



ROBIN JONES GUNN

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## Christy Miller Collection, Vol. 2

*Robin Jones Gunn*

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# Christy Miller Collection, Vol. 2

*Robin Jones Gunn*

**Christy Miller Collection, Vol. 2** Robin Jones Gunn

**The first nine books in the popular Christy Miller series are now available in three treasured volumes!**

Bestselling author Robin Jones Gunn packs each one with enough action, romance, and drama to keep you reading and wanting more. It all starts the summer Christy vacations on a California beach and meets two friends who change her life forever. But after moving across the country with her family, Christy must begin her sophomore year of high school uncertain where she'll fit in. A red-headed new best friend, a try at cheerleading, a job at a pet store, and expectations for the prom fill Christy's high school years with a string of laughter-and-tears moments. Fireball Katie keeps everyone guessing what she'll do next, and surfer Todd keeps showing up while popular Rick has determined to get her full attention! As these memorable years unfold, Christy and her God-loving friends find out what it means to be a "peculiar treasure." Follow Christy Miller as she stays true to her identity in Christ, drawing closer to God for help in realizing her dreams and dealing with her disappointments.

**Whether you're meeting her for the first time or have known her for years--**

## **Christy Is a Forever Friend**

*Surprise Endings*

Cheerleading tryouts are coming up, and Christy Miller is giving it all she's got. The competition is tough and some of the girls are just rude, but Christy thinks she has a good chance to make the squad. Meanwhile prom is just around the corner, and Christy hopes her parents will make an exception to their "no dating until sixteen" rule. She'd love to go with Todd to his prom! But nothing turns out as Christy had planned. As the surprises keep coming, can Christy respond with grace...and maybe even spring a surprise of her own?

*Island Dreamer*

Christy Miller is spending her sixteenth birthday on Maui with her family, Todd, and Paula, her best friend from Wisconsin! What could be better? But Christy soon finds that she and Paula don't have as much in common anymore. Paula's obsessed with having a boyfriend...even if it means stealing Todd from Christy! Will he choose Paula over her? Or will the islands send Christy dreaming in new directions?

*A Heart Full of Hope*

Christy Miller is sixteen, and that means she can finally date! Rick has waited months for this, and he has a whole list of dates planned. He's not happy about her early curfews and weekend job, but Christy knows her parents aren't about to negotiate on those points. Really, she's dazzled to be pursued by such a thoughtful guy. So why does she feel overwhelmed? Where does Todd fit into her life now? And can any guy really fulfill all her hopes?

## **Story Behind the Book**

"The Christy Miller series was actually born when a group of thirteen-year-olds challenged me to write a

novel. I'd been questioning the content of their favorite books when they said, 'Why don't you write a book for us?' I told them no, I only wrote picture books. But they persisted: 'How hard could it be? We'll even tell you what to write! We want a love story with teenagers at the beach.' And there you go. *Summer Promise* first released seventeen years ago and is now translated into five languages. I continue to hear from readers all over the world, many girls saying that they gave their life to Christ after reading *Summer Promise*. I love that!"

--Robin Jones Gunn

### **Christy Miller Collection, Vol. 2 Details**

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Author : Robin Jones Gunn

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## **From Reader Review Christy Miller Collection, Vol. 2 for online ebook**

### **Lorien Rhys ~ Live for tomorrow says**

Christy? \*gestures\* We need to have a chat.

Oh my goodness. I have never met such an annoying character! I get it, she's a teenager and perhaps teenage girls go through this but still! There were plenty of times where I wanted to throttle her! One thing that really bothered me was that she couldn't make up her mind on which boy she should go after. Was it Rick or Todd? Todd or Rick? And so on. And when she actually did made up her mind, she tried going after the other guy! Super annoying character, not too bad of a plot, Rick's a jerk, Todd is a sweetheart, and last but not least, Christy, the most confused, can't-make-up-her-mind fictional character to have ever since asked this fictional earth. Someone please tell me she gets better.

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### **Alli says**

Great - I loved it! The first volume was great, and this was just as much so! I can hardly wait to go out and buy the whole rest of the series, and after that, the other books by Robin Jones Gunn! Robin is an amazing author and the story of Christy was extremely relateable, and my affection for the characters grew every page. I hope others have enjoyed this series as much as I have so far!

