



Where Do I Go?

Neta Jackson

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Sometimes you find hope in the last place you look.

Gabrielle Fairbanks has nearly lost touch with the carefree, spirited young woman she was when she married her husband sixteen years ago. But when the couple moves to Chicago to accommodate Philip's ambition, Gabby longs for the chance to find real purpose in her own life.

A chance encounter with a homeless woman suddenly opens a door she never expected. The women of Manna House Women's Shelter need a Program Director--and she has the right credentials. Gabby's in her element, feeling God's call on her life at last, even though Philip doesn't like the changes he sees in her. But she never anticipated his ultimatum: quit your job at the shelter or risk divorce and losing custody of our sons.

In this moment, Gabby's entire foundation shifts. She must find refuge, as in the song they sing at Sunday worship: "Where do I go when there's no one else to turn to . . . I go to the Rock I know that's able, I go to the Rock."

For everyone who loves the best-selling Yada Yada Prayer Group novels comes a brand new series sprinkled with familiar faces and places from the Yada Yada world. It's the perfect novel to start with--or to meet friends from past Yada stories.

Where Do I Go? Details

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From Reader Review Where Do I Go? for online ebook

Lorraine says

The Yada Yada sisterhood is once again helping others through tragedy and struggles. One of my favorite series.

Maria Elmvang says

This is my second attempt at reviewing this book, because I don't think I did it justice the first time around.

At a first glance the book was a huge disappointment. I'd come to it expecting warmth and comfort, I left it crying of frustration and hopelessness. Any book powerful enough to do that to me deserves more than the original three stars I have it - for writing, even if it doesn't for plot.

And the plot was very unpleasant to read. Instead of starting with a person who was ill off and whose circumstances improved through the book, we're here presented with a person whose life at the outlook seems... if not great, then at least satisfactory, but whose circumstances deteriorate through the book, leaving her with the rug pulled out from underneath her at the last page.

It's the first few chapters of Job, before God stepped in.

What really annoyed me about the book was that this was where it ended. There was no resolution, no last-minute waving of a magic wand (which is good, I guess - I don't like last-minute wavings of magic wands in an otherwise realistic book). All there was was an incredibly open ending, and a woman whose life had suddenly hit rock bottom.

This is where my thoughts were at last night, and why I wrote the review I did.

Now that I've slept on it and thought about it some more, I've realised that my mistake was in assuming it was a self-contained novel. If instead I view it as an introduction or a prequel to the series, it changes from being frustrating and disappointing to being incredibly powerful and captivating. What I wrote yesterday (review saved here for reference) still stands, but my perspective has changed. It'll be interesting to see where Neta Jackson takes the series from here.

I guess I'll know come September.

Reread 2015: It was with some trepidation that I picked up this book for a reread - I remembered only too vividly how I'd felt on first reading it. Fortunately, knowing what was coming made it a lot easier to stomach, and the later books definitely make up for it. Still, I had to put it down from time to time, when I knew something unpleasant was coming up :-P But the end was not nearly as much of a shock to the system when I could go straight over to my shelves and pick up the next book.

Cheyenne G. says

this book was about a women named Gabrielle (Gabby for short) struggling in life with her husband, her children, and god. One day when at the beach she finds herself being helped by a homeless lady and bringing her to her penthouse. Just this homeless lady brings Gabby back to God. Soon Gabby is having more problems than she can take and tries talking to god for answers. When Gabby is in trouble with her husband by screwing things up at his job she finds herself being kicked out of his life. She now has to find a way to keep her job, take care of her mom, and find a place to live. Can Gabby do this with the help of God? Or will she become homeless and never regain her life again. Gabby is a very strong kind women who cares about what she does and the people around her. she helps every one she knows but sometimes can be a little forgetful and make her husband upset. She wants to remember her old life with God and seek to find answers. when having trouble doing that she has to also keep her new busy life ahead. Unlike Gabby her husband Phillip is very rude and disrespectful to Gabby. He cares nothing about what she's doing unless his business invites her and him. He only wants Gabby to be a normal wife and help him succeed in his life, but Gabby wants something else other than Phillip's business. My favorite character is Gabby because she is the type of person who can get brainwashed ,but she can also take hold of herself and follow what she wants to do in her life other than worry what others think about her. She acts as if she can do what she wants the way she does it and not anyones other way. still she can have a hard time staying on focus so she has problems a lot. I suggest this book to people who are having problems in their life just like Gabby or if they are in some situation where they need guidance. I suggest this to them because many people in the world are sometimes stuck in a knot or don't know what to do so they use some kind of way to get away from their problems and they need to find a solution other than bad behavior.

Jennifer Fischer says

I absolutely loved the original Yada Yada series and was saddened when I reached the end of the series...I felt like I had genuinely gotten to know the characters and I was sad to see their journey end. I wasn't sure what to expect from the Yada Yada House of Hope series, but I hoped that the characters from the original series would play a more prominent role. Some of the characters to make an appearance in Where Do I Go? so maybe they will be important as the story progresses.

