

Parental Guide

The Destiny of Sunshine Ranch

Spoiler alert! Some details of the story are revealed!

Themes: includes overcoming past adversity, grief, loss, foster care, the power of prayer, friendship, faith, forgiveness, courage.

Educational Value: You can find discussion questions for this novel at the author's website: <https://tmgaouette.com/books/>

Positive Messages: Overcoming adversity and relying on the strength of God to move forward in life. A focus also on forgiveness and strong friendship.

Spiritual Messages: Benedict and the other children brought to Sunshine Ranch have experienced various forms of adversity. Their foster parents, David and Martha try to instill a strong faith in God and His strength to overcome the hurt.

Positive Role Models: David and Martha are extremely positive models for the children. Foster children Micah, Sebastian, Eva, and Bella are also strong in their faith and try to encourage their foster siblings to follow God's word.

Violence/Gore: There is a fight between Benedict and a local boy.

Sexuality: Tommie has a crush on Faden, which she tries to keep hidden. They do share a kiss at one point, but her foster father, after finding out the feelings they have for them, tell them they're not allow to date until they're 17. Later in the story, we find that they are married.

Language: None

Drinking, Drugs & Smoking: In some memories, a couple of the children remember and/or relay how their parents drank a lot.

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

This story is about overcoming adversity. We learn about the struggles and abuse that they have experienced. While they are sad, they are not graphic, and the story ends in a hopeful note.

Rating Scale: Moderate

Scale:

Light- For all readers.

Moderate - Story includes subject matter for teens 13 plus

Advanced - Although not graphic in description, the subject matter is recommended for teens older than 15.

Parental Guide Example: For Eden's Sake

Themes: Living in the world, relationships/dating, broken families, emotional and physical abuse in relationships, responsibility, premarital chastity, pro-life.

Educational Value: You can find discussion questions for this novel at the author's website: (link)

Positive Messages: The pro-life message is a reminder that life begins at conception. Isaac's action has a big consequence, he becomes a father. Instead of choosing the easy, sinful way out, he chooses to do the right thing, even though it's more inconvenient.

Spiritual Messages: God's mercy is great and if we're truly sorry for our sins, we will be forgiven. Additionally, He will make good even out of our mistakes.

Positive Role Models: While Isaac does make a big mistake, his further actions demonstrate that we are all redeemable. And that, even though we cannot change our actions or the consequences that follow, we can always make things right.

Violence/Gore: None

Sexuality: While the story begins after a one-night-stand, there are no graphic details discussed or described.

Language: None

Drinking, Drugs & Smoking: This story is about a young man who gets drunk and makes a big mistake. While there is drinking, and the character does mention that he has a couple of beers with his dad, the message is that getting drunk is a sin and can lead to further sin.

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

The main character is over 21, and while the characters are not teens, the subject matter is very appropriate for older teens and young adults who are entering into relationships.

Rating Scale: Moderate

Scale:

Moderate - Story includes subject matter for teens 13 plus