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### **Ashley Sutherland says**

I enjoyed the continuation of the Christy Miller series. Following her and her friends through the books has been a fun journey. Like the first one, this book is fun for pre-teens and teenagers to read. It is just your average high schooler and I found the conversations she has with her group of friends inspirational. The book is the second volume and split into three parts. I never wanted to put this book down. Robin Jones Gunn is a fantastic writer.

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### **Ashley Carmichael says**

I loved these when I was a teen. they changed my perspective on dating, christianity, and being a true God-lover. Heavy stuff for a 13 year old. I just re-read them trying to decide when to give them to my oldest niece and I definitely say the audience is for 12-15 year olds. Gunn does an excellent job targeting that age with her narrative and though this may seem a little out of date the concepts are still very relatable (I read them when they were still listening to tape players...they've been updated to CHS in this version but still haven't been updated to the digital age of cellphones and mp3s--though I'm not really sure that is necessary!) I will say this volume gets better. the characters are more believable and relatable as they grow and change. and I love Katie.

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**Lindsey (Books for Christian Girls) says**

## About this book:

*“The first nine books in the popular Christy Miller series are now available in three treasured volumes! Bestselling author Robin Jones Gunn packs each one with enough action, romance, and drama to keep you reading and wanting more. It all starts the summer Christy vacations on a California beach and meets two friends who change her life forever. But after moving across the country with her family, Christy must begin her sophomore year of high school uncertain where she’ll fit in. A red-headed new best friend, a try at cheerleading, a job at a pet store, and expectations for the prom fill Christy’s high school years with a string of laughter-and-tears moments. Fireball Katie keeps everyone guessing what she’ll do next, and surfer Todd keeps showing up while popular Rick has determined to get her full attention! As these memorable years unfold, Christy and her God-loving friends find out what it means to be a “peculiar treasure.” Follow Christy Miller as she stays true to her identity in Christ, drawing closer to God for help in realizing her dreams and dealing with her disappointments.”*

Series: Books 4-6 of the “*Christy Miller*” series. A total of 12 books are in this series, but this series also has spun off four other series and have a few other connecting books. Review of the first collection [Here!](#)

## “Surprise Endings” by Robin Jones Gunn

## About this book:

*“Cheerleading tryouts are coming up, and Christy Miller is giving it all she’s got. The competition is tough and some of the girls are just rude, but Christy thinks she has a good chance to make the squad. Meanwhile prom is just around the corner, and Christy hopes her parents will make an exception to their “no dating until sixteen” rule. She’d love to go with Todd to his prom! But nothing turns out as Christy had planned. As the surprises keep coming, can Christy respond with grace...and maybe even spring a surprise of her own?”*

Spiritual Content- Scriptures are mentioned, quoted, & memorized; Prayers & Talking to God; Church going & Youth group; Many talks about God & prayers; 'H's are capital when referring to God; Christy gets a bit mad at God in this book, but gets over it by the end; Many mentions of God; Many mentions of Christians, witnessing, & standing up for your beliefs; Mentions of prayers & praying; Mentions of those & events in the Bible; Mentions of churches, church going, Bible studies, Sunday School classes, youth groups, services/sermons, & pastors; A couple mentions of angels; A mention of a miracle; A mention of being blessed.

Negative Content- Minor cussing including: a ‘dumb’, and five ‘stupid’s; A bit of sarcasm; Mentions of mean and jealous girls & their snippy comments; Mentions of a car accident & injuries; Mentions of pain & injuries; Mentions of jealousy; A few mentions of a death; A few mentions of drunks & an alcoholic; A few mentions of divorces; A few mentions of lies & lying; A couple mentions of the possibility of someone killing themselves; A couple mentions of prejudiced; A couple mentions of gossip; A

mention of criminals.

Sexual Content- a cheek kiss; Remembering kisses (barely-above-not-detailed); Touches, Embraces, & Hand Holding (barely-above-not-detailed); A few blushes; Some noticing; Christy gets jealous; All about mentions of boys, boyfriends, girlfriends, couples, dating, dates, proms, dumping, & being interested in someone; Mentions of teens renting rooms after a prom & being intimately involved with each other; Mentions of kisses, past kisses, & kissing (barely-above-not-detailed); Mentions of flirting & flirts; Mentions of jealousy; Mentions of romance & romantic moments; A few mentions of touches; A couple mentions of an abortion that could have happened; A couple mentions of Christy's legs (from a boy); Some lovey-dovey, falling-for-a-boy emotions, & teenage girl hormones;

\*Note: A few mentions of suggestive dancing & song lyrics; A mention of how girls dress at a prom.

