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Kyle's "Capture me" (book review)

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Book Reviews



Kyle, S. (2018). *Capture me*. Santa Rosa, CA: Books & Such. 309 pp. \$12.99. ISBN 9781790615209

Capture Me, by Sherry Kyle, is a snapshot of family life that involves a young couple thinking about marriage, a broken family and an angry teenager, a long-lost relative, meddling siblings, misunderstandings, and a daughter who is navigating the expectations of her parents as she chooses a different path than the one they planned for her.

Ashley Stevens and Bryan Miller have a number of obstacles to overcome before they can think about being married. Ashley loves animals, to the extent that Bryan sometimes feels neglected. Bryan already has a ring, but cannot seem to actually propose. Meanwhile, Bryan's sister and her husband have separated, and his 15-year-old niece moves into Bryan's house while tensions are high between his sister and his niece. This puts a strain on Ashley and Bryan's relationship. Ashley's foster dog, Tanner, helps Bryan's niece cope with her life circumstances.

Ashley's adopted family is facing its own crisis as one of her sisters delivers a premature baby and they anxiously wait for the all-clear from the doctors. Another of Ashley's sisters discovers that Ashley has a long-lost biological sister named Kayla. But before they can meet, Ashley's sister must convince Kayla to agree to meet Ashley.

Kayla, a medical student, is struggling in her classes, and the weight of her adopted parents' expectations makes it more difficult to tell them what she really wants to do, especially as they have financially supported her and will withdraw their support if she chooses another path. In the midst of her own personal crisis, she discovers she has a sister.

Sherry Kyle's tale of love and the joys and frustrations of family life, incorporating the inner monologue of Ashley, Bryan, and Kayla, rings true. One can imagine this being any family in a snippet of time, not perfect by any means, but well-meaning even when taking missteps. Each character demonstrates the competing demands of family and a romantic relationship, especially as unexpected events change their plans.

This novel would fit well in a library's contemporary Christian fiction collection. Readers who appreciate Hallmark Channel series and films would also gravitate toward *Capture Me*.

Reviewer

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