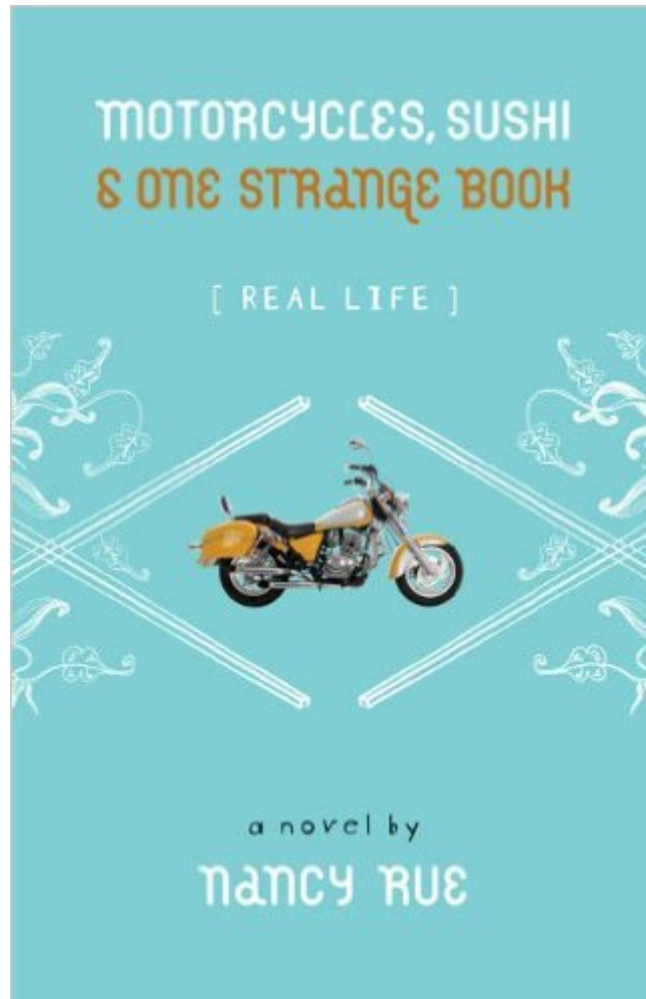


The book was found

Motorcycles, Sushi And One Strange Book (Real Life)



Synopsis

Normal? While family dinners and vacations to touristy destinations are ordinary events for her 'normal' friends, fifteen-year-old Jessie Hatcher's normal life means dealing with her ADHD and her mother's bipolar disorder. So why is Jessie shocked when the unexpected happens? Now her 'normal' includes living in Florida with the father she always thought was dead and learning the secrets of sushi from a man who teaches by tormenting her. Life isn't any saner with her dad, but a cute guy and a mysterious book might just be the crazy Jessie needs.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (42 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

From the cover of this book, this looks like it will be your normal, fluffy, Chick-lit YA story. Well as the old saying goes, don't judge a book by it's cover. The cover may be light but the story is heavy and deep. As soon as you start reading, Jessie's situation hits you from the get go. She's only 15 but she's experienced a lifetime of hardships that some adults will never have to face. It made me sad to think that she's had to deal with her mother who is bipolar all by herself and with no one else to help her out at all. It's caused her to have to lie about it to her friends her entire life and there's no one to turn to when she's in desperate need of help. Then out of the blue, she gets a phone call from a man who says he's her biological dad who she thought was dead all these years. Jessie's life begins to change starting on that day. It's easy for a while to get annoyed with Jessie's behavior.