-Christy Miller, age 15  
P.O.V. of Christy  
153 pages

### Pre Teens- One Star

## New Teens- Two Stars

## Early High School Teens- Four Stars

### Older High School Teens- Four Stars

My personal Rating- Three Stars (and

My first training: THIN SKIN (and a thin)

## “Island Dreamer” by Robin Jones Gunn

## ABOUT THIS BOOK:

*Christy Miller is spending her sixteenth birthday on Maui with her family, Todd, and Paula, her best friend from Wisconsin! What could be better? But Christy soon finds that she and Paula don't have as much in common anyone. Paula's obsessed with having a boyfriend...even if that means stealing Todd from Christy! Will he choose Paula over her? Or will the islands send Christy dreaming in new directions?"*

Spiritual Content- Prayers; Witnessing & Seeing someone ask to become a Christian; Many talks about God, God-things, being a Christian, missionaries, & praying; 'H's are capital when referring to God; Many mentions of God & God-things; Mentions of prayers & praying; Mentions of Bibles & Bible reading; Mentions of Christians, becoming one, & witnessing; Mentions of churches, church going, missionaries, wanting to become a missionary, & a reverend; A couple mentions of thanking God; A mention of Heaven; A mention of a miracle; A mention of a blessing; A mention of a spiritual birthday; A mention of Sunday School.

Negative Content- Minor cussing including: three ‘stupid’s; Some sarcasm; Some sibling bicker; Mentions of a death caused by drugs; Mentions of abductions & possible abductions of girls; Mentions of an allergic reaction to bee stings (up to semi-detailed); Mentions of lies, lying, liars, & deceit; A few mentions of misunderstanding about people jumping off a bridge; A few mentions of jealousy; A mention of the Mafia; A mention of alcoholism; A mention of drunken sailors;

\*Note; A few mentions of car brands.

Sexual Content- a barely-above-not-detailed kiss; Remembering kisses (barely-above-not-detailed); Touches, Embraces, Hand Holding, & Nearness (barely-above-not-detailed); Some noticing; Christy gets jealous; Many mentions of dating, dates, boys, boyfriends, girlfriends, wanting a boyfriend, & interest; Mentions of waiting to go to bed with a guy & being a virgin (Christy says she's going to save herself for her future husband for their wedding day); Mentions of kisses, past kisses, welcoming kisses, kissing, & doing more; Mentions of touches, holding hands, & nearness; Mentions of romance & romantic moments; Mentions of flirting; Mentions of jealousy; A few mentions of noticing; A few mentions of proms & prom dates; A couple mentions of an out of wedlock pregnancy; A couple mentions of a crush; A mention of making out; \*Note: Mentions of girls' figures (Christy compares her figure to her friend who has a larger bust); Mentions of (skimpy) bikinis/clothes & modesty; A few mentions of miscarriages.

-Christy Miller, age 15-16  
P.O.V. of Christy  
164 pages

## Pre Teens- One Star

## New Teens- Two Stars

## Early High School Teens- Four Stars

## Older High School Teens- Four Stars

My personal Rating- Four Stars

## **“A Heart Full of Hope” by Robin Jones Gunn**

## About this book:

*“Christy Miller is sixteen, and that means she can finally date! Rick has waited months for this, and he has a whole list of dates planned. He’s not happy about her early curfews and weekend job, but Christy knows her parents aren’t about to negotiate on those points. Really, she’s dazzled to be pursued by such a thoughtful guy. So why does she feel overwhelmed? Where does Todd fit into her life now? And can any guy really fulfill all her hopes?”*

Spiritual Content- Scriptures are quoted & remembered; Prayers; Talks about God; 'H's are capital when referring to God; Mentions of God; Mentions of prayers & praying; Mentions of Bibles & Bible reading; Mentions of Christians; Mentions of blessings & being blessed; Mentions of churches, church going, & services; A couple mentions of leading someone to Christ; A couple mentions of wanting to be a missionary; A mention of a God-thing; A mention of Noah's ark; A mention of a miracle.

Negative Content- Minor cussing including: a 'dumb', a 'give a rip', three 'stupid's, and three forms of 'wimp'; Some sarcasm; A few mentions of an R-rated movie; A couple mentions of a theft; A mention of an alcoholic;

\*Note: A couple mentions of car brands.

