



## The Door

*Lorilyn Roberts*

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## **The Door** Lorilyn Roberts

The Door is the first book in the Seventh Dimension Series that combines contemporary, historical, and fantasy elements into a Christian "coming-of-age" story. A curse put on Shale Snyder, because of a secret, shrouds her with insecurity and fear. Following suspension from school, Shale's best friend isn't allowed to see her anymore and she feels abandoned by her family. When a stray dog befriends her, she follows it into the woods. There she discovers a door that leads to another world...

## **The Door Details**

Date : Published October 20th 2012 by Roberts Court Reporters (first published July 25th 2012)

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Author : Lorilyn Roberts

Format : Paperback 230 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Young Adult, Christian, Adventure, Christian Fiction

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## From Reader Review The Door for online ebook

### Sandra McLeod says

What a great mix of ingredients inherent in this Christian allegorical novel for young adults! There's plenty of drama and conflict inherent in the ongoing battle between good and evil with a sprinkling of romance and even a dash of political commentary. The animal characters are charming and the human characters are equally interesting. We immediately identify with the young protagonist Shale as she deals with her feelings of rejection, abandonment, and social isolation, and we can also empathize with Daniel and his conflicted feelings about just who the teacher really is--whether He is actually who Shale believes Him to be. I love the concept of "multiple realities" depending on the choices one makes, and I think this is really a novel for all ages. It's a journey of self-discovery but so much more!

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### Christiane says

#### Great read

This novel, although it has a religious tone, is inspiring because it has important themes such as dealing with bullying, forgiveness, trust, and love. I would recommend it to teens who think there is no place in the world for them, or simply, if you enjoy a novel that makes you think critically.

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### Lilly Maytree says

SEVENTH DIMENSION: THE DOOR is a young adult fantasy like no other. It starts off ordinary enough as we follow the troubled young Shale Snyder through a few difficulties at school and at home, but takes an amazing turn into Biblical times. Amazing because there's a twist.

A few others have gotten there the same way. And while there are plenty of adventures and mysteries to solve, this story is filled with many wonderful explanations of life and history that are enlightening to readers of all ages.

I particularly enjoyed the way Ms. Roberts did such a marvelous job of revealing the story through the eyes of Shale, and how she captured the sense of discovery of one's true spiritual journey. In fact, I could almost believe that there was a possibility that the experience could even happen in real life.

At any rate, I found the book not only an entertaining read, but one of such unique spiritual insights that I will eagerly look forward to reading book two. Because THE SEVENTH DIMENSION is a place of hidden treasures for all ages... whether it is real, or not.

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### Shelley Hitz says

Lorilyn Roberts has written an entertaining story with the powerful gospel message woven throughout. This book is clean and has no offensive material in it - which makes it great for readers of all ages - both young and old. But, even more importantly, she shares the message of Christ within these pages. For those familiar with scripture, you will recognize many stories from the New Testament within the book.

This is an interesting story that starts with the main character, Shale, living in the reality of a teenage life in 2012. She is a normal teenager with issues at school, a broken family situation and difficulties with friends. However, she finds herself in a fantasy land, "The Seventh Dimension". This is where most of the story takes place as Shale finds healing from her past and a relationship with "the king" who represents Jesus in the story.

Great story with a great message. Recommended to youth and adults!

Shelley Hitz, author of "Teen Devotionals...for Girls!" series

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### **Bess says**

This was an overall unusual read. Not overly enjoyable but not bad either. Just not my cup of tea.

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### **Lisa says**

A truly epic adventure for readers of all ages: although Lorilyn calls this a YA coming of age story, it's every bit as wondrous for adults. The author has studied the classics, and only subsequent reads will help you find the planted symbolism that makes *Seventh Dimension-The Door* a clever read.

You'll find a loving nod to *Pilgrim's Progress* if you follow the little white dog into the woods. Shale Snyder has a dreadful accident as a young girl, and finds it difficult to forgive herself or move forward when the victim refuses to accept her grief or confession. Grief is accompanied by hatred which colors Shale's world.