Overall, I did enjoy this book, but it's really hard for me not to compare it with the Yada Yada Prayer Group series (perhaps because of the name of the series). Gabrielle is a character that makes mistakes, which allows me to think of her as being a real person. I often find that fictional characters, especially in Christian novels, are too often portrayed as having perfect lives (with minimal challenges) and that makes them difficult to relate to (nobody is perfect!). I find it refreshing to read about characters whose struggles could occur in real life. I especially appreciate that the ending of the book isn't a neat and tidy ending...it gives me a reason to read the next book in the series and find out what happens.

I've rated this book four stars for now simply because, while I enjoyed the story, it doesn't feel like it's on the same level as the Yada Yada Prayer Group series. I may change my mind as I get to "know" the characters better. I will definitely be getting the next two books from the library ASAP!

Leslie says

If you read the Yada Yada Prayer Group series, this is a must read. (Read the others first, though...don't start with this one!) This is a new series by Neta Jackson called A Yada Yada House of Hope, which focuses on Manna House.

Excellent...just like all the others! Once I started reading, I couldn't put it down. Jackson continues to address some of the same issues: our preconceptions about race, our perspective on situations around us, etc.

Mallory says

Such a refreshing read. I've been trying to read more often, and am consistently disappointed with the filth that fills the bookshelves. This was my first christian-fiction book, and I loved it. As a Christian, it was wonderful to read about a woman's journey of self-discovery, along with her budding relationship with God. While the ending was heartbreaking, I couldn't help but feel a little excited for the main character. I cannot wait for the next book!!!

Lora White says

I thoroughly enjoy this author. Christian fiction book but was touched by the wife in this book and the struggles with finding something meaningful to her life. She ends up getting a job working at a shelter for women out on the streets, dealing with drugs, etc. The whole book made me wonder what I was doing that was meaningful in my life and was somewhat jealous of her and what she was doing. Made me think of my sister and the good work she is doing with hospice and the elderly.

Melanie Demyer says

Loved this entire series by Neta Jackson! Very inspiring for women who have to start their lives over, (and over) again.

Laura Mooneyhan says

At first I didn't know if I would like this book, but then I really enjoyed it. It absolutely warmed my heart to hear her sing the different hymns. How many times in our life have we found ourselves in a place where God is saying "Come to me." and we pass it off or don't respond. I can not wait to read the next book "Who Do I Talk To?" I highly recommend this book to anyone.

I really hope I can find the Yada Yada Prayer Group books after I finish this series.

Great Book!

Deb says

This book is interesting as well as easy to read and follow. I do not like the way it ended though, too many open ends.

Karen says

I really like this series. Always funny and charming and easy to read. I like the faith element in them.

Claudia Burgin says

Great book! Spin-off from the Yada Yada Prayer Series. If you haven't read that series, I recommend it highly. I stayed away from the series for a long time. I mean, "Yada, Yada?" - isn't that, well, superficial? But it turned out to be a great series. It's about a group of ladies from very different backgrounds who live in Chicago and come together in a prayer group at a Women's Conference. They end up meeting, praying and supporting one another in all kinds of crises. One is a completed Jew, another a native-born African, another a school teacher, etc.

The Jewish lady brings everyone's attention to the word Yada. It's actually a Hebrew word meaning close, intimate relationship with the Lord. Isn't that wonderful!

This series starts off with a new character Gabrielle, but you'll recognize the Yada ladies in different segments. It's like seeing your old friends again.

The ending left me hanging off the cliff and wishing that I had waited for the second book before reading this one! Yikes. Can't wait until the new one comes.

Mandy J. Hoffman says

It felt so good to reconnect with old friends in this book (original yada yada members) but this book didn't have a tidy ending like most books do. I assume that Gabby's story will play out in more books to come but through this I realized again how real life is just like...not always tidy. It was encouraging to see God tugging at Gabby's heart through the trials of life.

Kayce says

Wow!!! I loved this book and was sad to see it end! I enjoyed the story so much and the author leaves you with SUCH a cliff hanger at the end! Which is why it's good there is a follow up ("Who Do I Talk To?") coming out at the end of the month! Can't wait to continue the story.

I appreciated the fact that the story was set in Chicago, with other settings in Virginia and North Dakota. It seems like ALL of the fiction novels I read this summer by the pool were set in New York City and after a while, I was getting tired of the SAME setting... So this was a much appreciated breath of fresh air!

This was the first book I read by Neta Jackson and based on this, I can't wait to read more by her! I loved her exploration of a woman seeking God through the chaos of her circumstances. She developed the character so well that it was very easy to empathize with her thoughts and feelings. I'm very much looking forward to finding out what happens next in Gabrielle's journey...

S says

This is the first book in the Yada Yada House of Hope series.

Gabrielle "Gabby" goes from a young, carefree college woman visiting Paris to a married woman and mother of two boys. Her personality clashes with that of her ambitious, controlling husband, Philip. She wants to find her purpose and make a difference in the world, but she is impulsive and makes poor choices. This continually exasperates her husband, Philip.

Gabby takes a job at a shelter for homeless women, which further irritates her husband, who is concerned about image. When she brings her mother, and her mother's dog, Dandy, to live with them, it is the last straw for Philip.

Even though Gabby's poor choices were irritating to her husband, his actions against her were not justified. The issues of homelessness, career building, social status, separation from her children, unhealthy marital relationship, the mental decline of her mother, and her need to stand up for herself kept me interested enough to read this in one day. There are many timely issues covered in this book, and I plan to read the second one in the series.
