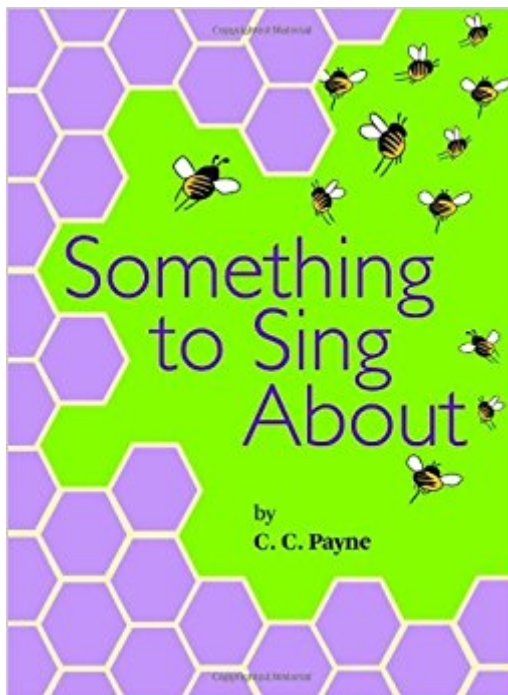


The book was found

Something To Sing About



Synopsis

Jamie Jo's fear of bees has been not much more than an annoyance for the Morgan family -- that is until the summer their church explodes. While trying to make sense of this event, Jamie Jo deals with overcoming other struggles: she fears reaching out to a new girl in the neighborhood, she worries about taking on the responsibility of a puppy, and she doesn't know why her older brother's return to town has caused tension in the family. She has to deal with all of this without going outside (where the bees live) alone! Readers will be captivated by Jamie Jo's humor, wit, and small-town charm as she begins to see her world and her faith in a new way.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 690L (What's this?)

Paperback: 167 pages

Publisher: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers (July 15, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0802853447

ISBN-13: 978-0802853448

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.5 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,635,446 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #77 in [Books > Children's](#)

[Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Emotions & Feelings](#) #167

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Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Grade 4 – Ten-year-old Jamie Jo Morgan is deathly afraid of bees since she watched a movie in which the young main character dies of a bee sting. She spends most of summer vacation inside unless her mother is with her carrying a flyswatter. She longs for a friend, a wish that comes true when a girl her age moves into her neighborhood. A series of events, beginning with her mother's exclusion from the church choir because she can't sing, cause Jamie Jo to question her faith in God and face her fears. Jamie's struggles and questions are met with wisdom, humor, and a positive attitude especially through the character of Mrs. Morgan. Payne

gives the story enough realistic family and friend imperfections to keep readers interested and the plot from taking on a syrupy-sweet edge. Christian ideals are shown in behaviors rather than preached. This uplifting story contains much to appeal to a broad audience. —D. Maria LaRocco, Cuyahoga Public Library, Strongsville, OH Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Starred Review Jamie Jo Morgan, a 10-year-old living in Franklin, Kentucky, is afraid of bees. So afraid she doesn't leave the house without her mother, making sure Mama is brandishing a flyswatter. As the summer wears on, her bee "allergy" inhibits her greatly. When a new girl, Rafi, moves across the street, Jamie Jo is afraid to go over alone. But then Rafi puts out a Puppies for Sale sign, and Jamie Jo has a decision to make. Having a puppy is a deeply held dream, but how can she care for one if she can't take it out for a walk? Payne, a first-time novelist, offers a book that, like *The Penderwicks* (2006), harkens back to such perennial favorites as the *Moffats* series and the works of Elizabeth Enright. There is more, though, as Payne takes a familiar story line about childhood fears and adds a Christian bent. An explosion at the church offers both Jamie Jo and readers the opportunity to ponder the mysterious ways of the Lord. And unlike many books for middle-graders, the adults here are fully fleshed-out characters, whose foibles are seen clearly through a child's eyes. The word wholesome sometimes gets a bad rap, but here it's leavened by gentle humor and considerable insight, and it fits this book just fine. Grades 4-6. —Ilene Cooper

It may well be 5 stars but just received and hasn't been confirmed. The first reader thought it looked great but it hasn't been finished yet. Thank you.

My daughter read this book for AR points. What a delightful refreshing and creatively written story. I would highly recommend this book.

It's a really great book .really great so great that its great so great that. It's greatest great it's the greatest. Like I said its great.

This book truly is, "something to sing about!" Bucking the trend so popular in children's literature these days, (think vampires, wizards and dark forces), C.C. Payne created a sweet, sincere and

principaled story whose characters are likable and relatable. Interspersed with a ribbon of faith and Southern "down home goodness" Something to Sing About is a story that was a joy to share with my nine year old daughter. At last, a character that shares the faith that we do! I would highly recommend this book to anyone who is looking for innocence rather than sophistication, respectful rather than disdainful and refreshing rather than trendy. You will not be disappointed!

I loved this book. It's wonderful to have young reader books that old readers can also enjoy. There is a charm and spirit to this book that few other books capture. The characters are appealing, realistic in the "now" and yet also reminiscent of years ago. The themes that are dealt with are important and life-long (e.g., how to love, how to get along with others, how to overcome fears, how to be kind, what is God all about, what does belief in God mean anyway, how to forgive, how to be courageous, how to change, etc.) yet they are discussed in a way that is entirely right out of the ten year-old brain. You'll have to read the book to know what I mean. Extraordinary. Can't wait for this author to KEEP ON WRITING!

This is author C.C. Payne's debut novel and she's definitely hit it out of the park. SOMETHING TO SING ABOUT received a starred review from the professional journal BOOKLIST; I believe their words were "humorous, wholesome, heartwarming". What a much needed niche for today's young people! This is a fabulous story for grades 4-7 that speaks to fear and faith and family life and friendship. I work as a public school librarian and can't keep this book on the shelf. I can assure you we'll be reading more from C.C. Payne, and I can also assure you that I'll be purchasing her future works for my middle school's shelves!

I got this book for my two nieces who are 11 and 12. They both are afraid of bee's and I thought it would help them with their fears. The book dealt with overcoming fears and how the she work through them. My nieces loved the book and the character Jamie. They are a step closer to working through their fears. Thank you to the author for such a great story. A loving Aunt

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