She is given a second chance, however, in a fantastic land of talking animals (grown from Roberts's first story, *The Donkey and the King*), an allegory which makes teaching your children about forgiveness, good and evil, a much easier task. Follow Shale and her new friends as she travels on an adventure of a lifetime to find the king while also growing out of her bad habits into a self-assured young woman who learns obedience and gratitude despite willfulness in the face of despair. Finding the father she always wanted, and his new wife and mysterious servants, help Shale unravel the truth of her long-ago accident, and face the consequences with a clean heart.

Truth, time travel, self-doubt, sacrifice, forgiveness and even all four loves, are explored in depth in this soon-to-be beloved tale of supernatural grace. Told in third person from Shale's point of view, with humor, dread, sorrow and shame, Roberts's time-honored story-telling will make you feel part of the adventure and eagerly anticipating the next book.

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## **Phil Leader says**

Shale Snyder is a troubled teenager. Her father left her mother when she was little, she has alienated almost all of the other children around her and has problems at school. Following yet another incident she is suspended and feels totally cast adrift. At this point she finds a door and hears a voice calling her to enter...

There is quite a clever concept at the heart of this book; that the Holy Land at the time of Jesus is a sort of dimensional nexus where those who are called can travel and gain spiritual help for themselves as well as the other travellers. It is a fine blending of both science fiction and Christian concepts.

There is also much of The Pilgrim's Progress about this, with Shale's journey and the characters she meets. And although she is living near Nazareth and does encounter Jesus (and other people mentioned in the bible) the religious side is not forced but comes naturally from the narrative. There is also a fair smattering of The Wizard of Oz, as the dimensional copy of the Holy Land from 2000 years ago also contains versions of people that Shale knows from home.

The result is a book that shows how even a little faith by someone as lost as Shale can give her the will to turn her life around and make herself and those around her better people. It is a very positive message, though not gained without significant trials.

There are a couple of negatives. Sometimes the narrative thread can be a little confusing, a side-effect of the dimension-hopping aspect of the story. Also some of the characters appear to serve little purpose, but perhaps as this is the first of a series they will come into play in later books. There is also one comment from her friend Daniel (another traveller from modern-day Israel) that did concern me, I hope this is due to his personal experience rather than a theme of future books.

Overall this is an engrossing read, managing to deliver a positive Christian message without labouring the point and providing a good story arc for Shale to keep the reader invested in the story.

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## **Larry B Gray says**

If you are looking for a fantastic young adult Christian novel, then Seventh Dimension – The Door by Lorilyn Roberts is the book for you. It is story of a trouble young teen coming to an understanding knowledge of herself and, more importantly, knowledge of the love of Christ. I found this book hard to put down.

The author's unique story telling style makes the book real and very believable. The story is both well developed and defined. It is easy to read and follow as the plot develops and takes on various twist and turns.

I really enjoyed the characters in the story. They were easy to identify with and very real to life. It was easy to put myself into the story and follow along with the action.

Seventh Dimension – The Door by Lorilyn Roberts is an excellent book and I highly recommend it to all ages.

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### **Kara says**

This book is a wonderful tale about the struggles that teens face today. It's a great teaching tool, particularly about Jews and about Christ and His relationship with us. Spiritual truths are wrapped up in a fun story full of internal and external struggles. It was an enjoyable book with characters you want to hug right off of the page.

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### **Lindsay says**

This was such a sweet story of redemption. I've never read anything quite like it, and I must say that this book is definitely one of my absolute favorites. Ms. Roberts did an amazing job on the storyline, and The Seventh Dimension tells a very meaningful lesson by using some beautifully- written characters and Biblical references. I can't wait to read the next book in the series.

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### **Mymcbooks says**

Well written Book for teens

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### **Carol A, Brown says**

Shale Snyder is smart, determined, impatient—and a troubled teen. Abandoned by her father, misunderstood by her mother, step-father and school authorities; accused of cheating, isolated from her best friend, and bullied by other students? It is a crazy, difficult world she lives in—hard to know what to do, when to fight and when to walk away. Comfort comes in unique ways. The school counselor says she is gifted and an apparently homeless dog adopts her. When Sale runs away from home with her broken birthday gift (yet again) it is understandable.

