



Friday's Daughter

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A contemporary novel of sisterhood, the South, and matters of the heart.

Teensie MacAllester's two elder sisters consider her an insignificant appendage to their illustrious family. For fifteen years they have been delighted to let her care for their ailing relatives. After all, Teensie is both a nurse and a Friday's child, naturally loving and giving.

As Teensie deferred her life, a dream sustained her: autocratic King MacAllester promised her the bulk of his estate. But when King's will is read it divides his property equally among his daughters. Teensie's share is scarcely enough to make a new start. Her sisters have a solution: Teensie can continue to serve as the family care-giver. But Teensie is determined to claim a life of her own. Throwing off the yoke of family expectations, Teensie sets in motion some surprising changes.

Friday's Daughter Details

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Author : Patricia Sprinkle

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From Reader Review Friday's Daughter for online ebook

Gerry says

This is a good easy read, feel-good story. I loved it.

Michelle says

'In a prominent Southern family, a father's betrayal of a loving daughter prompts her to break from the past...' That's where this book took me in! I have truly loved all of Patricia's books but this one is so special. Three daughters, the older two are married, Teensie the youngest daughter is a nurse and her Daddy, 'King' calls her home to take care of his sister, then her Mother, then the King himself. For her efforts and time spent in the home, he tells her that when he goes that the house will be hers... Until he passes and didn't put it in writing, Teensie finds herself once again sucked in by everyone's else's demands and forgets what she wants! She soon learns to help others without her becoming a doormat. She finds and follows her path and then another special 'patient' comes along and changes everything she and her family know. She stands firm on what she believes even if her sisters don't agree with it!

An excellent, intriguing book to read!!

Lisa says

High words of praise for this thoughtful, delightful, insightful, at times frustrating in the good, this-is-what-reading-is-all-about sort of way book. It got my goat, let my eagle soar, and brought my chickens home to roost in my heart. I loved Teensie's sketches. And Wonder is beyond compare. The sisters are enough to make you smack your head against the wall in exasperation. But boy did the author know how to slip in some surprising and endearing vignettes. It kept me on my toes. The hot-cold of Reagan was almost enough to take your breath away. The hospital scene where she is ruining her own clothes that Teensie is wearing is so artistically done that it comes across as bedazzling as a glass statue on spindley legs. Just perfect.

I would have run a sword through Tobias had I not appreciated him so much and understood his heart. I think Teensie would be in agreement with that!

It's a bit of a romp, a bit of a wander, a bit of a trudge, and undoubtably good reading throughout. Highly recommend!

Erin says

This is a much better story than typical chic-lit, and nicely executed until the end when the circumstances of the story get pushed a bit to make it all 'work out nicely'. I wish she had given the end of the story more space, and allowed the characters to grow with the same wonderful pacing she used in the earlier parts of the novel.

Calista says

Started alright but then turned into predictable unrealistic romance.

Yolanda says

I loved this book. I had tried to read mysteries of hers but could not get into them but this one touched me deeply. I very seldom cry during books and this one made me cry. I found at the dollar store but it touched my soul in a way I can't explain. I loved the setting in North Georgia and the Cherokee history since my three times great grandma was Cherokee and settled in North Alabama during the Trail of Tears.

It deals with matters of faith, family and love.

I identified with Teensie as I am a nurse but admittedly though I didn't like her older sisters I suspect that we all possess some of their qualities.

This book reminded me a lot the The Funeral Dress which I also highly recommend.

I know this book won't win awards or wide acclaim but it is really good and touched my heart at this point in my life.

Laurel-Rain says

Teensie MacAllester is the youngest of three sisters in a small college town in Georgia, where her father was the college president and where her sister and brother-in-law "hold court" as a professor and now current president. Both older sisters have assumed their "entitled" places in the good life.

Meanwhile, Teensie, who earned her diminutive name from one of her sisters who had exclaimed, upon first seeing her, "isn't she teensie?", has tried to carve out a life for herself in Atlanta as a nurse. Until her father calls her home to care for her ailing aunt; then her mother, when she falls ill; and finally, her father himself, aptly named "King."

While she defers her own dreams to help out the family, since neither sister is ever available for these chores, her father promises to leave her the home and its contents when he dies.

Fast-forward a few years, and we see Teensie and her sisters as they hear their father's will read. King MacAllester did not change his will to reflect these promises, and even though his attorney (and family friend) knows what his wishes were, he can do nothing. So Teensie is soon drawn into a struggle to hold onto her share, as well as protect the things that were hers alone.

Throughout this delightful and emotional tale that had me wanting to shout "no!" at every injustice, Teensie stays true to her loving soul, her "Friday's child" demeanor, while slowly, but surely, moving forward and away from the path her family wishes to dictate for her. She refuses to remain as the family "slave," a role her sisters had already decreed for her by each insisting that she move in and help them with their families, and instead strikes out on her own.

While her path forward is not smooth and even, with many obstacles cropping up at every turn, she finally

claims her own dreams.

"Friday's Daughter," taking its theme from the days-of-the-week rhyme that denotes that "Friday's child is loving and giving," spotlights a drama of extreme sibling rivalry and competitiveness against a backdrop of small-town life. The author carries it off with just the right emotions to elicit the reader's investment in Teensie's triumph, and then delivers that triumph in unexpected and joyful dollops. Five stars!

