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Megan's never felt so alone. But she's not the only one struggling.

Christina has just entered the world of infertility, made worse by the fact her husband isn't ready to be a father. Their marriage, already hanging in the balance, is being torn apart.

Then there's Kyra, the mother of a precocious three-year-old. She's shocked to be struggling with secondary infertility. A baby is priceless, but sometimes Kyra feels like she's being forced to choose which commandment to keep: stay out of debt, or multiply and replenish the earth.

When Megan and Christina are assigned as Kyra's visiting teachers, they all realize that what you see isn't necessarily what's beneath the surface. Some secrets aren't worth the cost of keeping them.

Wishing on Baby Dust Details

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From Reader Review Wishing on Baby Dust for online ebook

Melanie says

Megan, Christina and Kyra are three women dealing with infertility. Their stories and situations are different yet they have something in common. They meet each other and become a good support system for each other, once each of them is willing to admit what's happening. Their stories are heartbreaking and hopeful and their struggles are real. We also got to see how their husbands reacted and how it affected their relationships.

I like that the ending was realistic yet hopeful. It seemed like it was going a certain direction and then it went somewhere different. Many years ago, I had my own infertility issues (although not to the extent that the women in this book have) so I cried a lot as I relived those feelings and memories.

There's quite of bit of explanation about medical procedures which I was interested in learning about. There are also some LDS references but this is a book that anyone can enjoy. This book will appeal to a wide variety of people. If you've gone through infertility, you will realize that you're not alone. If you haven't, it will give you a deeper understanding of how women who deal with this feel. This book is emotional so be sure to have tissues handy while you read it!

I received a copy of this book to review. My opinion is 100% my own.

Mel's Shelves

Lisa (Bookworm Lisa) says

Three separate women struggling to deal with the reality of infertility.

This book struck a chord with me and brought back many emotions that I haven't thought about in a while. I only lived through 1 1/2 years of infertility. It was one of the hardest trials I have faced.

This book takes a look at three separate women who each have a different physical problem that makes them infertile. Each of the women face the issue differently. The experience is no less painful for their individual circumstance.

I loved that this book brought three women/couples together. When they all realized that they were facing the same trial, they were able to comfort and help each other through the heartache. The book looks at the issues/social stigma/physical pain/emotional pain, etc realistically.

There are many great moments in the book. I laughed and I cried. My heart broke and I was uplifted. If you are dealing with the issue yourself, or if you have a friend or loved one living with infertility, this is a wonderful book. In fact, if you want to learn about what many women go through this is a book that will make you think.

This book has religious references. The three women belong to the LDS Faith, but the overall message applies to women everywhere.

Amber says

Wishing on Baby Dust is an LDS (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) infertility story. If you have ever had problems with infertility or known someone who has, take the time for Baby Dust. If you are not a member of the LDS faith, this book might still be for you. Infertility is a hard road to travel, and if you could use some different perspectives on that journey, this is a good resource. The story might be fictional, but it is all too real.

One warning is that Wishing on Baby Dust brings on the tears. Infertility is an emotional roller-coaster, so naturally this book is as well. You might want to reserve reading this book for moments when you don't mind having red, puffy eyes.

Another recommendation for this book: memorize the names of the main characters right off the bat. This book switches points of view between three women, and if you don't usually remember names well, you might want to make a special effort to memorize names.

The audio version of this book is also available. At first you might not be enchanted with the reader's voice, but stick with it. You will find that she carries bitterness/sadness/other emotions well in her voice, and she was picked well for the part.

<http://www.compassbookratings.com/rev...>

Rebekah says

First I just want to thank the author for writing this book. What a hard topic and needed topic. I have lots of friends who have had fertility issues and this deals with their feelings in a very real and raw way. I also liked that we heard from the fathers in the situation as well. Nice to hear both sides.

The writing is excellent. Winters really helped me to understand the emotional pain of wanting to have children and not being able to conceive. I really felt for Kyra, Megan, and Christina. All three were having their own issues and suddenly found themselves together in a way that could provide strength. They had someone to talk to. Their stories have stuck with me and I cannot get them out of my head. Most women have had some thought to wanting to be a parent in their lifetime. It hits home with a lot of us.

