



Miracle at the Higher Grounds Cafe

Max Lucado

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What if you could ask God anything? What would you ask? And how would He answer?

Chelsea Chambers is on her own. After a public split from her NFL superstar husband, Chelsea takes a bold step out of the limelight and behind the counter of the Higher Grounds Café, an old-fashioned coffee shop in dire need of reinvention. But when her courage, expert planning, and out-of-this-world cupcakes fail to pay the bills, this newly single mom finds herself desperate for help. Better yet, a miracle.

Then a curious stranger lands at Chelsea's door, and with him, an even more curious string of events. Soon, customers are flocking to the Higher Grounds Café, and not just for the cupcakes and cappuccino. They've come for the internet connection to the divine. Now the café has become the go-to place for people in search of answers to life's biggest questions.

When a catastrophe strikes and her ex comes calling, Chelsea begins to wonder if the whole universe is conspiring against her quest to make it on her own. After a shocking discovery opens her eyes to the unseen world around her, Chelsea finds the courage to ask God a question of her own. Heaven answers in a most unexpected way.

Miracle at the Higher Grounds Cafe Details

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From Reader Review Miracle at the Higher Grounds Cafe for online ebook

Sharon Huether says

I won this book through Goodreads First-reads. Chelsea was facing many of life's problems, when she open a coffee shop café. A stranger came to the shop and was a big help in running the store. Soon customers came too. they also wanted answers. The answers came on the internet in her store. They were all talking to someone Divine. Finally Chelsea got the answers she needed in a most unexpected way. It was a hard to put down book.

Hilary says

In general feel this is almost like a cozy cafe mystery. There's a problem to solve, people who rally around and support the key character(s) and a heart-warming solution at the end.

It's not a mystery though. It's also not a romance, though it certainly demonstrates elements of relationships, seeing the truth in others, and the importance of forgiveness.

This is a book about community, about trust and, most of all, about prayer. It's for anyone who's ever wondered, "Is God listening? Does He really care? What difference does it make if I pray?" It's a book about love: love of a parent, love of a spouse, love of a friend, love of a sibling, and God's love for us.

It won't take long to read, and you'll feel better for having done so. And you might recognize your own questions in some of those posted to The God Blog. (I finished it early this morning and will probably reread before returning it to the library, because Max Lucado is an expert at disguising deep truths within simple analogies.)

Emily says

Als getuigenis, super!
Als verhaal, mwa...

Laura says

MIRACLE AT THE HIGHER GROUNDS CAFE is a cute story. At first I was disenchanted as Mr. Lucado started the book with major backstory. But once the information dump was over, the story picked up and grabbed my interest.

My son asked me if this was nonfiction, since that is what Mr. Lucado is known for, and I told him no, this is fiction, but it is showing us the very real-spiritual battle that goes on daily in the world that we can't see or comprehend. I absolutely loved the way Mr. Lucado portrayed this, and even more, I liked the spiritual truths

that he shared in the book.

I could say a lot more, but I don't want to give away any spoilers. But even if you don't like fantasy or sci fi, give **MIRACLE AT THE HIGHER GROUNDS CAFE** a chance. It may be fiction, but this is not sci fi or fantasy. It's realism, fictionalized. 4.5 stars.

Susan says

MIRACLE AT THE HIGHER GROUNDS CAFE is all about love, forgiveness, and of course, coffee. I was instantly caught up in Chelsea's life and her problems. My heart broke for her and all she was going through. Keep a box of tissues close by while reading all about Chelsea and her customers and of course, Manny! Grab a big cup of coffee, your favorite blanket, this wonderful story and be prepared to finish in one or two sittings. Max Lucado does not preach his story, but rather shows you the beauty of faith and forgiveness. We can all use a little help in our daily lives. We just have to learn how to ask for it.

Note: I received this book free from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Paula Vince says

Chelsea Chambers has many hassles. She's inherited her mother's cafe, which had been a family business for generations, but discovered an \$86 000 debt. This comes on the heels of separating from her husband, who has cheated on her, and trying to deal with the confusion and grief of their two young children. But business takes a sudden boom with the arrival of the 'God Blog' on her premises; a direct internet line to God, who offers to answer the heartfelt prayers of any customers. Chelsea's staff are more than meet the eye too.

The story kept reminding me of movies. It had elements of 'Bruce Almighty' and 'Evan Almighty' but overall, I found it to be more like one of those Hallmark inspired movies, maybe a bit too kitsch and cute. The characters seemed to fall into stereotypes. Frazzled, hard-done-by, beautiful young mother, troubled prepubescent son, adorable daughter, and estranged, sports star husband who has seen the error of his ways. Then there is Manny, the quirky, lovable employee, who is really an angel, and Dennis Darling, the smarmy business man 'friend' with his own agenda.

I was surprised not to find many of Max Lucado's heart-stirring passages which he's so well-known for in his non-fiction. I started this book thinking that fiction may give him another great outlet to do what he does best, but there seems to be much less. I have to say that even though I love his non-fiction and even his kids' books, I'm not a great fan of his adult fiction based on this book.

However, I think his aim of highlighting hidden, spiritual realities was achieved. As we're told, 'prayer moves God, and God moves angels.' There is more going on in the hidden realm around us than meets the eye. Prayers are heard and responded to in their perfect time. They are never wasted or useless. And we never know what may result in the lives of ourselves and our loved ones when we dare to persist in praying for them.