Sexual Content- three cheek kisses, a not-detailed kiss, four barely-above-not-detailed kisses, and two border-line barely-above-not-detailed // semi-detailed kisses; Remembering kisses (barely-above-not-detailed); Touches, Embraces, Hand Holding, & Warmth (barely-above-not-detailed); Dates & Having a boyfriend; a 'babe' and a 'baby'; All about mentions of dating, dates, relationships, boys, boyfriends, girlfriends, being interested, & breakups; Mentions of not going beyond light kissing & not getting physical with a guy before marriage; Mentions of being a virgin & not doing it with a guy; Mentions of kisses, past kisses, & kissing (barely-above-not-detailed); A few mentions of touches, embraces, & wanting to be touched; A few mentions of jealousy; A few mentions of crushes; A mention of an out of wedlock pregnancy;

\*Note: Mentions of virtue & modesty.

-Christy Miller, age 16

### P.O.V. of Christy

141 pages

## Pre Teens- One Star

## New Teens- Two Stars

## Early High School Teens- Four Stars

## Older High School Teens- Four Stars

My personal Rating- Three Stars (and a half)

### Pre Teens- One Star

## New Teens- Two Stars

## Early High School Teens- Four Stars

### Older High School Teens- Four Stars

My personal Rating- Four Stars

Overall thoughts on these three books:

While Christy can be a bit annoying & obsessive in **Surprise Endings**, it's still a classic Christy book where she grows and matures in it.

**Island Dreamer:** Just like the first book in this collection, it's another classic Christy story. More Todd (yay!) and more great faith content (double yay!). :)

**A Heart Full of Hope:** Forget what I've ever said, this is probably my least favorite of the series. Two words: Ugh, Rick. Rick has always brought up all my warning flags. I do feel like "*Todd, you spiritual geek*" describes Todd pretty well. That ending makes it much better though. ;)

**Link to review:**

<https://booksforchristiangirls.blogspot.com>

\*BFCG may (Read the review to see) recommend this book by this author. It does not mean I recommend all the books by this author.

## **Sofia Pinzauti says**

Christy Miller is trying out for the cheer team, she thinks she has a good chance that she will make the squad. Just that the girls are rude and the competition is tough. Prom is just around the corner and is really hoping that Todd will ask her, but her parents say "no dating until sixteen".

Later in the book shes spending her sixteenth birthday on Maui with her family, Todd, and Paula, her best friends from Wisconsin. She's finally sixteen and can date now, and this guy has a lot of different dates planned for her. This book is filled with wonder, curiosity, and hope. Trying to think whats the right thing to do with her life.

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### **Lena Morrison says**

I do my reviews in the form of a letter, which is why they are written like this.

Dear Robin Jones Gunn,

I just want to say I did enjoy this book. I just took off one star because I like the first and last volume the best. I'm going to review each book separately.

Surprise Endings:

Well, this book was good. The first time I read it, it was a little bit weird, especially since I was confused about Christy being a cheerleader and everything. But as I got into it, I got more into what was happening. In this book, Christy goes into an emotional scare-sort-of-thing. She gets jealous (and rightly so) of Todd going to the prom. She annoyingly still thinks of Rick as a possible boyfriend. But at least she has good friends like Katie and Alyssa to get her through. Christy is still growing in this book. She still seeks God. She doesn't really strike me as a cheerleader type, especially since she is so shy. But she tries, and I admire her for it. Rick is a jerk in this book, as usual. He really only thinks about himself. I can't stand him. I wish Christy would open her eyes to who Rick really is, and turn away from him completely. Katie plays a bigger part in this book. She's so funny. I really like her. :) Todd could have done better. I didn't like the fact that he took another girl to prom. But other than that, he's still great. Thanks for writing this book!

Island Dreamer:

This is probably the best book of the volume. Christy gets to go to Maui with Paula and Todd, and she gets to celebrate her birthday there! A lot of God-things happen, even if Paula doesn't become a Christian. We get no real new characters in this book. The only difference is that we get much more time with Paula. I don't really like Paula. She's way too feisty and unadventurous and she treats her friend wrongly. Christy is still mostly the same. I like the fact that she writes letters to her future husband, and that she truly seeks to help her friend Paula know the Lord. Todd is great as usual. I liked some of the time we had with him, and the kiss between Todd and Christy at the bridge. :) I've said this before, and I'll say it again: Todd is perfection. :) Other than those three we have David, Aunt Marti, Uncle Bob, and Mom. :) They're all pretty great (even Aunt Marti behaves in this book). I like that you were realistic about Paula not becoming a Christian. You didn't make Christy simply convince Paula immediately. I wish she had become a Christian, but maybe she will. I really like this book, so thank you for writing it.