This is a topic that is universal and I hope it sheds light on the subject. I had no idea how involved fertility options were. I knew the cost was high but so many little details.

Davidandkelley Crandall says

Seemingly being a taboo subject, Winters has expertly addressed infertility on several levels and in multiple situations. Those who are actually touched by experiencing infertility and those who know someone who has been, will have a much better understanding when done taking this journey with Megan, Christina and Kyra.

This is a heart-warming and telling story of loyalty, friendship, personal struggle and overcoming it. I quickly became engaged in this page turner while appreciating the confirming fact that we need to look deeper especially where relationships are concerned.

Winters has done well at educating readers about the ins and outs of a topic that not everyone fully understands and has interwoven it into a wonderful story that will change the way you view infertility and struggles in general. I excitedly found myself being able to relate to at least one of these characters however found common threads in them all, which made for a character driven plot that was a pure joy to read. As her debut novel I highly recommend this book to anyone looking for a satisfyingly perfect read filled with faith while providing hope to so many.

~The Book Stalker Reviewed

Deborah Andreasen says

Three LDS women suffering infertility find strength in each other and their faith.

Wow. Since I suffer from infertility, I don't like to read a lot of novels about the subject. I find them difficult to stomach for a variety of reasons. (It hits too close to home, the author obviously never suffered through infertility, they got facts wrong, etc.) This one, however, was beautiful and honest and painfully real. I feel like I'm Megan, Kyra and Christina all rolled into one. I can relate to every single thing they went through. I won't go into detail due to spoilers, but it's uncanny.

I appreciated how the women all suffered from infertility, but it was so different for all of them. Their situations, how they responded, how they responded to others. It was a very real look at the world of infertility.

There was a lot of medical jargon and talking shop. It is obvious the author knows her stuff. At times it may have been a little too much for someone who's never experienced infertility or who has never had to Google search "HSG." :)

I would definitely recommend this book to a Sister in the Land of Infertility (as the author puts it). Or anyone who knows anyone who suffers from it. It's a great look at the trials and heartache, and yet a reminder we can find peace and happiness no matter our circumstances.

I appreciate the free copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Cindy says

It is no secret that Kate did not come easily to our family. I have blogged more than once about the years we waited for her—first, when my health wasn't stable enough to think about pregnancy, and later, when we were trying and failing to get pregnant. I have lived my whole life with a terminal genetic illness and, since high school, dealt with a host of dramatically life-altering other medical problems as well... and yet, in all of that, wanting a baby and not being able to have one was one of the absolute most painful experiences I've

ever had. Infertility, and the years of waiting that came before it, brought me to the brink in a way that nothing else has; more than anything else I've lived through, it made me question my own ability to get up every morning and face the world. Although we're not trying for another baby right now and I'm finding myself surprisingly content with where I'm at for the moment, the scars from those painful years are ones that I will always carry on my heart.

It's not really a surprise, then, that I was immediately drawn to the title of Lydia Winters' first book—WISHING ON BABY DUST. (Lydia Winters is the pen name of Lindzee Armstrong, a fellow Utah writer with whom I connected a few months ago.) I knew immediately what the title meant; "baby dust" is the phrase used in the infertility world to label that magical and unpredictable ability to get pregnant that most women have and we infertiles lack. When you are infertile, baby dust might as well be fairy dust—they both seem equally impossible most of the time.

When I got my hands on a copy of WISHING ON BABY DUST last week, I wasn't sure what to expect. Could one little novel capture the complicated gamut of emotions I'd experienced in my own infertility journey? Infertility isn't a topic that's usually given much space in fiction, and when it is it's usually a passing reference or a subplot. Would a novel all about infertility really work?

My friends, the answer is—at least for me—yes. From the first chapter, when six-years-infertile Megan is packing up her house to move and going over all the ways that those rooms have encapsulated her frustrated desire for motherhood, I was hooked. I blew through the book in about two days, reading in every available moment. At one point towards the end I worried that things were going to be wrapped up a little too neatly, abandoning the wry realism of the rest of the book for the kind of fantasy fulfillment that rarely happens in the infertility world—but then the plot took a heartbreaking but totally believable twist, and the book ended on a hopeful-but-bittersweet note that encapsulated perfectly how it feels not just to be infertile, but to experience all the shades of the infertility community.

