

Book Review: April 2009

by RLYnne (reviewer at JAW)



The Middle of Somewhere

Clifford Henderson

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Lesbian Fiction

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Eadie T. Pratt dumped her girl friend, left San Francisco, and set out for the freedom of the famed Michigan Women's Music Festival. Unfortunately, her ancient T-bird broke down in front of the Rauston Baptist Church in Rauston, Texas. With this beginning, Henderson grabs her readers in a firm grip and never lets go. *The Middle of Somewhere* is a wonderful laugh-out-loud read filled with pathos, hope, and new beginnings.

Rauston, Texas is a dust-filled small town which Henderson populates with real characters, not cliches. Whether she's describing the bully, the minister, or the con artist, she uses words which help the reader understand rather than dismiss.

Henderson also describes the panhandle of Texas so her readers can feel the heat, the dust, and the poverty. Rauston is a place where church serves as a community gathering spot, and where news is passed along at the local grocery store. The radio stations play either gospel or country music, memories are long and secrets are deeply buried.

It is in this setting that Eadie finds hope, friends, and herself. This is a very good read.

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