic writer to express this ideaâ "and believed that God feels no wrath toward mankind but will one day make "all things well." (taken from the article - not my thoughts on her) Ch. 20: To Live Like Music - Mandy tells about going to a Train concert. "Train played the song 'Calling All Angels', the crowd raised their hands to the sky, and it was best church service I have ever been a part of." She goes on to talk about the imagery the Bible uses to describe God in feminine ways. "Maybe we need to ask our singing Mother for a lullaby so we can unburden our hearts and minds." Mandy references a book by Lauren Winner and says there is a "phenomonal chaper about gender and language for God that I highly recommend..." Ch, 27: Starry Night - Being guided into what is next in our lives... by the North Star. She ends the chapter "The North STar will be out tonight. May it show you the way forward." No where in this chapter does Mandy suggest that God can show us the way forward. Ch.

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