WISHING ON BABY DUST is exactly the kind of book I wish had been around when I was in my own period of waiting for Kate. A book like this would have made me feel a little more normal, a little less adrift, battling my mother-longing while surrounded by friends who seemed to get pregnant at the drop of a hat. Reading it brought back so vividly my own time in the infertility trenches, calling up a whole host of emotions that I haven't thought of since early in my pregnancy. Honestly? I can't recommend this book highly enough—to women currently struggling with infertility, to those of us who have been there, and also to perfectly fertile women who are hoping to understand a little better what it's like. Although the book is LDS fiction and takes place in Utah, with several references to things of LDS culture (garments, priesthood blessings, church, prayers), it doesn't focus on those things and I think would be easily relatable to women of all different faiths. More than anything, this book is about what it's like to want a baby more than anything and be denied that desire over and over again.

I received a copy of WISHING ON BABY DUST for review. I also had the chance to do a wonderful interview with Lydia Winters on my blog, in which she talks about her own infertility experiences and her inspiration to write this book! You can find that here: <http://musings.beingcindy.com/2015/01...>

Cathy says

This book really touched me. I had no idea the amount of work that some of these mothers have to go through to get their sweet little babies into the world. I really loved each of the three characters. Megan is so

open about the challenges that she's had to go through and can't really imagine anyone else not wanting to be that way. Christina is trying to be brave by saying she's been focusing on her career as a teacher, but she knows deep down that something is wrong and needs to be fixed. Kyra has just had a miscarriage after scraping up the money for an infertility treatment and is concerned that she'll never have a sibling for her sweet daughter Sophie. Megan and Christina have just been made Kyra's visiting teachers, and the three women form a friendship before they really realize that all three of them have had infertility problems. When they finally realize this detail, it makes their friendship even sweeter. This book is a story about infertility, yes, but it's also about the way that we all need to be there as much as we can for those around us. We may never know just how much we have helped someone we know by simply being caring. I didn't want to put this book down until I had finished every last word.

Karen says

I have to give some warnings about this book before I review.

1. This book is about three religious couples whose faith is an important part of the book. I'm Catholic, so I found it reassuring in their faith to trust in God. Thankfully whatever their religion fertility treatments were not against their beliefs.
2. You will need tissues, lots of tissues. Not everyone will have a happy ending. It's shocking and unexpected. That's real life though.
3. The narrator was difficult to follow. Felt as if I was being read to rather than being pulled into the book. Too worried on pauses and sounding out each word, rather than just letting it flow like other narrators. I did not let that influence my star rating, but almost returned it because it was annoying.

The overall summary truly captured the reality of what it feels like to live with infertility: the emptiness, emotions, pain, treatments, disappointments, and fights. The author didn't wrap everything up in a neat little bow, which is reality. BUT, if you are going to go into detail for every little argument, discussion, and plan for the the couples, then you need to give closure to the readers. You can't just stop the book. It's almost as if she ran out of time or couldn't think of what to write next.

Stacy Carroll says

After struggling with infertility for many years, I felt an immediate connection to each of these women and their stories. It was an emotional read, from start to finish. Anyone who is struggling with infertility can benefit and gain hope through the strength and daily trials that these three women endure. I also highly recommend this book to anyone who has a friend or family member struggling with infertility. Women who have not experienced the pain of having a body that doesn't work properly, oftentimes don't understand what their friends need or want. Seeing these trials through three different pairs of eyes really sheds light on this huge problem in our society. Anyone with a uterus and a heart will gain something from these beautiful women! I have to admit, I was unhappy when the book ended. But to me, that's the sign of a great writer and memorable characters. I didn't want their stories to end! I was left wanting more. If you're looking for a light, fluffy, "happily ever after" book, this is not it. This story is very raw and very real. If you're looking for a book that will touch your very heart and soul and linger with you forever afterwards, then pick this book up

now.

