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Spiralling Out Of The Shadow (The Spiralling Trilogy Book 2)



Synopsis

With her security tied up in great friendships, life for Tabbie was a breeze until her best friend moved interstate. That's when the exposing reality hit her. Who was she without her best friend? Forced to stand on her own, Tabbie finds a new confidence and sees the world for what it really is, her new convictions enlighten her to see her friends through a different lens. Is Tabbie strong enough to stay out of Stephanie's shadow when Steph returns? Can Tabbie be true to herself without letting her friends slip through the cracks? This YA Contemporary Realistic novel is set in Australia. Book 2 in the Spiralling Trilogy parallels book 1. Recommended for readers 15+

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I haven't read the first book of this trilogy (Spiralling Out of Control)--yet. This book is fully contained and I never felt I was lost or should have read the first book. But I'm curious now to go back and read the first one. I'm wondering if it covered the same time period, only told from Steph's point of view. If so, I'd be interested to read the details of what was going on during those mysterious times when Stephanie was being secretive and no one seemed to know where she was. But taking center

stage in this second book--or trying to--is Steph's best friend, Tabbie. Tabbie is a fiercely loyal friend, even to three girls who obviously take advantage of that friendship from time to time. Her best friend has always been Stephanie, who is so beautiful and popular that Tabbie sort of shrinks into her shadow. But as Stephanie's life goes off in new directions, including a demanding boyfriend, Tabbie not only learns to cope, but finds incredible strength and value in herself. Evans really took me back to those incredibly painful teenage days when a best friend would be close as a sister one day, and then vanish from my life the moment she got a boyfriend. And I've experienced the hurt of watching a friend throw her youth and potential away because of the wrong choices. Tabbie perfectly reflects that pain--on the one hand hurting for her friend that she knows is going down the wrong road, yet simultaneously feeling that something must be wrong with her because she's alone while friends are having all these new, supposedly glamorous experiences. But I loved Tabbie for staying true to her beliefs and taking care of her friends without letting them drag her down that dangerous path with them. As an adult I enjoyed this, and I think for a teen who's going through a lot of these dating and friendship issues, it would be an intense but encouraging read.

Every parent's fears are realized in Evans's latest story in the Spiralling Trilogy. Teen gal pals Tabbie and Stephanie have been joined at the hip in friendship until Stephanie's family moves north. Stephanie is miserable and makes sure her friends know it. Tabbie misses her friend, and cooks up a plot to get Stephanie back down to the big city. Meanwhile, Tabbie's other friend Janet is also losing a battle with her own personal demons, and to top it off, once Stephanie does come to stay and go to school with Tabbie, nothing works out. Evans has done an excellent job getting in the heads of her teen characters the angst, joy, naiveté; that time between dependency and young womanhood is brought to life with all the emotion and peer pressure and longings. There are some clues to the girls' problems, and Evans shows readers how easy it is to miss or choose to overlook those troubles. Tabbie was very fortunate to have good role models for parents, which I appreciated as a reader. *Spiralling Out of the Shadow* is book two, but also stands well alone. Tabbie narrates in first person; the writing is lovely, and readers will enjoy an impromptu visit to Australia. Well done. I think early teens and their parents will find a lot to think about and talk over from this series. Part of the proceeds go towards Soul Centre, a group providing programs for girls and women who have experienced life upheavals.

Tabbie, a soon to be sixteen year old is devastated in *Spiralling Out of the Shadow*. Her best friend, Stephanie, and her family have moved twelve hours away. Stepping out of her friend's shadow for

the first time since seventh grade, Tabbie learns more about the kind of person she wants to be after she begins attending a church youth group. In this Australian setting, she works her way through some deep issues with her friends as well as some issues of her own. Will Stephanie be all right? Tabbie seeks the answers about love, life, and teenage sex. A great read for middle to late teens.

I thought this was a terrific YA/coming of age tale about a girl who was impossibly loyal to her friends. Tabbie listens to her friends and tries to help them through the terrible decisions they make. I found myself sucked into the story. I think almost every teen girl and a lot of mothers as well would love to read this book. This book would be good for book discussion groups as well.

I liked the journey Tabbie went on to become the strong young woman she is. I think she demonstrates how to keep loving your friends even when they hurt you. Well written and makes you revisit being a teenager.

I enjoyed following the story line. It rang true because miss goody two shoes did the right things, but she had to repent of her thought life, just like the rest of us sinners. I am worried that Tabbie may have bit off more than she can chew this time. I am eagerly awaiting the next segment of the story to un-spiral.

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