



Curious Reality: From the World of "Spilt Milk"

D.K. Cassidy , Ben Adams (Illustrator)

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D.K. Cassidy, the best-selling author of *Spilt Milk: A Collection of Stories*, continues the story of some of the characters that first appeared in *Spilt Milk*.

Everyone believes in their own version of reality.

Will the past deeds of Caleb, Joy, and George come back to haunt them? Discover realities on the spectrum between normal and fantasy. Earlier experiences shape the present and future. Choices change lives.

- Can a murderer decide to stop killing?
- Can a woman regain the confidence she had in her twenties?
- Can a lonely man find the perfect companion?

Welcome to the world of Curious Reality. Are any of your realities curious?

Curious Reality: From the World of "Spilt Milk" Details

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Author : D.K. Cassidy , Ben Adams (Illustrator)

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Genre : Psychology, Fantasy, Weird Fiction, Cultural, Counter Culture

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From Reader Review Curious Reality: From the World of "Spilt Milk" for online ebook

Diana Febry says

Last year I read Spilt Milk: A Collection of Stories a collection of short stories by this author and thought how much I'd like to see some of the interesting characters developed in a longer book. And here it is! A handful of the characters are now living in the same neighbourhood, some are friends but for others the connection is more indirect. This book works perfectly well as a stand alone but I felt a sense of familiarity having met some of the characters previously.

This book is all about people, brought to life by the lightest of touches capturing their essence. These aren't your usual characters. In everyday life, depending on how nervous your disposition, you'd shift uncomfortably in your seat if they sat next to you or maybe cross the street to avoid acknowledging them. These are society's misfits.

It is a very uplifting book. Despite their oddities they are mostly kind harmless people (not sure about Caleb). Due to their inability to automatically fit in they are all desperately lonely. But within their distorted realities and limitations they strive to make their situation better, be it by losing weight, seeking employment or building a robot. For me, the book really begged the question - if someone is happy and not harming anyone else, who are we to judge?

Very enjoyable, interesting and readable book.

Anna Burke says

Curious Reality is another book by D.K. Cassidy that moves in and out of various perspectives on reality. Using sparse language she exposes the subjective experience of her characters in vignettes woven together into short stories. Caleb, Joy and George, who made their first appearances in Cassidy's previous book, Spilt Milk, are vividly drawn characters, interconnected in surprising ways. They are more recognizable for their distinctive psychological profiles and visions of the world, than their physical features, social roles, work situations, or other descriptors typically used to define fictional characters. The characters' stories take the reader into dark places, mess with the boundaries between reality and fantasy, evoke an enormous range of emotions, and perhaps, leave the reader a little relieved to return to a more ordinary, less curious reality. This is a book that can be enjoyed in an afternoon, all at once, or in smaller increments over time. A five star read, either way! Kudos for this well-written, highly original book. The title is a perfect choice, too.

Molly says

These short stories build on the authors previous selection "Spilt Milk" and feature familiar and truly excellent characters established there. The stories seem to overlap as characters meet each other but don't necessarily interact with each other. The people are all somewhere in the twilight of madness and normality, some patients of a psychologist. The simple prose brings us close to each one of them, seeing in their different and sometimes scary mind sets. I am always a big fan of psychology sessions in books and those scenes bring in a reflection of sense of reality and normality. I found myself very fond of the characters and their oddities.

I was curious that a selection of short stories could have a sequel and I'm very pleased I gave it a go.

Excellent written and plotted this blurs the lines between short stories and novel writing. The book has high literary quality and is highly recommended for highbrow readers as well as those who read the stories for entertainment. Intriguing and different, this will not disappoint.

Amalie Jahn says

A. Mazing. I loved everything about this book. The rotating perspective of the three main characters was artfully done and Cassidy's smooth writing style carries you effortlessly through page after page of this fantastic book. Reminiscent of early Koontz, with quiet paranormal qualities infused with characters who are "not quite right," I highly recommend this book to any lover of good imaginative fiction.

S.R. Mallery says

***** Inspirational, Haiku-esque Writing

Having read D. K. Cassidy before, I know what an amazing writer she is. But this time, while consuming her newest book, "Curious Reality," I instinctively started to analyze the depth of this author's power and why she 'speaks' to me.

Using unique, haunting, and an almost Haiku-esque prose, she manages to bring a true authenticity to her characters and their various mental issues. Whether it be hallucinations or bizarre obsessions leftover from childhood abuse, or simply part of life's inevitable scars, in her insightful hands, she catapults us all to dark places—places that may horrify you, but at the same time, pull at your heart strings. And as she intertwines these characters together into some form of dysfunctional network, she always, ALWAYS makes you think on a more profound, soulful level. Inspirational...

Jonny Bell says

This is a wonderful book by a wonderful author.

I really enjoyed following this story. It has a lot of thought-provoking seems. What I really like is the author's writing style and how you're able to feel yourself inside of the story. Curiously added to really takes your curiosity to a whole new level.

I really recommend reading this book because your curiosity will expand.

Michael Gallagher says

Curious Reality surprised me constantly. The fresh metaphors and crisp writing kept me interested. Her imaginative world peopled with quirky characters harkened back for me. The characters ripen in front of us in intensity in the way that Tennessee Williams' The Glass Menagerie presented its oddly knit group – a kind

of memory play. Loved the short novel. I will definitely pick up Spilt Milk now that I know how poetically mysterious D.K. Cassidy's writing is.

