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Speak to My Heart

by Stacy Hawkins Adams



About the Book

Serena Jasper is successful, sassy, and saved. Her life is going great. Her professional advertising career has hit the fast track, her future looks promising, and her mother couldn't be more proud.

But then Mama shares a devastating secret that changes Serena's life. Feeling like her whole identity is in question, Serena decides she needs a break from everything and everyone. From Mama. And from God.

Throwing herself into her budding career and her new friendship with a handsome seminary student named Micah, Serena discovers she can no longer avoid God's voice or Mama's secret. Can she come to terms with her mother's past, her relationships, and the One who was always speaking to her heart, even when she wasn't listening? Or is it too late to make amends?

Discussion Guide

1. Some people think Serena's family secret is a big deal, and others don't because it happens fairly often. Why do you think Serena allowed something that wasn't her fault to devastate her?

2. Since Serena refused to forgive her mother, does this mean she had no faith or that her faith was less mature than she and others may have believed her faith to be?

3. Was Serena's anger toward her mother justified? Was it realistic for Serena to stay angry with and estranged from both her mother and God for so long?

4. Was it shocking to learn that Serena tried to push God away? Do people today do this?

5. Throughout the book, God speaks to Serena, even when she's trying to push him away. Do you ever feel as if God is speaking to you through people or circumstances? How do you know it's him?

6. In addition to God speaking to Serena, what other characters spoke to each other's hearts throughout the book?

7. What kept Erika from leaving her abusive boyfriend Elliott? Could Serena have done more to convince Erika to flee? Was that her responsibility?

8. How did Serena's friendship with Micah help her faith to mature?

9. Was Micah's portrayal as someone who was spiritual and compassionate, but not preachy, realistic?

10. Did Serena handle her relationship with Tawana appropriately?

11. Why was Ms. Carter, Tawana's mother, so angry with her daughter? Was her frustration justified?

12. Was Serena wrong for not making amends with Deacon Gates?

13. The book ends with pivotal exchanges between Serena and her mother. Did the evolution of their relationship leave you satisfied or frustrated? Was the outcome realistic?

14. What message or theme resonated with you most throughout the book?

Author Bio

Stacy Hawkins Adams is a freelance writer with 13 years of professional journalism experience. Unitl recently, she served as the social issues reporter and inspirational columnist of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* in Richmond, Virginia. She and her husband, a minister, have two children. The live in a suburb of Richmond.

Critical Praise

"SPEAK TO MY HEART is an engrossing book with a well-developed plot and believable characters that engages you from the first page to the last."

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Publication Date: October 1, 2004
Genres: Christian, Fiction
Paperback: 256 pages
Publisher: Revell
ISBN-10: 0800759702
ISBN-13: 9780800759704