In her flight, a weak ankle gives way; her head hits a rock and so begins the inner journey that changes everything for Shale. While unconscious she enters a dimensional door that leads her further and further into another time and place. She is chased from an idyllic garden through a second door to enter the time Jesus walked this earth and taught. She comes face to face with the enemy of her soul and eventually defeats him. She briefly meets her long absent father and wicked step-mother. She hears a wonderful teacher, discovers He is THE KING and then meets Him and is changed by Him. She brings her half-brother to Him for healing and during this time in this dimension finds the love of her life. Oh, yeah, she also talks with animals during all these events! There is plenty of drama; in fact it seemed almost non-stop!

Arriving back in her own time and dimension, she finds people have changed. It is almost as if changes in the spiritual dimension have an effect on people in the natural dimension.

The issues of unfairness, injustice, not listening and not taking people seriously were strong themes throughout; themes that many teens relate to. I felt that Roberts did an excellent job of incorporating the

teachings of Jesus into the resolution of Shale's problems. Her characters were well developed. Some characters I loved right away and others I disliked immediately. Some grew on me slowly—I think young people would relate well to both the characters and the issues. There is a final warm fuzzy but I don't want to spoil it for you!

This is a book that I could recommend to teens interested in fantasy or who are dealing with similar issues as those Shale encountered. I would also recommend it to adults/parents of a troubled teen to help give them an understanding from a teen perspective.

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### **Wisdom Broker says**

Thoroughly Enjoyable!

Shale's got serious problems - conflict at home, a principal who wants her out of school, peers who hate her. But as I get to know Shale, I understand why she's got issues. I quickly begin to care about her and I really, really want her to pull through in the end.

I should have guessed by the title that it would take more than expert counseling to get her on track. But I was surprised and delighted when she found herself in a mysterious dimension that exposed her to danger, mystery and intrigue. I love stories like C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia*, and this one captivated me as well.

Well-written and thoroughly enjoyable, I not only found a great read, but a great author. Looking forward to more in the series!

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### **Victoria Simcox says**

Shale needs to conquer what previously took place in her life in order to grip hold of what is to come? She'd come across a door in the forest; it leads to a different realm with a garden as well as animals that speak. Shrouding her with insecurity and fear is a curse. Her best pal can't have contact with her any longer. Shale feels lonely, that is until a stray dog assists her. Lorilyn has weaved a delightful tale of the imaginary, and her beliefs in God. Her story is laden with messages that will intrigue as well as encourage the reader to walk by faith and learn from the messages in the narrative.

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### **Hannah says**

The story of Shale Snyder, who feels lost, unloved, abandoned by God, and just has an all-around miserable life, which is only tolerable because of her best friend Rachel. Then Rachel's mother decides that Rachel is no longer allowed to be friends with Shale.

In her misery, Shale sees a dog outside of her window, and goes to it, hoping that it will not run away. Instead, she trips, hits her head on a stone, and is transported to the Seventh Dimension.

For the first part of the book I was confused about the Seventh Dimension. However, if you think about it as if it is similar to a parallel world, it should make sense.

Shale has no idea why she is in the Seventh Dimension, and we do not either. But as she is there, she comes

to truly understand the King's love.

People Shale knows, mainly her family, occupy the Seventh Dimension, but they are not the same ones she knew. This is where it is like a parallel universe. Shale accepts her new life, and refers to the people as they are; her father, her stepmother, and such. While this may sound confusing, it really isn't. In fact, it's actually quite fascinating.

This is set in Biblical times, and while Shale is there, she is able to witness many of Jesus' miracles, and here of his Crucifixion. These are things Shale has never heard of before, since she does not have a religious background, and it was interesting to see it through her eyes. Not only is she hearing of them for the first time, she is actually experiencing them, at the time in which they happen!

When Shale enters the second dimension, she is gifted with the ability to speak to animals, and each one had a distinct personality. I, personally, found them all quite lovable.

Some characters were lovable (Mainly the animals) and some were rather unpleasant. But in each and every one of them you can see a change, which is, of course, most obvious with Shale.

While this book is slightly Narnia-esque, it is different. A character travels to a different world and learns a lesson, but it ends there. A story of love and forgiveness, realization and redemption.

Review by: <http://lachatblanc.wordpress.com/>

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