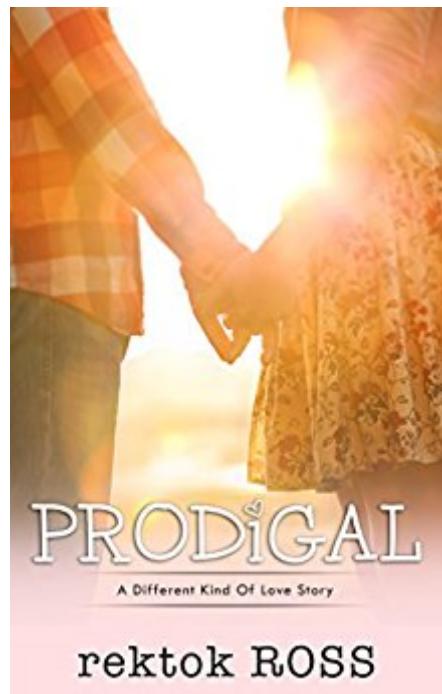


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# Prodigal



## **Synopsis**

\*\*\* AN BESTSELLING BOOK\*\*\*\*A TEEN INK HOT NEW RELEASE BOOK\*\*It was supposed to be Lexy Quinnâ™s year. Shy, pragmatic seventeen-year-old Lexy has finally landed the coveted spot as Senior Editor of her schoolâ™s newspaper when the rug is ripped out from under her. Her mother is diagnosed with a rare illness and the family must move half-way across the country to privileged Preston Hills, Texas. Lexy canâ™t think of a worse place to be than at a school full of snobby rich kids where sheâ™ll have to start all over to get people to notice her writing, orâ™ who is she kiddingâ™ notice her at all. When jock celebrity quarterback and all-around golden boy Ash Preston gives her an exclusive interview, Lexyâ™s life takes an unexpected turn. Ash is the perfect guy and even better, he sees Lexy as she wants to be seen. There's just one problem: Ash is Christian and Lexy doesn't believe in God. Opposites attract but the differences between Lexy and Ash seem too big to overcome until tragedy strikes. Lexy is forced to question everything she once knew as true and along the way, learns life-changing lessons about friendship, forgiveness, and following your heart.

## **Book Information**

File Size: 720 KB

Print Length: 340 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Ic13 Books (January 29, 2013)

Publication Date: January 29, 2013

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00B83U3XM

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #531,630 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #122

inÂ Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Religious > Christian > Relationships #473 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Religious #581 inÂ Kindle

## Customer Reviews

FINALLY!!! A book my teenage daughter and I can agree on! Heard about this from some mommy bloggers who were raving about it. When I went online and saw how many great reviews it had, it was a no-brainer. The book is about a shy high school senior who wants to be a journalist and is just about to takeover as editor of her school paper when her family is forced to relocate to Texas where she now has to start all over. Immediately, Lexy makes enemies with Blythe Preston -- resident mean girl & Queen Bee of her new high school. Blythe makes Lexy's life miserable and, even worse, there's no staff openings for Lexy at her new school newspaper. Just when it seems like everything she has worked hard for her whole life is falling apart, in walks Ash Preston (Blythe's older brother). Ash is pretty much your basic swoony stud muffin and to Lexy's shock the attraction seems to be mutual. But here's the kicker -- Lexy and Ash have different religious beliefs and the two can't seem to get past their own misconceptions and stereotypes to really give their feelings a chance. Plus, in the book there's a whole lot of other things that get in the way of TRUE LOVE. The story is a little like a teen version of that old movie "The Way We Were." Overall, "Prodigal" was a quick and easy read. Note: this is NOT Hemingway. The writing style is pretty basic, but I liked that about it. Sometimes I just want a book that doesn't make my head hurt. My daughter and I also loved the romance. It was angsty and sweet and exciting and everything you'd expect in teen romance (think "Twilight" or "Perfect Chemistry") BUT, and here's the best part, it's got an uplifting message that's refreshing and different. I didn't find the religious undertones preachy at all and, in fact, it lead to some great discussions between my daughter and I and some of her friends. There is also a subplot that deals with illness which reminded me of "The Fault In Our Stars" (which I loved) but I actually think this book dealt with it in an even more realistic way. Would highly recommend for fans of John Green, Sarah Dessen, Colleen Hoover, really, just about anyone who likes to read a good, clean romance.

'Prodigal' was a carefully woven faith-based story about a girl learning to cope with the loss of a loved one in her life. Now I don't usually read faith-based novels, but every now and then I'll read a summary and think I'll enjoy it...and as long as it's not riddled with bible stories and such (where it feels like the author's trying to teach me something) then I give it a go. Anyway, I was given an arc of this some time ago and I decided to read it while I had the chance. And I have to say I was glad I did. There was something almost natural about the way some of the bible stories were written into

the book. Sometimes when tragedy hits your life, you ask the question of why? People deal with it different ways, but it seemed so natural that Lexy started asking questions about faith and God. Yeah, I have a squeamish feeling in my stomach even writing about God, but there you have it, because I was very impressed with this book. The story line, even though I've read a similar plot before, was done so well it didn't matter. I could relate to the story line - mainly because I lost my father about a month ago. I felt Lexy's pain -with not only the loss of her loved one, but also with the other dramas she had in her life. *Prodigal* was such a fun novel, but also a sad one at times. It made me cry anyway. That's another thing I liked about this book - the range of emotions it made me feel. It made me laugh, cry and want to throw things. The writing made it that way - just like the characters did. Lexy was a girl who had left everything behind and had to start fresh because of it. She handled almost seamlessly. Was she perfectly behaved? Nah, but she wasn't a snarky cow either. I think she was very pragmatic. She was likable and relatable in the way she dealt with things. She didn't become instantly popular, but neither was she immediately disliked. And that's what I liked. She was real. Every now and then I'll come across a boy main character who deserves to be crush-worthy and I think Ash was. Sure, he was the hottest, sexiest, blah, blah, blah around, but he was also a spineless coward some of the time. His reasons for this were sound, even if his beliefs were not ... and I'm not talking about religion here. He was so well loved that his sister had his back and I liked that. It was so nice to see a normal brother/sister relationship. Sure, brothers and sisters fight when they're children, but most of the time they get along. I know I did with my brother. And the secondary characters were done really well, especially Blythe. I really loved her transition during the story. She was developed in such a way that my thoughts of her had completely turned around by the time I had finished '*Prodigal*'. My compliments to Rektok for having the skill to change my mindset about a character. The only thing I didn't like about '*Prodigal*' was that I felt some of scenes could have been fleshed out more. Some of the more serious parts felt like they had just been skimmed over and it would have been a lot more moving if they had been better developed. All in all, though, this was an absolutely fantastic faith-based read. I would recommend this to anyone who likes general fiction, although it wouldn't suit someone who absolutely loathed religion in their books. It might just drive you nuts.

*Prodigal* was recommended to me by a friend. I decided to download it during a vacation and once I picked it up I could not put it down! The protagonist, Lexy, was easy to love as she dealt with being forced to move before her senior year of high school, discovering that her mother had cancer, and falling in love for the first time. The author does a great job of developing Lexy's character; she was

not your stereotypically beautiful heroine, but she was a determined individual with a big heart who continued to pursue her dream of becoming editor of her high school newspaper despite the obstacles she encountered. She managed to handle the challenges of high school gracefully, which is no easy feat! This book was well-written and although the characters are seniors in high school, the underlying message of hope and faith can be related to by readers of all ages. I highly recommend this book!

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