



The Pastor's Wife Wears Biker Boots

Karla Akins

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Pastor's wife, Kirstie Donovan, lives life in a fishbowl, so when she hops on the back of a bright pink motorcycle, tongues start to wag at the conservative, century-old First Independent Christian Community Church of Eels Falls. Kirstie loves roaring down a road less traveled by most women over forty, but she's not just riding her bike for the fun of it. Kirstie has a ministry. However, certain church members have secrets to hide, and when God uses Kirstie's ministry to fill the pews with leather-clad, tattooed bikers, those secrets could be exposed... and some will stop at nothing to hide the truth. Join Kirstie and her motorcycle "gang"—two church matrons and a mouthy, gum-smacking non-church member—as they discover that road-toughened bikers are quite capable of ministering to others, and faith is fortified in the most unexpected ways.

The Pastor's Wife Wears Biker Boots Details

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From Reader Review The Pastor's Wife Wears Biker Boots for online ebook

Laura says

This is a great book with a wonderful story and well developed characters. The story flowed very well and was very enjoyable. This book will keep you reading long into the night and you will not want to put this book down until you finish. This was such a great read and full of surprises. I voluntarily reviewed an advanced reader's copy of this book. The free book held no determination on my personal review.

Megan Coppadge says

I received this book from Karla Akins and I'm so happy she sent it to me. Thank you!!

This was such a good book! I really liked the characters. I really wanted to shake Kirstie several times and tell her to stop thinking about what others think about her and do what makes her happy. Then I realized that I needed to do that to myself as well!! I could really see a piece of me in each of the girls in her motorcycle gang. I feel for Kirstie when dealing with her sons. One who is Autistic and a teenager going through a rebellious stage can't be easy but she does the best that she can. I also love the fact that they get other bikers involved in their lives and it shows them in a positive light. It also touches on Alzheimers and the loved ones who go through it which hit home as my grandmother has Alzheimers and we've been going through that journey for a couple of years.

Read this book. I promise it'll give you the warm fuzzies!!

Diana Sharples says

I was looking forward to reading this book and even took it with me to a motorcycle rally in Florida. The book is filled with delightful and quirky characters and some very touching moments, especially in regards to Kirstie's autistic son, Timmy.

The book is written like episodes in the life of the pastor's wife after she decides to buy a Harley. To me, however, this episodic treatment made the plot feel choppy, like there was little connection between one event and the next. The elements--church life, living with an autistic child, and biker adventures--were stacked on top of each other rather than having a plot-furthering connection to one another. Some of the episodes seemed to be stuck in for no other reason than to show something about one of the three elements.

Additionally, as a biker myself, I found mistakes in the writing that were telling. I feel the author did a lot of research but might not be an experienced rider herself. (For example, etiquette regarding patches, safe group riding procedures, the capabilities--or lack thereof--of a Honda Rebel, and the whole experience of riding the Tail of the Dragon.)

Be that as it may, Karla Akins has an easy and likeable writing style and the engaging characters in the story held my interest. I think this book would be fun for most readers ... although those who know motorcycles

might be put off by the inaccuracies. I do commend the author for trying to dispel some of the negative myths about bikers, although she might have occasionally been too generous with her praise. :)

Jo says

When Kirsten, a pastor's wife sometimes doubts her faith, friends tell her she needs to have some fun. They suggest she get a motorcycle and ride with them. Kirsten still has money that her aunt left to her, which makes it even more tempting to join her friends, two of which are in her church. The ups and downs in this book are sometimes hilarious, sometimes sad. As I read I went from laughing out loud to wiping away tears. Akins does a superb job making her characters come alive--you will not soon forget them. And the cover--it's a gem! It's been a long time since I enjoyed reading a book as much as I enjoyed reading *The Pastor's Wife Wears Biker Boots*. I highly recommend this book!

Lu Ann says

This was an incredible, fun, fast-paced novel!

Trying to be a good Pastor's wife, having an autistic son and a younger teenage son challenging values his parents has tried to teach him, Kirstie is totally stressed out! Her good friend, Reba, entices her to do the unthinkable! Her other friends - Opal & Lily - join in on the persuasion...they will be a team!

How will Kirstie's husband, Pastor Aaron, respond to this drastic change, (even worse, the members of his congregation!) Will her marriage and family survive this crisis?

Join in the antics of the crazy life and experiences of Kirstie, friends, family, and dog. Meet the new characters introduced in this unusual tale, as well.

This can be a slightly controversial book. Some may question the validity of a Pastor's wife appearing to be "wild and free", yet others will embrace her choices and applaud her self-expression. Are motorcycle clubs all full of ruthless gang members?

