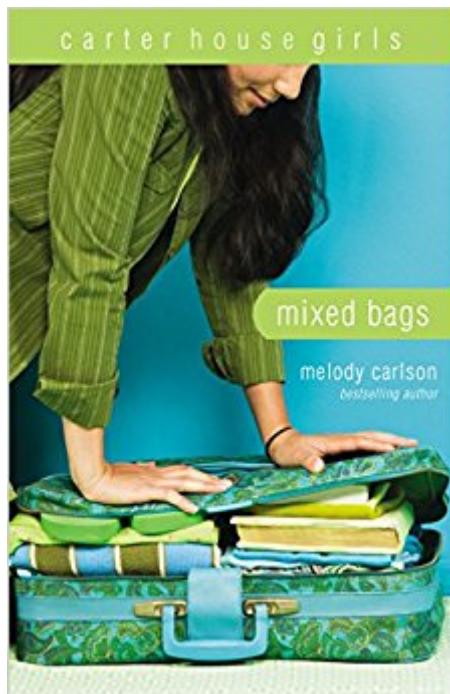


The book was found

Mixed Bags (Carter House Girls)



Synopsis

With six teenage girls living under one roof, things are bound to get interesting. Mix six teenaged girls and one '60s fashion icon (retired, of course) in an old Victorian-era boarding home. Add guys and dating, a little high-school angst, and huge personalities and you've got the Carter House Girls. When her mom died, DJ was forced to move in with her grandmother, internationally famous '60s fashion model Katherine Carter. Now Mrs. Carter's opened a boarding home for young ladies, and DJ, "who would rather wear her basketball uniform than haute couture," is sure they'll all be unbearable fashion snobs. One by one, the girls arrive and begin to figure out how to fit into this new family, getting to know each other and forming friendships. Sure, there's an aspiring diva or two, but before long, the Carter House girls are dating, fighting, laughing, shopping, and sharing clothes, purses, shoes not to mention their deepest secrets. DJ might not turn into the perfect little lady her grandmother has in mind, but one thing's for certain "with all these new sisters, her life will never be the same!"

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When her mom died, DJ had to move in with her grandmother, internationally famous '60s fashion model Katherine Carter. Now Mrs. Carter's opened a boarding home for young ladies, and DJ---who would rather wear her basketball team uniform than haute couture---is just sure they'll all be unbearable fashion snobs. One by one, the girls arrive and begin to figure out how to fit into this new family, getting to know each other and forming friendships. Sure, there's an aspiring diva or

two, but before long, the Carter House girls are dating, fighting, laughing, shopping, sharing clothes, purses, shoes ... and their deepest secrets. DJ may not turn into the perfect little lady her grandmother has in mind, but one thing's for certain--with all these new 'sisters,' her life will never be the same! --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Melody Carlson has written more than 200 books for teens, women, and children. Before publishing, Melody traveled around the world, volunteered in teen ministry, taught preschool, raised two sons, and worked briefly in interior design and later in international adoption. "I think real-life experiences inspire the best fiction," she says. Her wide variety of books seems to prove this theory.

DJ is in high school and just trying to fit in. Her recent loss of her mother has made her father move her into her grandmother's house. Here, her grandmother has started a house to hold girls that she wishes to transform into debutantes. With already having trouble fitting in, being forced to live with already beautiful and popular girls is just going to make DJ's life that much harder. You watch as she adjusts to living with these 5 new girls who're just as different from her as they are from each other. They have many differences and many similarities. The book is light and an easy read. The characters are very believable and anyone who went to high school anywhere can relate to one or more of them. I liked the flow of the book because it really gave you a chance in this first one to get to know the characters. My only problem is that when it came to DJ being really upset and her Christian friend Rhiannon came to talk to her, it was like she magically became a Christian herself. It wasn't too forced but it did seem to be thrown in there like the scene was created for just that purpose and didn't really evolve well. Still it is a good read and has some great morals and lessons to teach girls who are still in school.

The book is cute & a quick read (224 pgs in print) but be warned that this is book 1 of an overpriced series. I'm well into adulthood and still found it fun to read about the tomboy trying to fit in with the pretty, fashionable, & snooty girls who will instantly be popular in any school they attend. (I can still remember those days.) I didn't realize this was a Christian book until the end so the religion is not shoved down your throat. DJ's quick acceptance of God into her heart, her immediately feeling God's peace, and starting to pray (several times the next day) was a little too abrupt for me. I'm not really sure that happens in real life--much less to a teenage girl in her circumstance. The book doesn't conclude any of the character's stories (it IS a series, after all). I got this book free and the book got me interested enough to want to read the rest of the series so I can find out what

happened. However, the books are too overpriced for their size and content for me to buy them. Be aware the books are between 208 and 224 pages and priced at \$8 or \$9 per book. If they were priced around \$3-\$5 each I'd buy them. But a "teen book" that is 224 pages is not worth that and the publisher needs to wake up. That's the price for a 400+ page John Grisham novel on the best seller's list. If you find it on the freebie list- go for it. Or if you don't mind the price it's a nice, easy read with a Christian undertone. Teenage (girl) angst; bickering; jealousy; little bit of backstabbing; trying to find yourself. I'm sure the rest of the series delves into it further.

I'm a fan of teen fiction, but from the beginning I was a bit skeptical about this book. I like the main character, and the clash of personalities between her and the other girls in the house. Having a few of her old friends, now changed, added some color to the girls, considering the rich snobby girls were a bit boring. Just as the plot started gaining momentum, the ending was rushed and fell completely flat. Nothing was resolved, and DJ's switch to Christianity was so sudden it just felt out of place. I've got nothing against Christian lit, but that scene felt like a complete curveball. I'm definitely not interested in continuing this series. I would have liked to seen a better ending with some sort of resolution.

I am so loving the chance to preview new authors through the very generous Kindle "free book" links. This is the first book I have read by Melody Carlson, and thoroughly enjoyed it. I, of course, had to immediately read the second book "Stealing Bradford". I bought the third book, "Homecoming Queen", and just finished reading that. I am so enmeshed in these girls' lives now that I just downloaded the fourth book, "Viva Vermont", and will read that tomorrow. I see there is a #5 and #6, and I can't wait to see what happens. Yes, I am enjoying the writing of Melody Carlson.

I think I got this book from while it was doing a "free for a limited time" promotion. I had not noticed that this was a Christian book at first. If I had known, I probably would not have downloaded it. I do not have anything against the religion, but Christian books used to give me an impression that its "boring". This book was a nice surprise. It doesn't force you into believing, its interesting enough to make me keep wanting to read it / to know what happens next. But, I was a little disappointed to find out that this is only the first book of a series of 8.

I had to give the story 5 stars but I'm also giving the story a one star for leaving the story hang in limbo just so the author can make another buck figuring you will buy book 2. However I won't be

buying #2 as I can live without it. GAB

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