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Love's True Colors

Tiffany Price

Initiate Media Pty Ltd., 2016; ISBN: 0994596820

Mary-Lynn Chambers

Love's True Colors is an autobiographical fiction that highlights the emotional and spiritual journey of a young woman in small town U.S.A. The protagonist, Tessa McRae, begins her story as a carefree teenager who is curious about love but struggling with identity issues typical of teenage girls. This coming of age story journeys through some critical life issues as we watch the heroine move from the simple life of a high school student to the complicated world of college. The transition of settings sets the stage for relational disruptions that lead to Tessa's growth as she moves from anger to love and from naivety to knowing. *Love's True Colors* is an excellent novel that considers the role of pain in the life of an adolescent who is on a path of discovery that leads to enlightenment.

The movement within the storyline of *Love's True Colors* takes the main character out of high school life and lands her in the middle of the college world filled with temptation. Tessa's personal struggles with Mason, her high school sweetheart, are complicated by distance and a new setting that offers a party life. The transition of time and the relocation of space both present Tessa with options that force her to grapple with her own convictions and standards by which she wants to live. During this movement of time and place, the author, Tiffany Price, provides insight into the emotional angst experienced by many college-aged young women who are seeking relational security as well as working through the formation of their own identity.

During this formative time in a young woman's life, finding a first love and losing that love is common, making this story relatable to many readers. Tessa and Mason struggle with expectations, assumptions, and guilt that rock their love. The author's dramatic telling of the story places the readers in their shoes, forcing us to consider our own priorities as we recognize the struggles that come from betrayal and abuse.

Naivety is expected with a sixteen year old, but college life is known as a time when a young woman's eyes are opened to problems and possibilities. This inspirational and instructional novel helps the reader who can personally relate to the issues addressed within the storyline or who knows someone who is struggling with these same issues. The author's reflective and introspective musings serve as an inspirational guide to a reader who is pondering the same concerns and questions.

Tiffany Price addresses some critical issues in this piece of literature; issues that need to be discussed in an open forum where honest reflection is part of the discursive process. This book is perfect for a female audience ages 15 to 25. Also, it is a good book for reading clubs that are willing to investigate spiritual as well as emotional issues that emerge from this engaging coming of age story.