Cassidy is a master of twists and turns and surprises. The book never fails to take the reader along a path that suddenly splits and reveals something new and unexpected. Poetry deserves poetic language to describe it. I am sadly not a poet, but I'll try. A wonderfully dark book that enlightens the reader and shows the best part of the underside of reality.

Rachel McGrath says

I haven't read the first book (which I will - as I feel it will help give me more context). Regardless however the book creatively helps you to quickly identify the characters and understand them and their dysfunctions and quirks. The separate stories throughout the chapters bring you quickly into a story where the characters intercept bringing you cleverly into the story as it develops.

C.L. Heckman says

I'm in love with yet another twisted and stirring read by this author. A great follow-up to Spilt Milk, it tracks the lives of characters we have already grown to love or hate. The way the author writes her stories is so unique, that I have yet to find one similar. Each line is leaving you wanting more, and every situation has you on the edge of your seat. I highly recommend, and look forward to any future works by this author who has quickly become one of my favorites.

Robert Jr. says

Like one of her earlier books CURIOUS REALITY takes up with the characters tossed into another whirlwind of circumstances bordering on both reality and fantasy. I enjoy D.K.'s writing - definitely not the norm and definitely not mundane. Do you need a breath of fresh air with your reading? Want a book that challenges your mind? Good words, simple and direct. Highly recommended. Intelligent to say the least.

Alan Hardy says

We meet a number of introverted and disturbed people: Joy, who once had peculiar thoughts and nightmares, and who falls back through her bedroom wall to escape a would-be attacker; Caleb, an elevator attendant, aggressive and perturbed; George, a reclusive friend of Caleb's, unable to mix and online most of the time, aching for a companion, albeit a 'created' artificial one, who sets about building a primitive female robot. They are all patients of Dr Tine. Bartolome, a bookshop-owner, also knits together the characters, Joy working for him, Caleb working in a nearby music shop, and George frequenting the shop. D K Cassidy, as in her other books, in which some of the present characters have their origin, expertly and comprehensively explores the conflict between the inner world and the external world, and how each person attempts to accommodate them, some by living totally in a self-created world, others through beliefs/thoughts disturbing or transforming that outer world. Provocative and evocative writing, at the same time strangely disturbing

and yet somehow reassuring. Check it out.

Jennifer Theriot says

The one thing that grabbed me from page one of this book is that any of these characters could be people you see every day - be it in a grocery store line, in a coffee shop, at your hairdressers, at a bus stop...anywhere. You never know what people are going through, emotionally. Each person has their own imperfections, their own faults, their own dark secrets and with *Curious Reality*, the writer shows us how we could actually connect with these people. It was an eye opener for me and I can honestly say, I will look at that person in front of me in the grocery line, at the book store and at the hair salon in a totally different light. Kudos to DK Cassidy for this thought provoking look at life through the eyes of an imperfect soul, searching for acceptance and healing.

Angie Martin says

I absolutely loved reading *Spilt Milk* and when I found out there were recurring characters in *Curious Reality* (Caleb, Joy, and George), I could not wait until I got my hands on this book! I was not disappointed in the least! I loved every part of this book and could not put it down. It's definitely one of those books you can read in one sitting, and it keeps you turning pages all the way. It's dark and suspenseful, but so much fun to read! I highly recommend you pick up *Spilt Milk* first, then give *Curious Reality* a go. It will be the best decision you've made in books this year!

Linda Watkins says

Curious Reality by D.K. Cassidy continues to explore the lives of characters introduced in her earlier work, *Spilt Milk*. While I recommend you start with *Spilt Milk*, it isn't necessary to do so to enjoy and understand the current offering.

The recurring characters (Caleb, Joy, and George) all lead rather dysfunctional lives that curiously intersect. In this read, Joy discovers she has a special talent; Caleb makes some decisions about life; and George may just find his soul mate. Of course, in Cassidy's version of reality, all of these events are just slightly twisted and off-balance which is what makes her work so original and thought-provoking.

Spilt Milk was, by far, the best book I read in 2014 and, as a follow-up, *Curious Reality* does not disappoint. Ms. Cassidy's writing is sparse - there are no wasted words - and each word she uses is very carefully chosen for maximum impact. The result is a gripping read, with characters and situations that border on the bizarre and tease at the corners of your mind.

Thank you, Ms. Cassidy for another brilliant journey into a new version of reality. Can't wait to see what you come up with next! Most highly recommended - Five big, bright, shiny stars!

Jana Petken says

DK Cassidy spins a wonderful tale. After reading Spilt Milk, I was looking forward to this one, and all the bizarre twists, I guessed would be in it. Ms Cassidy has a way with words, which stirs the reader. Her snappy sentences are fast becoming her signature style. She is evocative with her plots and characters, and unpredictable.

If I have one criticism it would be that I would have liked this book to be longer, as I was nowhere near waning in my enthusiasm.

Curious Reality, Like Spilt Milk is a page turner, a wonderful read, where you feel you are going down the rabbit hole with, Caleb, Joy, and George. These characters are sublimely drawn and their lives are both interesting and frighteningly realistic.

An excellent read, and a book I will certainly read again, in the future

Highly recommended 5 stars
