



Volume 58 | Issue 2

Article 26

2015

Sleiman's "Dauntless" (Book Review)

Cynthia Hammell

The Christian Librarian is the official publication of the Association of Christian Librarians (ACL). To learn more about ACL and its products and services please visit <http://www.acl.org/>

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl>

Recommended Citation

Hammell, Cynthia (2015) "Sleiman's "Dauntless" (Book Review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 58 : Iss. 2 , Article 26.
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl/vol58/iss2/26>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Christian Librarian by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact arolfe@georgefox.edu.

Dauntless,

by Dina L. Sleiman. Bloomington, MN: Bethany House, 2015. 363 pp. \$12.99.
ISBN 978076421312

Reviewed by Cynthia Hammell, Professional Librarian, Highland Park, NJ

Everyone thinks Lady Merry Ellison is dead. She was 15 years old when her family was slaughtered after her father plotted against King John, and the village on the family estate was razed. The only survivors are the village children that Merry and her brother were able to help escape, before he too was murdered by the king's men. This band of youths and children have built shelters and lived by their wits (which has included thievery) in the forest for two years. Merry is dedicated to the welfare of the group and has been training them in many skills. These include hunting and agility as well as reading, writing and music. They have become notorious as "The Ghosts of Farthingale Forest." Merry had hoped to be married to her childhood sweetheart, Timothy Grey, son of a local baron. Since Timothy is only the ninth child of the baron, he becomes a scribe and agent for Lord Wyndemere, who is loyal to King John. Timothy is charged with catching the "ghosts," unaware of their identity. Allen, an intelligent youth with a hunger for God, also loves Merry, who is not sure if she still believes that God exists. While Merry feels responsible for this band of children, romance will have to wait. Will she learn to trust God and people again?

This novel is marketed as Young Adult. I think the young protagonist and its themes of independence and taking responsibility will attract this audience. However, Merry's adventures may have greater appeal for female readers. I found it to be entertaining, with well-defined characters. Fans of historical fiction, and possibly fantasy will enjoy it.

Developing a Biblical Worldview: Seeing Things God's Way,

by C. Fred Smith, Nashville: B&H Academic, 2015. 191 pp. \$19.99.
ISBN 9781433674464

*Reviewed by Paul Roberts, Director of Library Services, Southeastern Bible College,
Birmingham, AL*

A current buzzword often heard in educational contexts is "worldview." Even secular media has picked up on this terminology, although their definition is often unclear, in my humble opinion. Dr. Smith is not about setting secular media straight, but is about challenging those who claim their authority is God's Word to look again at their life.