### A Heart Full of Hope-

This is without a doubt my least favorite book in the series. It's not because of the writing. As usual, the writing is good. It's just Rick. Rick. RICK!!!! I canNOT stand that boy!! He is an absolute JERK. He only sees Christy as another trophy to win, and that's why he treats her that way. He acts like she has to get over Todd completely, and like he'll have his peace then. It is unbelievable. He also didn't really seem to be a really strong Christian, which I think was the idea you were chasing. The second time I read this book, I read it all in one day. I don't hate it, because it is a part of my favorite series. I just CANNOT stand Rick. Also, almost as annoying was Christy. What on earth was she thinking?? She kept giving into to Rick, even when he acted like a jerk. She let him have WAY too much power over her. I kept wanting to shout at her: "open your eyes Christy!" But I did admire the fact that she was herself. I hated the fact that Todd left, but I actually didn't cry this time. :( Katie was brave and honest, which I liked. Bob and Marti and Christy's family was cool. But Rick. Why? Why Rick?

So, anyways, thank you for writing this book!

Sincerely,  
Lena Marie

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### **Kyria Lockheart says**

One of my favorite series. I will not give it away but what I will tell you as you read, you become more and more involved with the characters and each one you fall in love with. I remember wishing I could meet a Todd or a Doug in life.

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### **Samantha Bartley says**

Someone gave me the first five books in this series awhile ago, and I actually forgot I had them until about a year later. But when I started the first book, I realized it was exactly what I was looking for in a book. The characters were great, and I felt that Christy was dealing with some of the same things I was at the time. I think that the storyline involving Todd was very well done. Even though I thought I knew what the ending was going turn out to be, several of the books had me guessing my theories. I definitely suggest this series to all teenage girls who are looking for something a little more grown up, but with Christian themes that make it clean and wholesome.

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### **Keely says**

After reading Vol. 1, I simply couldn't stop there. Vol. 2 of the Christy Miller series is brilliant. The deeper you get into the series, the more of it you want to read and the more you will find yourself cheering for your favorite characters on the sidelines.

Every page is filled with material that is deep, yet quirky and relatable to teen life all the same. Robin wrote these three books with the same outstanding talent that she does all of her novels. It keeps you going and anticipating what the next book will be about! It's a great read indeed.

The Christy Miller series is a great read for girls aged 12-112. It's best for girls in Middle School and High School, though pretty much everyone can be touched and entertained by it's fabulous writing and deeper meaning. It's like sunshine on a cloudy day :)

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### **Brin says**

I thought this series was amazing! It's a must-read for teenage Christian and non-Christian girls... It's inspiring and a whole new perspective on things. I am 13 now and have been raised a Christian my whole life... I was baptized as a baby and have been going to church ever since. I almost thought I understood what it meant to be a Christian. This book made me realize that it's a lot more than just praying before meals, doing your devotions and going to church. You need to want to be a Christian and be fully committed. You need to try to be Christ-like in everything you do. But more than that, you need to realize that as a human you make mistakes. You can't be perfect. You need Jesus. This series reminded me of this. I have been having a difficult time growing up and being a teenager. This book gave me a fresh start and helped me realize that prayer and handing your life over to Jesus is a lot better than trying to deal with it on your own. There are so many things out there that are bad example and ideas of "love". This really shows the real meaning of what it means to love other people.

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### **Kamryn (GreyZone) says**

I kept putting off marking this volume read because all I could think about was how Rick was a scummy, manipulative slime bag wrapped up in the present of some dreamy jock with a buttery voice and glittering smile. Because that's all I'm still thinking, this is my poignant and thorough review. Girls, please be aware of Ricks.