There are stigmas that are not fair or accurate. There are also images one must adhere to in certain occupations and situations. You be the judge!

This was so well-written and constantly developing new situations and experiences. It is great reading for YA of all ages or for Adults.

The scenes and character development placed the reader in "the middle" of it all! The cover and title portrays the story perfectly.

My review of this book eagerly gives it a Five Stars rating.

This was sent to me for an honest review, of which I have given.

Karla Akins says

I wrote it!

Tom Threadgill says

“The Pastor’s Wife Wears Biker Boots” is a story about the trials and tribulations of Kirstie Donovan of Eels Falls, Indiana. She’s married to the preacher, has three kids, a gigantic dog, and absolutely no time for herself. Her dream is to own a motorcycle, bubblegum pink of course, and experience the freedom of cruising back roads, getting her “alone time”.

Life is never that simple though, and Karla weaves a story that takes us from the flat landscape of Indiana to the curvy mountains of Tennessee. Like any good novel, it’s the characters that keep us turning the pages. The older couple at church who doesn’t want anything to change. The close friend who’s caring for her husband with Alzheimer’s. And of course, the bikers. Big and small, tough and timid, riding scooters and Harleys, Karla invites us into their culture and shows us why appearances can be deceiving. Friends and strangers, gossips and prayer warriors, they’re all here, and they’re all relatable.

The roller coaster of emotions I felt as I read the novel pleasantly surprised me. From Kirstie’s anguish over a son who’s hurting to the joy of discovering the open highways, it seemed I was on the winding roads of the Smoky Mountains with her.

Read the full review here: <http://bit.ly/17veHLX>

Vicki Jones says

This book had a depth to it that was not revealed by the title. I expected a “fluff” book. Instead it was so much more and opened the door to a variety of topics. This included Autism, raising teens, return of the prodigal son, Patriot guard riders, living in a fishbowl as a pastor’s wife, Alzheimer’s, special Olympics , friends with different belief, losing a son, losing a spouse, living your dream, not judging others based on appearance, misconceptions, etc. I was incredibly amazed at all the topics buried into one book. Karla Atkin wove a story that shared the bad/good moments of life in such a way that a broad audience will be able to relate to this book. She managed to entertain and yet touch upon some serious topics at the same time.

“You never know where the road will take you.As long as I stayed in my lane. And in the center of God’s will.” And that is exactly the lessons learned when following the characters in this book. Not only were they loveable but Karla Atkin made them real. They said and did things that led to bad consequences. They struggled to understand why life wasn’t always fair. They laughed and cried together. In the end they realized the value of friendship and allowing God to navigate thru the struggles that life has to offer. I enjoyed reading The Pastor’s Wife Wears Biker Boots. It kept my attention from the first page to the last. I received a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Lacie says

First bit of business... I did receive this as a Goodreads Giveaway and I am very thankful that I did. Thoroughly loved this book and something that I would pass on to others in a heartbeat. If you're looking for a dynamic cast of relatable characters, you'll find it here. The incorporation of an autistic son is something you don't find often in literature and the main character's struggles as a parent, pastor's wife, and as a woman trying to find out who she is while dealing with the inner turmoil we all encounter from time to time when we wonder whether God really hears us really struck a chord with me and my own questions about God's faithfulness in times of seemingly insurmountable troubles.

Love, love, loved it! I laughed, I teared up, I cheered with the ladies, and I felt a twinge for the open road myself. Five stars.

Desiree says

Amazingly cute story, with believable characters. I found myself in tears when it talks about how bikers rally to stand in the gap for fallen soldiers against protestors and for some of the struggles the characters face.

The author really nailed the feelings of losing yourself by putting your family first, and the guilt we get when we try to reclaim ourselves. The joy of support from your family shown through the pages as well.

I loved how Autism was featured. Straight forward, a part of every day life. Not something to tip toe around or put on a pedestal. It just was. Timmy was Timmy; on his good days and on his bad days. He was wonderful.

I believe a lot of the author's own experiences have gone into this book, making it feel heart felt and easy to read. I love the gentle changing of hearts as the characters grow.

I couldn't put it down.

Sarah Davies says

Pastor's wife, Kirstie Donovan, lives life in a fishbowl, so when she hops on the back of a bright pink motorcycle, tongues start to wag at the conservative, century-old First Independent Christian Community Church of Eels Falls. Kirstie loves roaring down a road less traveled by most women over forty, but she's not just riding her bike for the fun of it. Kirstie has a ministry. However, certain church members have secrets to hide, and when God uses Kirstie's ministry to fill the pews with leather-clad, tattooed bikers, those secrets could be exposed...and some will stop at nothing to hide the truth. Join Kirstie and her motorcycle "gang" - two church matrons and a mouthy, gum-smacking non-church member - as they discover that road-toughened bikers are quite capable of ministering to others, and faith is fortified in the most unexpected ways.

