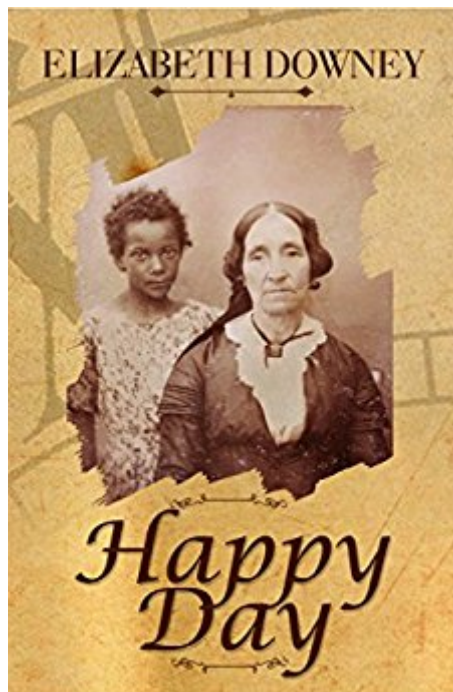


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Happy Day: A Novel



Synopsis

Once upon a time a guardian angel—Three women, two of modern times and one a slave girl from the 1860s South long since departed. But wait? Meriday, the slave girl —“You want every slave to walk behind you and be a fart catcher. I could never be like that. Not ever.”

— Hatred of slavery is the lifeblood that compels her. The story of her life—,s journey from the plantation South to Chicago mesmerizes in its brutality and soothes by its exploration into the human spirit. The men she encounters along her odyssey: a field-hand slave forced to shed his Christian name and accept the one his masters give him in jest, a dwarf with a giant—,s heart, a ship—,s captain, and a black Union army sergeant; they are heroes of epic proportion. Santine — Fascinated by a photo of Meriday taken more than a hundred and fifty years before, she has an affiliation with it, but doesn—,t understand why. She is comforted and frightened at the same time by her daily talks with the slave girl, now an angel, that she believes has taken her under wing. Accepting a challenge with an unbelievably large prize on the line, the Harvard bound high school senior from Chicago leads her all black inner-city chorus to Boston in competition against the elite Ivy League High Schools. By nobody—,s reckoning were they ever supposed to be there, and by nobody—,s reckoning could they ever compete for the win. And by her reckoning, there was never supposed to be a boy in in the faraway Massachusetts city. Grandma Brown — Meriday—,s second great granddaughter and Santine—,s eighty-year-old mentor who never saw a computer she didn—,t love. Going to the chorus competition as a chaperone, she—,s feisty and fearless as she steamrolls over obstacles. The Beantown prima donnas never saw her coming. This delightfully unusual story easily flows back and forth through history, from slave times to modern African American consciousness while touching on the spiritual theme of guardian angels and the protections they so lovingly provide. A powerful novel that touches all the emotional bells. You—,ll laugh, you—,ll cry, you—,ll fist pump till your arm tires. This is coming of age, contemporary and historical fiction, a page turner for the teen, young adult, mother, father, or grandparent reader who just enjoys a whopping good tale. Scroll to the top of the page and select the 'buy button' now.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The story of a Chicago girl's experience with her guardian angel, and the history of said angel, a former slave, is a good one. I enjoyed the first half of the book, but the second half felt like a rush to tie out all the sub plots. Additionally, the poor grammar and lack of understanding of when to use apostrophes was a distraction at best, and at times made some sentences difficult to understand. I like a happy ending, but this one was a bit over the top.

A great read that gallops along and takes you with it. The modern and historic are nicely blended using flash backs, and the use of a competition only open to the descendants of one man is clever. Loved the characters, great story telling.

Initially, the author's diction felt a bit odd, but you quickly adapt to its flow. Worth sticking with it to the end. Liked how the past and present were linked and how beautifully the two led to a pleasing and hopeful ending.

The story was very entertaining and I enjoyed reading more about the Reconstruction period. But there were typos and grammatical errors that got in the way of the enjoyment. Otherwise I'd have I given it at least 4 stars

I didn't like this book. It just wasn't my cup of tea!

Great book, the only thing I really did not like was the skipping to the past and present. I understand that the story was based on the grandmother's family story. I would recommend this book, as a way to pass down family histories.. Great book

Great reading. Traveling from one era in time, slavery and to present time and tying it all together was inspiring.

Great Read! This book was very enlightening as it provided a story of struggle and accomplishments of a young slave girl and her family. I very much enjoyed the reference to faith and the demonstration of the human spirit.

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