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Forty Something Phoenix (Memoirs Of Marlayna Glynn Book 4)



Synopsis

An award-winning memoirist throws open the door to strange new worlds when she sells everything she owns and sets out on a journey across thirteen countries. Plagued with exhaustion after fifteen years of single parenthood, the mid 40s author felt she'd given every part of herself away. "I'd reached a point in my life where something had to give, and it could no longer be me." Any middle-aged woman who has experienced a moment and asks, "Is this all there is?" will find it hard to not follow the author's reckless footsteps toward a rocky self discovery. This is not a politically-correct polished story with a neat and perfect ending. Fans of Marlayna Glynn's memoirs will recognize her painful self-scrutiny as she explores competing urges for self-acceptance and happiness amidst countries and people not her own. In exploring the darker layers of middle-aged femininity, Marlayna shares vignettes from the first six months of her journey. Readers will ultimately find hope in this memoir that teaches the wisdom and responsibility for creating your own miracles.

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Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed this book. It was so fascinating to hear about other parts of the country which I've never been to. Hearing about the scenery and the food and the people of her travels made me smile and piqued my curiosity. I find her so brave. I don't think I could leave the security of my home and my family to go off on my own like that because I am not brave. I love how candid Marlayna is. Reading it I thought, "Wow, I bet so many people are judging her right now, because that's how our culture is." And that makes me like her even more. I read her story and thought "I'm not the only 'forty something' person who has these same feelings and insecurities." I can so relate to her even though we have lived such different lives. This is my 3rd book of hers that I have read and I look forward to reading her next.

I've read the 3 previous books in Brown's biography series. I still find her life fascinating, but this my least favorite of the 4. I can see why people think she is self-absorbed, but if you've read the first book and read the other books about her struggles with depression, you'll have a better idea of why she's travelling in Europe instead of being with her children. Maybe you'll like her recollection of her antics, maybe you won't. If you take her age and forget that she's a mother of 4 teenagers, it's a lot more entertaining - I too found myself a bit judgemental at times. But how many books would sell about a woman who never takes risks?

I gave up around 1/4 of the way. The author is too self-serving. Easy to see why she has problems at home. Any of us who have children know how hard headed they can be. And yes many of us know about family betrayal. Parents as well as spouses. But her version of not much money is laughable. Her sense of reality is skewered by alcohol and a childish notion that the world owes her. This woman needs to grow up. Who doesn't want to run away at times? Abandoned children by narcissistic parents have ongoing problems their entire lives. Aside from physical abuse, nothing is more harmful than abandonment. Sorry I had to even give it one star.

I finished the 3rd book in the series yesterday, purchased the 4th and finished that one today. Am purchasing the 5th tonight. Have to say, I am really going to be sorry when the 5th book is done. Can't remember when I've enjoyed reading anything quite this much. What an incredible life experience Marlayna has had and her ability to share through her books is amazing. What started out as sadness for what she went through as a child has turned into admiration as she moves through her adult life.

I'm enjoying Marlayna Glynn Brown's memoirs. Her life is interesting and she is insightful. The only problem I have with these books is that they need to be better proofread and corrected. It is very distracting and annoying when reading along and a word is left out, or a word or phrase is repeated obviously in error. The worst was when the name of a character kept changing back and forth throughout a chapter. Some of her people are assigned fake names to protect their identities; but what she tries out in a rough draft shouldn't be evidenced in the final text.

Marlayna has written another great book that is totally honest. The entire time I was reading, I found myself in the moment. I felt like I was walking side by side with her during her experience. She is my favorite author by far, and I always enjoy her books. Thanks Marlayna for your honest refreshing writing and for your friendship.

The book started out seemingly interesting, however it turned into a drawn out story without much actually happening. I've only gotten halfway through it and keep waiting for something interesting to happen. I not interested in the writer's relationship with Juno. The description of her visits to places is lacking in detail. I was hoping for more travel detail and less of what seems her doomed relationship.

I was so excited to see that Marlayna had published yet ANOTHER book. One of the great and inspiring aspects of this author is that she never fails to please me as a reader while maintaining an honesty and remaining true to herself. I feel very connected to this author and never feel like I am reading a book, but rather, sitting face to face with the author herself as she bares her soul and speaks of her travels and inner reflections. I too, am the mother of a teenager. Much like Marlayna , I was his sole caregiver for years. His father has since stepped up to the plate, and I have gladly handed the reigns over to him, all while considering and inquiring of my son's feelings, needs and desires. There are many common interests and characteristics that tie me to this author and leave me always rooting for her, though she is not someone who needs rooting for or a cheerleader as you know she has the strength of many armies and will always come out shining and unscathed. I have already highlighted many quotes in this book and have not even finished it! Thirty pages in and my book is adorned with blue and pink so that I can refer back to words that moved me when need be. I advise anyone, from any walk of life to read this and any/all books of Marlayna's as she is what the spirit of women should be about. I am proud to to say she is an inspiration to me and I will

always be eager to follow her on her journey.

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