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# Her Daughter's Dream (Marta's Legacy)



## Synopsis

In the dramatic conclusion to the New York Times best seller *Her Mother's Hope*, Francine Rivers delivers a rich and deeply moving story about the silent sorrows that can tear a family apart and the grace and forgiveness that can heal even the deepest wounds. Growing up isn't easy for little Carolyn Arundel. With her mother, Hildemara, quarantined to her room with tuberculosis, Carolyn forms a special bond with her oma Marta, who moves in to care for the household. But as tensions between Hildie and Marta escalate, Carolyn believes she is to blame. When Hildie returns to work and Marta leaves, Carolyn and her brother grow up as latchkey kids in a world gripped by the fear of the Cold War. College offers Carolyn the chance to find herself, but a family tragedy shatters her newfound independence. Rather than return home, she cuts all ties and disappears into the heady counterculture of San Francisco. When she reemerges two years later, more lost than ever, she reluctantly turns to her family to help rebuild a life for her and her own daughter, May Flower Dawn. Just like Carolyn, May Flower Dawn develops a closer bond with her grandmother, Hildie, than with her mother, causing yet another rift between generations. But as Dawn struggles to avoid the mistakes of those who went before her, she vows that somehow she will be a bridge between the women in her family rather than the wall that separates them forever. Spanning from the 1950s to present day, *Her Daughter's Dream* is the emotional final chapter of an unforgettable family saga about the sacrifices every mother makes for her daughter—and the very nature of unconditional love.

## Book Information

Series: Marta's Legacy (Book 2)

Paperback: 592 pages

Publisher: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. (September 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1414334109

ISBN-13: 978-1414334103

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 1.3 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (575 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #37,889 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #99 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Women's Fiction > Mothers & Children](#) #1225 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Family Saga](#) #1352 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Family Life](#)

## Customer Reviews

\*\*\*\*\*I just finished reading this amazing book, the sequel to "Her Mother's Hope" (part two of a two part series called "Marta's Legacy"), and it was an unforgettable experience. The entire story (both books) follows family relationships, especially mother and daughter relationships spanning four generations. This second book, covering the time period from the 1950's to today, is even better, I think, than the first book (if that could be possible), as many loose ends are resolved and there are surprising conclusions. You find out what happens to the people you loved from the first book. Although this book was almost 600 pages, I hated for it to end. I felt as though I was so involved with the families and I knew that I was saying goodbye to their lives forever, although not to the lessons I've learned from them. This is Christian fiction at its best, with fascinating historical details throughout and with events seen from the intriguing perspectives of the women of different generations. The voices change in both books, moving from mother to daughter (not alternating, but moving at a certain point--the first book covering Marta and Hildemara Rose and the second covering Carolyn and May Flower Dawn) so as a reader you have the opportunity to get to really know each of the women. All four of the women are in this second book. The theme of both books shows how imperfect people do their very best to be loving and yet sometimes their beloved family members just aren't able to see that love and misinterpret it. Sometimes, if we are blessed, the misperceptions can be corrected and so much healing can take place, with God's help. Through everything that happens to us, God's love is always, always there.

After I finished reading the first book in this two book saga, Her Mother's Hope, I knew that September 2010 could not come fast enough for me to be able to read the sequel. The first book was exactly what a Francine Rivers book should be and I knew that I would not be disappointed when I finally got my hands on this book. Luckily the wait between books was only a couple months. Like the first book, it's over 500 pages but believe me, they fly by really fast. The first book in the series focused on Marta and her daughter Hildie. This book focuses on Hildie's daughter Carolyn and her own daughter, Dawn. The story starts in the 1950s and continues through each decade until the present day. It's a really interesting look into American history and culture. The main focus of the book is how due to Marta's past mistakes at how she chose to raise Hildie, this has now become a trickle effect with future generations of the family. Four generations of these women have dysfunctional mother/daughter relationships and they don't improve over time. It is sad how these women missed out on so much because for whatever reason they chose not to show love to their own daughters. This book focuses on Carolyn and Dawn and their journey in trying to rectify what

almost a century has wrecked havoc on their family. The story is written beautifully and in Rivers' trademark, characterization is deep and engaging. I really felt that I was a part of the story and found myself engrossed completely. As I did with the first book, there were times when I got really annoyed with all the characters. Marta, Hildie and Carolyn were all reacting in ways that were harming their relationships.

This is hard for me, as I love Francine Rivers. All I ask is, is that there was a hint of what some of the subjects was going to be about. And this is mostly the reason why, I only give this book a 2 star. **WARNING** - this review, has some outline, not in detail about child abuse. I couldn't read past, the horrific account, IN A 6 yr old OWN WORDS of sexual abuse. First the start of the sexual abuse, then a more non descriptive part. But then reading about the rape. And then straight afterwards, about the horrific abuse of the father - lifting a fist to her, threatening her so much she soiled the bed. I know the latter it was implied he was sorry, but I 'hated' him at that point (the sexual abuse wasn't by the father). Although it was so mild to what went before. But it was just one thing after another. And I put the book down and **HOWLED** at how many children have to face that. I have a vivid imagination, and I can't get past the images/description out of my mind. The author has such a gift of painting word pictures, and has always managed to walk the fine line of not sugar coating the horrific world we live in, and then God's truths. And I am not even saying she crossed the line, the number of words she used regarding the whole thing, was quite short. But if there was a heads up that this was a book that contained child sexual abuse, I wouldn't have bought it. I wanted a 'nice' book to read before bed but instead was so disturbed. And the difference it made that it was in the child's own words was big!! Many people will find it well done, but if you are very sensitive to the subject, or don't want horrible things in your head, then I am giving you fair warning.

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