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The Choosing (A Seer Novel Book 1)



Synopsis

Like all citizens since the Ruining, Carrington Hale knows the importance of this day. But she never expected the moment she'd spent a lifetime preparing for her Choosing ceremony to end in disaster. Ripped from her family, she'll spend her days serving as a Lint, the lowest level of society. She knows it's her duty to follow the true way of the Authority. But as Carrington begins this nightmare, rumors of rebellion rattle her beliefs. Though the whispers contradict everything she's been told, they resonate deep within. Then Carrington is offered an unprecedented chance at the life she's always dreamed of, yet she can't shake the feeling that it may be an illusion. With a killer targeting Lints and corruption threatening the highest levels of the Authority, Carrington must uncover the truth before it destroys her.

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Customer Reviews

Carrington Hale was destined for this, destined to fail, destined to remain unChosen, destined to live as a Lint "the lowest social class of society" unloved, unwanted, and ignored. This should not have happened. She was top-tier, selected by her instructors as an almost sure thing to be Chosen.

But fate had other ideas. Carrington's world is a world far different than ours: a thing thought to bring life actually brought death, sending the world into chaos and binding the survivors together under the Authority of the Holy Robert Carson and the Veritas. The Choosing is an event that happens every year. Those aged seventeen are brought before a series of eligible men to be chosen for marriage. Those not chosen are sent outside the city to be a Lint, virtual prisoners used for manual labor. The world is structured around authority, law, and fate. As God set forth the law, so the law must be obeyed. Carrington's world is a world far too similar to ours: a world obsessed with the rule of law; where destinies seem fated and freedom appears as an illusion; where life is a desperate grasp for meaning, purpose, and identity. Rachele Dekker draws a clear and powerful comparison between the overt dystopia of The Choosing and the inner dystopia of the heart all of us struggle with in reality. As the daughter of NY Times bestselling author Ted Dekker, Rachele Dekker's debut novel comes with an amount of hype and expectation most debut novelists lack. An initial posting of the cover on the Life is Story Facebook page garnered over a hundred and fifty likes and scores of comments that people were excited to read "another Dekker."

Rachele's writing is obviously influenced by Ted's in theme, certainly; in worldview, of course; in word choice, on occasion.

This was a very unusual book, which immerses the reader in a futuristic world where Religious dictators set the rules, & being a desirable, 'chosen' individual means the difference between a life of freedom and power, or a life of bondage and servitude. The author was successful in creating an atmosphere that is both sterile & ominous. It is a heavy story with increasingly dark scenes as the story progresses. In this futuristic world, every action is scrutinized & judged by people who have put themselves in positions of Authority. Though, I must admit, for the time-frame being portrayed, (The year 2257) there was little advancement in the ways of technology & gadgetry beyond what we now experience in our everyday lives. The author had ample opportunities to really experiment with the 'what ifs' of the future and go out on a limb with creative ideas, but it felt rather bland. The story had some intriguing elements to it, and some likeable characters. It kept my interest through to the end, but there were a few elements that didn't sit well with me. Regarding the spiritual message of the story - I feel that it was too vague. I was left with several questions, which I assume will be addressed in future books. Who is Aaron? What is the salvation message, aside from, "believe you are free and you will be"? Does that mean that anyone can be saved just by positive thinking? If that is true, then nobody needs a Saviour, they just have to think positively, which is very New-Age. The main focus of Carrington's 'relationship' with her "Father" (aka "God"), was that He calls her

"Beautiful" & "Chosen", which sounds nice and all, yet there was no real depth to the relationship, and no explanation of who God even is.

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