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### **Anna says**

The Christy Miller collection consists of a series of books about the life of Christy Miller. In the first collection Christy is 14 years old and spends the summer with her Aunt and Uncle in Newport Beach, California. She meets new people that lead her to grow in her faith as a Christian. One of these people is Todd Spencer. Todd is the perfect guy and Christy immediately becomes infatuated with him. In the second collection (volume 2), you see Christy go through rough patches in friendships and relationships. Even though her life doesn't go as she planned she is able to grow closer to God. These books are very inspiring and I recommend them to anyone. I've re-read them 3 times so far. They are so good and never get old.

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### **Jill Williamson says**

This book is a three-books-in-one volume that includes books 4, 4, and 6 of the Christy Miller series. I've given an overview of each story below.

Book 4

## Surprise Endings

Christy is practicing hard for the upcoming cheerleading tryouts and some of the girls are ruthless. Prom is also coming up. Christy hopes that her parents will make an exception and let her attend the prom with Todd, but Todd has already invited someone else! Can Christy respond with grace to all the surprises in her life?

I liked how this story ended. Despite all she goes through, and how strict her parents are, Christy is really starting to figure out who she is. It's exciting to see her make choices that show selfless love for others, even though Christy doesn't always feel it. My favorite part was when she stood up to Rick. Go, Christy! You tell him!

## Book 5

### Island Dreamer

The luckiest girl in the world, Christy gets to spend her sixteenth birthday on Maui, with Paula, her old best friend from Wisconsin and Todd! But Paula isn't the same friend she used to be. She's boy crazy and has set her eyes on stealing Todd! Christy struggles to know how to be a friend to Paula and not worry about her relationship with Todd, but it's really hard to do!

I love Todd. If only there were more guys like him. Christy gets more practice learning to love others in this book, and Paula sure does make that hard. Todd confuses her more than ever and there are a few conversations left unfinished that make you want to go buy the whole series to know what will happen later.

## Book 6

### A Heart Full of Hope

Now that Christy is sixteen, she can finally date! And Rick has been waiting a long time. He not only has a long list of dates for them to go on, he wants Christy to be his girlfriend. Rick is in college now and had a busy schedule. He doesn't like having to share Christy with her parents or her job. Christy has a hard time keeping up with his demands. Why are relationships so hard?

I don't like Rick! The dude is controlling. Grrr. Yet he keeps coming back. It was entertaining and a little sad to see Christy try to please everyone in her life to the point of not having a life of her own. And I was so sad for Todd! Ack! I have to get the rest of these books soon so I know how Christy's story ends.

I highly recommend this series for girls ages 12 and up. It is a joy to read about Christy's life and friends and struggles. There are four, three-book volumes in the re-released series, and a college years volume. Check out Robin Jones Gunn's author Web site to find more at <http://www.robingunn.com/>.

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## Morgan says

The Christy Miller Collection consists of a series of books. Volume 2 has three-Surprise Endings, Island Dreamer, and A Heart Full of Hope. The first book starts off with a girl name Christy going for cheerleading tryouts as a sophomore in high school, despite all the obstacles she faces. All the while, she learns several life lessons about relationships and develops friendships through the sacrifices she makes for others. The second book, Island Dreamer, takes place in Maui with her family, and her best friend from her childhood. But, she has come to find out that people really do change over time and new adjustments sometimes have to be made. Finally, in the last book, A Heart Full of Hope, Christy struggles as she tries to balance school and

male relationships. Sometimes she does not always understand the guys in her life. However, she has to learn that many people will try to influence her, but it is most important that she stay strong in her faith and make the right decisions.

My personal reaction to this collection was just how I expected it to be! I really like reading books by Gunn because I know what I'm getting each time I read her work. I like the fact that, once again, it is an easy read and along with being clear to understand, Gunn tries to incorporate Christian values into her writing.

I recommend these books to young readers who are looking for something easy, fun, and interesting to read. Who knows, you might even be able to gain something from it!

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### **Mindy says**

I'll just say this for the whole Christy Miller series. I read every book, minus the college years, about a year or two ago. I don't remember the little details, but I do remember LOVING the books. They were all very fast reads and contained great lessons for my faith. The only thing bad about any of them is they can get a little cheesy at time, but not enough to make me put them at a 4 star rating.

Whole Series: 4.5 stars

(And I do plan on eventually reading the last three books in the college volume.)

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### **Brooke — brooklynnnnereads says**

After reading the first volume of the Christy Miller collection, composed of books 1-3 in the series, I was excited to continue the series in this collection of books 4-6. As much as I loved the first collection, I feel like I liked this volume even more as the story progressed.

