



Mandie and Joe's Christmas Surprise

Lois Gladys Leppard

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When she finds herself in charge of the Christmas Eve skit, Mandie, with Joe's help, tries to remind everyone of the holiday's true meaning by secretly gathering all the town's orphans and giving them parts in the play as well as a home in the church basement.

Mandie and Joe's Christmas Surprise Details

Date : Published October 1st 2000 by Bethany House Publishers (first published October 1st 1995)

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Author : Lois Gladys Leppard

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From Reader Review Mandie and Joe's Christmas Surprise for online ebook

Jennifer Robb says

Mandie wants to celebrate Christmas as a time of giving rather than just of Santa Claus coming with presents. She and Joe organize a play to be given at the church. It was a relief to see that Mandie (for once) didn't get herself into trouble because she disobeyed advice given by the adults in her life.

Rachel says

Not sure this is a realistic tale, even for the time period in which it is set. I also don't like books in which kids are encouraged to keep things from their parents, even for a good cause. The second half of the book is a 3-act play based on the first half of the book, which would be great if I were a classroom teacher, but didn't really work as just a general reader.

Hope says

I love the Mandie books

Lindsey (Books for Christian Girls) says

About this book:

"In this festive holiday story, Mandie finds herself in charge of the Christmas Eve skit at the church in Franklin, North Carolina. With Joe Woodard's help, Mandie decides to plan a very special event that will remind everyone of the true meaning of the season.

The week before Christmas, Mandie and Joe secretly round up the orphan children in town and hide them in the church basement. As the stars of her Christmas skit, the little orphans need a place to stay, but will Mandie's Christmas performance compel the people of Franklin to provide a permanent home for the children?

A Charming Christmas Story With a Script at the End for Mandie Fans to Perform."

Series: Part of the "Mandie" series, but is considered to be an extra book and not part of the main series. Best to read in the middle of the main series but can be read at any time after the first book because this book is not mentioned in other books nor are other books mentioned besides the first book's events.

Spiritual Content- Scriptures are mentioned, read, & remembered (mainly at the end with Mandie reading the Christmas story); Set during and around Christmas; Prayers; Talks about God, Christmas, & churches; 'H's are capital when referring to God; Many mentions of the first Christmas, reading it, & those in the Bible;

Many mentions of Christmas, a play, songs/hymns, churches, church going, Sunday school, pastors, & sermons; Mentions of God; Mentions of prayers & praying A couple mentions of thanking & praising God; A mention of being blessed;

*Note: Mentions of the devil (Liza wonders if he is at a spooky church & Mandie quickly says that the devil wouldn't come into God's house); A mention of Santa Claus.

Negative Content- Minor cussing including: a ‘shucks’; A rude man calls Mandie a ‘half-breed’, but she yelled back that that what God made her (this happens in the story and in the script); Mandie does keep from her parents about the orphans and their part in the play; Mentions of a bootleggers brewing alcohol; A couple mentions of orphans being beaten; A mention of a (spooky) graveyard.

Sexual Content- N/A.

-Amanda "Mandie" Shaw, age 13

P.O.V. of Mandie

Set in the early 1900s

128 pages

Pre Teens- Three Stars

New Teens- Three Stars

Early High School Teens- Three Stars

Older High School Teens- Three Stars

My personal Rating- Three Stars

After completing the main Mandie series, it's been bittersweet not reviewing those books anymore! This is considered an extra Mandie book that really isn't connected to any of the books besides being set after the first book's events. While I would have liked the ending to be a little bit better, it was still a good story and nice to see Mandie and Joe again.

Link to review:

[https://booksforchristiangirls.blogspot...](https://booksforchristiangirls.blogspot.com)

*BFCG may (Read the review to see) recommend this book by this author. It does not mean I recommend all the books by this author.

Faith says

Ahh, such a sweet story!

I had read this little books several years ago when I read the entire 42-book Mandie series, and I re-read it last month with my reading buddy. It was really sweet! :) And Lisa. *laughs* Oh, Lisa. ;D

It's not a favorite of mine among the Mandie books (not a lot of mystery, here... xD), but still so good! Lots of Mandie/Joe moments for my fellow shippers out there, and the true reason of Christmas shows through very well. <3

This book would be good for any age, whether you're a long-time Mandie fan or new to the series. A sweet lil' Christmas story!

Laine says

This book was not my favorite out of the series, but I still liked it.

Rachel says

Quite cute short story.
