



Little Miss Strange: A Novel

By Joanna Rose

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1997 Pacific Northwest Bookseller's Association Prize for First Novel. Sarajeon is the child of love children. She lives with Jimmy Henry, a Vietnam vet she accepts as her father. Her mother, whoever she was, disappeared long ago. Sarajeon scams her way through childhood, surviving on intuition, seeing her world clearly without judging it. From carelessly discarded clues, she knits together the identity she's always longed for. "An extraordinarily powerful first novel. Sarajeon is impossible to forget."--Kirkus Reviews, pointered; "A wondrous, uncanny book . . . Rose has written a story so assured and accomplished that it seems the work of a seasoned novelist at the peak of her talent."--Portland Oregonian; "LITTLE MISS STRANGE is the closest thing to a perfect book that I have read in years."--Bellingham Herald.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Set during the high-hippie era of the 1970s, *Little Miss Strange* is a story about a girl growing up to be a woman, but it's about growing up in a period of American life when the adults don't seem to play any of the traditional roles of caretakers or parents. Sarajejan is the daughter of hippies--which is to say, of uncertain parentage--and must negotiate the strangeness of life in the rootless world into which she was born. She lives with a guy who may be her father and comes of age in the commune world of drugs, poverty, and the dropout-ethic that marks the times.

From School Library Journal

YA. This coming-of-age story is set in Denver in the late '60s and '70s. Sarajejan Henry tells of her life with Jimmy Henry, a Vietnam veteran and former junkie, with whom she was left as a toddler, and of her search for the mother she has never known. Sarajejan recounts her everyday experiences, from 1969 through 1977, with a variety of acquaintances who become her surrogate family. Along the way she collects numerous memories and mementos. Cigarettes and marijuana become a part of her normal existence, along with funky clothes and far more freedom than that of an average preteen. Drugs and free love are part of the daily lives of most of the adults around her. Simple sentences, ample dialogue, and short paragraphs combine to reveal a likable, resilient, independent, and gifted girl as she discovers the true meaning of family and her ability to shape her own life. ?Dottie Kraft, formerly at Fairfax County Public Schools, VA
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From Library Journal

In the early 1970s, the war in Vietnam is grinding to a close and the counterculture is alive. In Denver, preschool-age love child Sarajejan lives with Jimmy Henry, a Vietnam veteran who takes her to parties at the public park where acid-laced Kool-Aid is served to the adults. Sarajejan might arrive home to find Jimmy Henry shooting up, or sound asleep, or ready to prepare dinner. People float in and out of her life, like feathers on the wind, and Sarajejan begins to wonder about who she is. She discovers her mother's name but little else. In her teen years, the issue comes to a head, and Sarajejan makes a painful but necessary journey of discovery. This moving and powerful story offers an oddly "normal" childhood as seen through the eyes of a child who knows nothing else. ?Joanna M. Burkhardt, Univ. of Rhode Island Coll. of Continuing Education Lib., Providence
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jacquelyn Lopez:

Book is written, printed, or created for everything. You can recognize everything you want by a publication. Book has a different type. As it is known to us that book is important thing to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading talent was fluently. A guide *Little Miss Strange: A Novel* will make you to become smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think which open or reading some sort of book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or ideal book with you?

Cynthia Carter:

What do you concerning book? It is not important to you? Or just adding material when you require something to explain what yours problem? How about your time? Or are you busy individual? If you don't have spare time to do others business, it is give you a sense of feeling bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? Everybody has many questions above. The doctor has to answer that question due to the fact just their can do that. It said that about guide. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is correct. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this kind of Little Miss Strange: A Novel to read.

Patricia Koop:

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Corinna Edwards:

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