Nicely written but, I didn't really find the story funny, I felt sad more for Kirstie because of looking after Timmy and being able to cope the gossips.

It does cover the old saying of do not judge a book by its cover, so it does have the feel good factor by the end of the story.

Janice Hopkins says

When Kirsten decided to take her inheritance and buy a Harley motorcycle, she sets in motion big changes she never imagined. But, as she takes care of her husband, fills the role of a pastor's wife, and mothers her three sons, including Timmy, who's autistic, she needs an escape.

This book is not my usual genre, and I didn't know if I would like it. It was told in first person, and that's not my favorite either. The cover was even too seductive looking for a Christian novel and didn't go with the story, since Kirsten struggles with her weight. I was pleasantly surprised, however. It's a well-written novel with moments of humor, poignancy, and important lessons. I was torn between rating it a four or a five, so I gave it 4 1/2, which rounded up to a five. This was really a cute story.

Janice H.

P.T.L. Perrin says

Great Read!

The first segment of the first chapter sets the tone for this delightful exploration into what it means to be a member of the Body of Christ, with all its foibles and pitfalls, in a tiny, set-in-its-ways church.

Aaron and Kirstie pastor an ultra-conservative country church that hasn't changed in its long history. They have three sons, one autistic and one entering adolescence at a full run while the youngest pursues his own passion for music. They also have a huge dog, unappreciated by the more conservative members of the church. Kirstie is a free-spirited young wife and mom who finds it difficult to live up to the expectations of what a pastor's wife should be.

Enter three friends and a plot to get her to buy a motorcycle with her great-aunt's inheritance money. The adventures that follow will keep you laughing and wondering at the intricate plan God has for his people.

This is a heart-warming story of love that crosses boundaries. It's a love story and a mystery that results in a near-tragedy; one that brings the most unlikely groups of people together. Karla Akins' book is a wonderful ride.

Lilly Maytree says

Now, there's a headline that could draw some attention. And it does! Because who could resist taking a second look at someone with such seemingly opposite.... umm.... interests. It definitely caught my attention. Where could this story go?

All over the place! **THE PASTOR'S WIFE WEARS BIKER BOOTS** by Karla Akins, was delightfully entertaining. With just the right balance of humor and heart-tugs to make it one of those "feel good" books that leaves you with more hope in the human race than you started with.

I not only enjoyed "riding along" with this crazy group of friends throughout the story, they continued to tag around with me long after I turned the last page. Loved the open honesty and golden heart of the main character, Kirstie Donovan, who actually admitted to being bothered by some of the things most of us would never be brave enough to tell anyone about. Oh, for friends like that!

But, hey-- they're out there. Because this book will have you taking a closer look at your own friends, and maybe seeing them in a different light than before. Which makes **THE PASTOR'S WIFE WEARS BIKER BOOTS** one of those books that not only entertains, but has "take away value.., as well. Which, in my opinion, is one of the best kinds there are. Oh, yes, and it's realistic, too. Because author, Karla Akins, really IS a pastor's wife...

Who actually DOES wear biker boots!

Rachel says

Synopsis: Kirstie is stressed out trying to maintain the image of the perfect pastor's wife. She'd really just like to relax and not worry about what everyone in her congregation thinks. On top of that, she has a severely autistic son, and another rebellious teenage son - both of whom lead to a lot of sideways looks from her conservative neighbors. When she realizes that riding a motorcycle releases her built up tension and makes her love life again, she has to deal with the prejudices of small-town gossips.

My Thoughts: This is not the type of book that I usually read, so I was surprised when, after about 30-or-so pages, I became really attached to the characters and their issues. This was a sweet, funny book about finding friends in unexpected places, letting go of preconceived notions, forgiving those who gossip about you, and putting your family above work and social image. I got lots of good laughs over the antics of our "biker chicks."

I was a little concerned at the beginning of the book when the subject of autism was first brought up: Kirstie called it an "ugly disease" and her "enemy." It is possible that some people will find this portrayal of autism to be offensive. However, I was glad to see Kirstie grow throughout the rest of the book. As she released her woes on the road, Kirstie became less depressed and was better able to cope with the difficulties of autism. Hidden here is a fantastic message that we can not give fully to loved ones unless we take care of ourselves too.

I don't want to drop any spoilers, but I have to say that the ending of the book was not only the most exciting part of the book, it was the funniest as well. Wow. Way to pack it in at the end! :) Fantastic finish.

Cross-posted on my blog: Resistance is Futile
