

[PDF] The Mighty Miss Malone

Christopher Paul Curtis - pdf download free book



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Description:

: *The Mighty Miss Malone* is one Deza Malone--dedicated student and member of a close-knit family whose motto is "we are a family on a journey to a place called Wonderful." Unfortunately, the Great Depression is taking a toll that journey, and when Deza's father leaves in search of work, the rest of the family soon has no choice but to follow. Despite the hardships, loss, and racism that defined the times, Deza never loses faith in her dreams or flags in her devotion to bringing her family together again. Perseverance and kindness serve Deza well, and her story is a welcome new journey into familiar territory from award-winning author Christopher Paul Curtis. --*Seira Wilson*

From Deza Malone, 12, has a couple of big things going for her. She comes from a strong family, and she is smart as a whip. But there is plenty of bad to go along with the good. It's 1936 and her dad can't find work; her brother, Jimmie, he of the beautiful singing voice, isn't growing; and her teeth, full of cavities, require treatment of cotton soaked with camphor. Can things get worse? Certainly. Her father disappears and her mother moves the family from Gary to Flint, which lands the trio in a Hooverville shack. Then Jimmie takes off to sing. Curtis tries to do too much here. Consequently, just when readers are getting invested, the story changes course or important plot points are dropped. Deza is devastated when she overhears her father say her rotting teeth make him avert his head, but her suffering is forgotten until, at the conclusion, she goes to a dentist. On the plus side, Deza is a snappy character that will grab readers, and Curtis' portrayal of a family's love for each other feels real and true. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Newbery-winner Curtis has a huge following. Readers will be enticed by his return to the Depression-era setting of *Bud, Not Buddy* (1999) and his reintroduction of Deza, one of the characters from that book. Grades 5-7. -- Ilene Cooper

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