Mindy says

I absolutely loved this book. Although I never struggled with infertility, my heart broke for these women and what they endured. Having pregnancies of my own, I related to their feelings of wanting a baby. The author did a fantastic job of capturing each woman's individual character, personality, and unique situation. I cheered for them, laughed with them, and cried with them. This book reads really fast, and I instantly was taken into the story. I could tell the author did her homework when it came to the knowledge of procedures of infertility, having gone through it herself. This book is perfect reminder for us all to kind and loving to each other, not truly knowing what the other may be going through.

5 out of 5 stars. This is Lydia's debut novel. I can't wait to read more from her.

I received an ebook copy in exchange for an honest review.

Candice says

Aaaahhhh! This book is so needed and so enjoyable. Several of my friends struggle with infertility and I don't really know how to support them and I'm nervous about what's okay to ask. Walking along Christina's, Megan's and Kierra's unique journeys opened my eyes about the pure devastation infertile couples can feel while still making these characters feel like human beings who are more than just their infertility issues. The direct medical discussion, frank emotional expression and charming friendships make this book a must read for anyone who loves someone touched by infertility.

Maria Hoagland says

Through three characters with three individual and varying circumstances, the reader can feel the gamut of the emotions, challenges, and procedures many infertile couples put themselves through to have what they want most in the world. Lydia Winters does an amazing job of taking something medical and technical and weaving it effortlessly into a spellbinding story. It's a perfect balance between explaining to where a reader without prior knowledge can understand and also making it so those who have gone the medical procedures remember and completely relate. In short, *Wishing on Baby Dust* does just what good fiction should do--it allows the reader to fully experience and understand a situation they may never find themselves in. The characters are believable, the story captivating, and in the end, I felt uplifted and hopeful. I loved reading this book and I think it would elicit some interesting book club discussions. And doesn't it have the most adorable cover?

Donna Weaver says

WHAT IT'S ABOUT

Infertility stinks. No one knows that better than Megan. After six years of insanity-inducing hormone drugs

and desperate prayers, all she has to show for her efforts are enough negative pregnancy tests to fill a bassinet. All around her women are accidentally getting pregnant—like her star piano student—while Megan remains hopelessly barren.

Megan's never felt so alone. But she's not the only one struggling.

Christina has just entered the world of infertility, made worse by the fact her husband isn't ready to be a father. Their marriage, already hanging in the balance, is being torn apart.

Then there's Kyra, the mother of a precocious three-year-old. She's shocked to be struggling with secondary infertility. A baby is priceless, but sometimes Kyra feels like she's being forced to choose which commandment to keep: stay out of debt, or multiply and replenish the earth.

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MY TAKE

This book is so well written and deals with a tough topic. I've known a lot of couples over the years who have struggled with infertility, and it can be heartbreaking. Winters handles the three different yet similar situations deftly and manages to educate about the problems couples must handle without becoming overly scientific.

All I could think, especially relating to the mechanics of trying to become pregnant when your body's not cooperating, was, "Who knew?" My heart went out to all three women especially as the inability to get pregnant or carry a baby to term took its toll on their marriages.

While set in the LDS culture, the topic is universal. A must read, whether you've dealt with infertility yourself or not--because you know people who have. This book puts you right in their shoes. At the very least, it should make you more understanding.

I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Hanna says

Like the author, I too wanted to be a mother when I grew up. In fact, at my kindergarten graduation, I was able to loudly declare my future calling of motherhood into the microphone. And then I got married. And was told that I was infertile.

This book brought every thought and feeling from those dark days rushing back. I remembered details long buried in my mind. And I cried right along with the characters in the book. But instead of the pain I had once experienced, I saw victory. And determination.

I am now a mom to 4 miracle little girls, through the gift of adoption and modern medicine. Because the road to motherhood is so sacred a journey and we took a different route than most to get here, I was so nervous to read this book. I have read books with similar subjects in the past and have been disappointed and heartbroken by some of the terminology and attitude, especially in regards to adoption. My heart literally soared to hear all of the "positive adoption terms" in this book and to have my own feelings so eloquently expressed.

I am grateful to have been able to read this beautiful book and take my own walk down memory lane tonight. I know that my story is irrelevant in this review, but I did want to add something that I heard recently that I just love, "Adoption and birth are one day events. Everything else is just parenting." Thank you, dear Lydia for writing a book that speaks to MOMS, no matter how we got here.