Her mother mentions several times that she has the maturity of an 8 year old in a 15 year old body. And it's true, that there are times when I don't understand why she acts so immaturely sometimes and want to get frustrated with her behavior. However then it's explained about her ADHD and all the problems she's had to deal with living with a mother who is bipolar and it all makes sense. I'm not excusing her behavior but it's good to see that this book does NOT condemn the use of medication or psychiatrists. This book does feature passages from the Bible but they are portrayed in the form of the mysterious book that Jessie finds. She discovers that it speaks directly to her and helps her in times of need. I really liked how the version of the Bible used is The Message as that is one of my favorite versions because I feel that it really speaks to people who normally avoid reading the Bible because they think they cannot understand it. Jessie's usage of the book is sprinkled throughout the story and is not overtly preachy. Instead it helps and guides her instead of dominating over her life. Topics such as ADHD, mental illness, alcoholism which are normally avoided in most Christian fiction is brought to full attention here. There are even multi cultural characters to help develop the story more. There isn't a happy ending and there is no miraculous event where everyone gets well and lives happily ever after as a family. I wish more adult Christian fiction authors would take note of this as they tend to avoid almost all those elements in their books. Why is it that teens are more open to understand that life is not all roses and sunshine but adults want to avoid reality? Overall, I really enjoyed this book and I think it's a great start to the series. I'm looking forward to reading the rest of the books and discovering how the RL Book will affect all those who come across it. Again, don't dismiss this book as fluff. Be prepared to be affected while you read.

Jessie was fifteen and living with her mother, her mother's mood swings, and her own medication when, out of the blue, the father she'd thought was dead turned up. Perhaps her father's arrival was the catalyst, but Jessie's mom attempted suicide. No holds barred when this redhead was shuttled down to Florida - Jessie isn't one to hold in things - to live with this father she barely knew. In the airport, a book found its way to Jessie. Jessie was thrilled to learn that her father owned a Harley Davidson and a sushi restaurant. Less thrilling was learning that her father was a very pious man who prayed regularly. The book that found Jessie was a contemporary story of Jesus, modernized and simplified so that it was more than palatable to a teenager. The lessons in the book mirrored Jessie's experiences, down to and including the nasty surprise of a little step-sister added to the mix. While I was disappointed that the book wasn't all *Motorcycles and Sushi* because I really wasn't in the mood to read a religious book when I picked this up, I found that I did, indeed, like the

writing and that I liked Jessie. The religion in *Motorcycles, Sushi & One Strange Book* is as gentle to the reader as it is in Jessie's "Real Life" book. I can see a teenager who enjoys this book picking up, in a few years, a copy of *God on a Harley*.

When Jessie's mom is sent to the hospital for gulping down a bunch of pills, Jessie is left with her dad. Who she had thought was dead. Her plan is simple: drive him nuts until he sends her back home. Except it might be nicer in some ways in Florida: like motorcycles, the beach and a book that she can actually read. Can there really be a relief from the hamster wheel in her head? Can she just be herself, without always covering up the fact that she has ADHD? Like most Nancy Rue books, *Motorcycles, Sushi and One Strange Book* is awesome. I love how Jessie changes from the I-have-to-hide-this girl to someone who more or less embraces herself as she is. *RL*-the book that she found herself reading despite her disability- is basically a modern-day paraphrase of the Bible and can mysteriously blur when the reading is enough for the day. Although a book like that isn't really out there, Nancy Rue does show us that parts of the Bible can stand out to us too. This is the first of the Real Life series for teens. The others are *Boyfriends*, *Burritos* and *an Ocean of Trouble*, *Tournaments*, *Cocoa* and *One Wrong Move* and *Limos*, *Lattes*, and *My Life on the Fringe*. They can all be read as stand-alones, since the only thread is the *RL* book that they find when they need it and leave for someone else to find.

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Real Places) (Real Kids! Real Places! (Paperback)) First Book of Sushi (World Snacks) The Complete Book of Sushi The Book on Investing In Real Estate with No (and Low) Money Down: Real Life Strategies for Investing in Real Estate Using Other People's Money Yellow Roses Student Book: Real Girls. Real Life. Real Hope. (NavPress Devotional Readers) The Complete Guide to Sushi and Sashimi: Includes 625 step-by-step photographs

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