#### **1. Surprise Endings**

I feel like the overall message in this volume was envy, jealousy, and comparison. All those characteristics intertwined. First, I was surprised with the amount of bullying with Renee and cheerleading. Unfortunately, I think it's realistic to the high school era so it's important and necessary to address it in novels. Also, Todd. Seriously. He could be my favourite character! He is the most levelheaded and has so much wisdom making him more mature than his years. I especially liked the wisdom that he shared with Christy when Christy became jealous of an ice cream server and resorted to making comments on her appearance. I'm continuing to see some large character development within Christy and I loved the choice Christy made regarding cheerleading and giving her position up to Teri. Giving up something you really want even though you know it's right is hard at any age but especially hard at an age when you are so influenced by your peers.

#### **2. Island Dreamers**

In this novel, I felt like the resounding message was timing in life's circumstances and how it changes for each individual. This could be seen in many instances: Paula and her religious views, Todd jumping in Hawaii, and Christy driving. I found this a very, very important message because unless someone makes that decision for themselves, it won't last or be as authentic or it could result in a large amount of resentment. I really did enjoy this novel. At times Paula felt like a little too much to handle but at the same time she also brought out some of Christy's worst qualities and effectively showed her what she had to work on within

herself. I also felt that Christy's letter to her future husband was a unique but very good idea.

### 3. A Heart Full of Hope

In this novel, Christy has finally reached the age of sixteen the age which she has been waiting for to begin dating. This novel was PERFECT and may in fact have been my favourite in the trio. I think it was so realistic to real life and important for those out in the dating world (younger teens and older). In fact, some of the relationship issues Christy encountered when she's sixteen, I still am faced with in my mid twenties.

I really felt for Christy when she started dating Rick and it felt like their relationship skyrocketed. We live in a culture where relationships progress so quickly. Both emotionally and physically without truly knowing the person. Luckily I felt that Christy, although sometimes conflicted, stayed mostly firm in her beliefs so what could have become disastrous with her giving a large piece of her heart to Rick was avoided.

Rick though. Oh Rick. Can I get a count of hands up with all the people who have met a 'Rick' in their own life. Sometimes, you read of his character and thought he has been labeled as Christian, he seems friendly, he has seemed to be waiting for Christy. But then there are moments when you catch a glimpse of the smooth talking, the manipulating actions, or even his lack of respect to Christy's parents (re: curfew, showing up to lunch, etc). Unfortunately, there are a lot of Ricks in this world and really, it could be way worse. However, I think this character is enough to remind and reinforce the idea that an individual has to stay strong in regard to their own individual standards.

Definitely am LOVING this series and wish that I had it to read ten years ago when I was struggling with the teenage years. I think all of the content is appropriate for youth growing up because all of these situations they will also encounter. For adult readers, I think this series is also a good read because it will take you down memory lane to different times you may have experienced. Also, it's an entertaining read and I think there will always be something to learn from it.

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### Anjola Thomas says

The Christy Miller Collection Volume 2 by Robin Jones Gunn tells the story of a girl named Christy who lives a teenage life but has a close relationship with God. Different things happen in all three books. For example in book two, Christy starts to figure out that her and her close friend now don't have anything in common. I thought the characters in the novel were very down to earth and kind even though they went through hard times. The best part of this volume series is when things went rough, Christy would write in her journal where she had conversations with God. I could definitely relate to her sudden urge for a boyfriend because I am a teenage girl and I'm sometimes that way. Overall, I thought the book was good. Not great but good because it was not an action book but it is the kind of book where you relax and drink coffee while reading this. I would recommend this book to girls looking for a nice calm read.

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### Emma says

Christy Miller are some great books, i suggest you read the 1st volume first though!

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### **Rachel says**

Personally, I really enjoyed this book. I love the series, I own the first and second volume, and I loved them all. Robin Jones Gunn is a great author, she really draws you into the story, with her descriptions, and Christy's thinking. She does a great job getting into a teenage girl's mind. Although the volume is 483 pages, it's a quick read, pretty easy. The story in the book is amazing too. Sometimes it really makes you think about things, like how not to act around guys, and it makes you think even more about Christianity, and how to become a stronger Christian. There were no plot points missing, everything flowed really well. Again, I say that this book was GREAT and I recommend it for anyone, especially teenage girls, although it's not really a book for guys.

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