Thanks to NetGalley and Thomas Nelson for my review copy.

Julia Wilson says

Miracle At The Higher Grounds Cafe by Max Lucado is a wonderful novel, and I was blessed to receive a copy. I have read many books by Max Lucado, and have never been disappointed, and this latest novel was no exception.

Chelsea Chambers inherited the Higher Grounds cafe from her mother, who in turn had inherited it from her mother. For newly separated Chelsea and her two children Hancock and Emily, it is to be a new start in life. Chelsea is married to a former NFL star, who cheated on her. Chelsea feels bitter, vulnerable and determined not to be hurt again. She is already the product of divorced parents, and feels great dislike of her father.

Chelsea wants the cafe to be a success. It is a slow start, but when new employee Manny starts work, people begin to flood into the cafe as they hear of the miraculous things that are happening.

The novel is an easy read, but the content is deep, and can have a profound effect on one's faith. There is the theme running throughout of a God who never leaves us. We may think that we face our toughest times alone, but that is when God is closest.

The theme of life being a spiritual battle between the forces of light and darkness is also present. When life seems at its bleakest, that is when it is important to hang on to the light.

Prayers play a major role in the novel, and show that God does bend His ear to every prayer uttered.

Sometimes in life, people need to pray but they often resist it until all other options are exhausted. As Tony says in the novel, 'God loves to get knee mail.'

The theme of forgiveness occurs in the novel. Chelsea realises that there are people she must forgive, but resists for fear of being hurt again. Will she do the right thing and forgive? Or will she hang on to unforgiveness?

The bond of love and family is clearly demonstrated in the novel. Family is not just blood related, but community based. The reader is reminded that everyone is part of God's family.

I really enjoyed reading Miracle At The Higher Grounds Cafe. Max Lucado presents simple God given truths, that we should all be aware of. When they hit your very soul, you find yourself gasping at the enormity of what Max is saying.

You can read Miracle At The Higher Grounds Cafe just on the surface as a 'nice' novel, but I urge you to go deeper and let the words penetrate into your soul. Realise that the God presented in the novel loves you and will never leave you. He longs to hear from you - so send Him your knee mail today.

Laura Grace says

What an interesting story! I have to say I was surprised by how this novel kept me turning the pages quickly with the God Blog and delicious pastry goodies.

At first I was really leery of the whole angel thing, but by the end that was one of my favorite parts! Max really makes a point that you really never know when you could be entertaining angels (or they could even be entreating you!). Manny was so priceless as a guardian angel!

As a whole, the plot was good. I enjoyed all the characters and felt majority of them had transforming character development, but did feel the ending was slightly rushed. It was a good wrapping up of loose ends, but just a little too fast for my taste.

I would say this was an inspiring quick read, especially concerning prayer. I was greatly moved by the reminder of how God ALWAYS answers/hears our prayers. He just might answer differently than we expect Him too. Overall, I would recommend this read to coffee lovers and anyone who loves a heroine “getting it” by the end.

(I received this novel from Litfuse Publicity/NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts expressed are my own and was not required to write a positive review.)

Pouting Always says

This book is proof that I really really should read the description before I buy books because I'm pretty sure the reason I liked it so little is because I'm not religious at all. Chelsea who recently divorced her NFL star husband opens a cafe and someone comes to install a router that has a direct connection to god. The idea is a unique one but it felt so absurd the whole time I was reading it. I didn't enjoy the writing or any of the characters. Everything felt hard to believe even when I tried to be accommodating and then it had to go and have cheesy happy ending. I'm sure someone who is religious and likes feel good books might enjoy this, I just didn't at all.

Steven Walle says

This is an other great teaching by the great author Max Lucado.. Please read weather you are a Christian or not. It has many jems.
Enjoy and Be Blessed.

Lawrence says

Great read!

This book was about faith, forgiveness and the healing power of God's love. If you like reading books by Max Lucado, then you will like this one too.

E. says

Als een boek je laat zuchten, sniffen, verwonderen en genieten vind ik het helemaal terecht dat ik dit boek 5 sterren geef. Jawel er is heus wat op aan te merken. Maar dat gevoel dat het me gaf verdient dit.

Oh my unicorn, ik heb net een goddelijk boek 5 sterren gegeven.

Anna says

Chelsea Chambers, recently separated from her NFL husband, finds herself the owner of the Higher Ground Cafe. The Cafe is in need of renovation, and Chelsea is having trouble competing with the contemporary coffee shops with the latest technology. But with the help of her quirky guardian angel, Manny, and her neighbor Bo, Chelsea finds the faith to persevere. Her two children miss their Dad, and Chelsea struggles with being a single Mom. But, with some heavenly intervention, miracles can happen.

A sweet inspirational story that reminds us that God does answer our prayers.

Really 3.5 stars.

Laura says

This was a cute story, and I loved the cafe setting. BUT the story was a bit too fantastic, and the characters didn't seem to react appropriately to things that would happen. There were conversations that were hard to follow, and I had to re-read them several times to understand. It just seemed poorly written. Nice ending, and I loved the spiritual truths throughout... I REALLY wanted to enjoy it more!

Catherine says

A sweet heavenly read. The author shows the power of prayer and the need of so many. Sometimes our heart and soul just need a refresher course.