Rebecca says

This was a good light read. The book was set in North Georgia and follows a family of sisters after their father's death. The youngest sister, Teensie, cared for both parents as they aged and was promised the family house upon their death. However at the reading of the will she discovers she will inherit the estate equally with her two sisters.

I could not relate to how terribly the older sisters treated her to the point of feeling like they were caricatures of a dysfunctional family. But Teensie was likable and faced each predicament with creativity and a can-do attitude. I could stand to learn from her.

I liked the spiritual nature of the book. It addressed matters of faith without being trite and was much better written than inspirational fiction.

Betty says

This was an interesting read although predictable in some ways. Teensie is the youngest of three sisters and the daughter of a college president. Since Teensie trained as a nurse and is single, her family expects her to give up her job in order to care for the ailing members of her family. She complies and her father has promised her the family home when he dies but he never gets around to changing his will. Even though her father's wishes are common knowledge, her sisters insist upon abiding by his will that leaves a third of his estate to each sister. So ends Teensie's dream of establishing a nursing home in the old family home. Plus, she's homeless unless she chooses to move in with one of her sisters to continue caring for family or is able to make it on her own. Teensie was a bit of a doormat and I really didn't care for her weak character initially. She developed some backbone and realized her life was for her to live in the way she chose. It was interesting to watch her grow and become more independent and see how her relationship with her sisters evolved. Read the book and you'll find out the rest of the story.

Miriam says

A wonderful read. Patricia always lives up to what she promises. This book covers many issues of family (and extended family) dynamics. Although set in the South I believe the issues are universal. I will comment on those issues that speak to me most strongly. Bigotry for one. Hypocrisy, two. Teensie's sisters, bigoted though they are, are compelled to reverse their notions of what is right for the family when push comes to shove. I always feel drawn to novels set in the South. It is not because I can identify with the story. If it is a rural story it is outside my personal experience, being a city girl. However, I know my ancestors were rural

so it gives me a feel for them. I felt drawn to Teensie's attraction to Tobias. (I had a crush on my fifth grade teacher's son. He could have been cast as the gorgeous Indian brave in a Hollywood movie.) I also firmly believe that Teensie's Bird ancestors were a Cherokee clan thereby making Teensie and Tobias cousins. (I am a genealogist and I say we are all cousins if one looks far enough back.) As for Wonder, my children are biracial also. My family could have rejected my choice for a husband because of the late unpleasantness with an enemy in WWII, but they held no bigotry for his nation. The biggest surprise was how Regan acquired a child of her husband's bloodline!

Lisa says

re-telling of King Lear from the youngest daughter's perspective and set in the South, with writing details that make you laugh and a wonderfully boisterous girl named Wonder to speak truth when others aren't listening

Heather Bullard says

Not one to start at 8 p.m. unless you plan on staying up all night!

Laura says

I should start out by saying I got this book for a buck at my local Dollar Tree. Shamefully, I bought it because the cover is pretty.

A story about a woman finding herself (and love) in Southern Georgia. It's cute enough, though I didn't really believe the caricature personalities of her family. My favorite part was the romance between her and Tobias Jones, the Cherokee farmer. However, it really annoyed me how much history she randomly injected throughout the story. They'd be in the middle of having a normal conversation and suddenly they'd be reciting facts of the hardships of the Native Americans, etc, etc. It wasn't natural, and I think there could have been an easy way to work in some of those details without sounding like a Nancy Drew book. The story also jumped the shark at the end, there, and wrapped up a little too nicely for a story that should have been a little more realistic in its boundaries. That is not to mention the many repetitions of phrases and cliches that the author employed. For instance, a line like "when he lifted me up, I hope he thought my heart beating with happiness was just from the exercise" is repeated about two paragraphs later with "I hope he thought the blush he saw was just from the fresh air". And on and on and on. We get it.

That said, the romance was amusing, and I found myself ripping through the book easily. Finished it in two days. It was fluffy for the most part....I never found myself crying or wondering what would happen because it all seemed really spelled out. But for a dollar, it was worth the read. 3-3.5.

Carmelita M. Johnson says

Great read

I personally like the fact that the prejudices of others can be quelled with love, hope ,patience and prayer! Awesome read. I loved the whole story!

Marjorie says

Teensie MacAllester has been a doormat for her two snobbish older sisters all her life. While they grew up, left home and made lives for themselves, Teensie grew up, left home and then got called back to become the family caretaker for several members, the last of which is their father who promises her that upon his death, she will be well compensated for placing her life on hold. When he does pass away, Teensie is shocked to realize that he has failed to keep the promise she depended on. She loses the home she's lived in, and with barely enough finances to provide for herself, must figure out a way to finally cultivate a life for herself on her own terms.

I enjoyed listening to Friday's Daughter. I enjoyed Teensie's journey of becoming her own person. It's never ideal having to live under the burden of others expectations, and that is exactly what Teensie has to fight against. While she is dealt the blow of her father's betrayal, her sisters are absolutely fine with it - so fine with it, in fact, they believe she must continue on as family caretaker for their families. They never stop to consider what she might want or need or what sort of grief she may be feeling at the massive change her father's death has brought to her life. They have a one-dimensional view of who she is and who she should be and can't see how she could possibly want more.

This book allowed the reader to witness a great battle of wills as the sisters come to know that they never should have discounted Teensie, who ends up having quite a few surprises up her sleeves, and that their determination to keep her in their perfectly constructed boxes is no match for her determination to finally live her life for her ownself.
