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God Went To Beauty School



Synopsis

A deeply compelling collection of poems about God and our everyday world from a Newbery medalist. Cynthia Rylant takes teens on an invigorating spiritual journey as she explores what God's life on Earth might be like. Rylant's reflective and often humorous verse follows God as he tries out human activities such as getting a dog, writing a fan letter, and making spaghetti. *God Went to Beauty School* combines the awesome with the everyday in an accessible, thought-provoking, and intelligent manner.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Grade 6 Up-A collection of innovative, thought-provoking, and insightful poems. What would happen if God got a desk job? Or bought a couch at Pottery Barn? Or found some fudge in his mailbox? These are just a few of the mundane happenings Rylant places at the deity's feet. Through everyday events (like showers) to athletics (He falls 20 times while Rollerblading) to more shocking revelations (He gets arrested in a bar fight), God finds out what it is like to live like the rest of us. And guess what? He is just like one of us. He wants juice and comic books when He's sick. And through it all, God is surprised by these revelations. These short poems are visceral in their insight, and they shouldn't be considered blasphemous jokes as much as clever "what if?" ponderings. Has God just been "winging it" His whole life? Rylant has a carefully crafted response. Christian or private schools may find this collection inappropriate to their teachings, but read with an open mind and vivid imagination, it should speak to young people. A triumphant achievement. Sharon Korbeck, Waupaca Area Public Library, WI Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gr. 4-8. A recent hit song asked what if God was one of us? Here, the question is, what if He is just a Guy (or possibly a Girl) who plays poker and watches movies and sometimes catches a cold and needs Mother Teresa to come over and take care of him? Such is the premise of Rylant's slim volume of poems, which is classified as fiction. In the title poem, God goes to beauty school because He likes hands and wants to do nails for a living. (He calls His shop "Nails by Jim" because He worries that if He called it "Nails by God," people would think Him sacrilegious and not tip). From there, God is caught up in all sorts of worldly craziness, from getting arrested to writing a fan letter to a country music singer. The poems aren't particularly meaty, and a few of them may be deemed offensive by some readers. They are frequently funny, however, and they play on Christian tradition without disrespect, ultimately celebrating God's kindness and love. John Green Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book was referenced in a workshop I attended, so I purchased it for my 13 yr. old granddaughter but after reading it, I purchased my copy. I think this is one of the loveliest books and it's a short one, that I've ever read. It is very spiritual and real. Much food for thought. Simple but beautiful. Funny, too.

In an era of religious extremism and intolerance, this book reminds us that God is for everyone, and that we are each entitled to our own definition of who He/She is. The message that God may be among us or, more romantically, within us, puts more responsibility on us to live well and treat all beings with reverence. I recommend this book to Theists, Atheists, Humanists, Undecideds, and especially to young people who are forming their own beliefs. It's an inspiring, witty and accessible perspective on a big subject.

Love the poem about hands.

It's a very short book of (what I consider) contemporary poetry. I borrowed it once from the library, and knew I had to have my own copy. I personally love this book and it makes me feel nostalgic and wistful; it's not really about Christianity or the dogma attached to it. But it makes you realize it's alright to daydream about God as other things than a bearded man in a white robe frowning down on you.

But, He/She is!! And that's the point of these radiant, glowing, fun and oh, so totally enlightening poems. I read the book in one sitting and then read it aloud to my husband. He's not a poetry person, but even he loved these poems. Here are the titles to some of the poems: God Went To Beauty School, God Got a Dog, God Got in a Boat, God Bought a Couch, God Made Spaghetti, God Went to the Doctor (loved this one! The line, "And God said, well you're pretty good at playing me, I figured you'd know what the problem was," had me rolling with laughter.) God Got Arrested, God Woke Up, God Took a Bath, God Went Rollerblading, God Caught a Cold, God Saw a Movie, God Wrote a Book, God Got Cable, God Found God. Suffice it to say that this will be the best \$5 bucks you spend this week if you buy this amazing little book of poems and they'll have you smiling, nodding, calling your best friend to read them to her and maybe even your mother & kids. Each and every one of her poems is great and delights to the max. Buy this book, no buy several copies so you can share them. I know I'll be buying more, for sure!

Loved this book. My younger sister was a hairdresser her entire life until she passed away from cancer in her 60's. I am thrilled to know she and God can make beautiful hair together.

This is a wonderful book to give as a gift for confirmation. I wish I could find new copies of the actual book and not the electronic book. It just falls flat as an e-book. Please, Publisher, please bring this wonderful book back!

A wonderful book for those who don't take themselves too seriously. :) It was recommended at my church and I'm glad I ordered it!

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