



Volume 61 | Issue 1

Article 17

5-1-2018

Marlow's "Andi to the rescue" (book review)

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Recommended Citation

Rich, Jennifer (2018) "Marlow's "Andi to the rescue" (book review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 61 : Iss. 1 , Article 17.
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl/vol61/iss1/17>

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Book Reviews



Marlow, S. K. (2017). *Andi to the rescue*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications. 111 pp. \$7.99. ISBN 9780825444333

In the fourth and final book in the Circle C Stepping Stones (ages 7 to 10), Susan Marlow (a former teacher) details a harrowing journey for Andi Carter and her mother. This child's historical fiction adventure can be enjoyed as a standalone book, but many characters have been introduced in the previous three books.

As a result of mistaken identity, an outlaw, a fictional representative of Black Bart, takes Andi and her mother captive. Thankfully another child saw the abduction and was able to notify authorities, but for weeks, Andi and her mother are held captive. During this time, the gentleman outlaw demands to learn to read. Andi is able to get away and following her mother's directions, she finds help. In a twist of irony, the outlaw helps the captives in the end.

As with all the other books in the series, Marlow includes a vocabulary list, some illustrations, and a short historical facts section about Black Bart, the gentleman outlaw. *Andi to the Rescue* has an outlandish plot, in a historical constant setting, and it allows the reader to imagine what grace looks like when a person is wronged, modeled by Andi and her mother. This book can be both an exciting adventure for parents to read aloud to children and for independent reading.

Reviewer

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