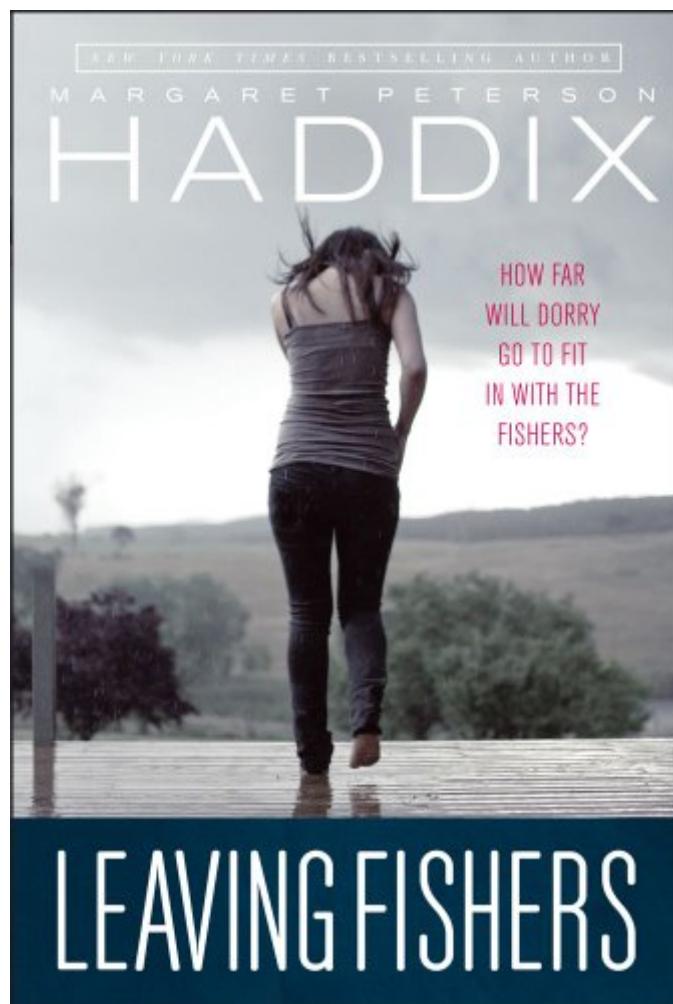


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# Leaving Fishers



## **Synopsis**

Dorry is unbearably lonely at her new high school until she meets Angela and her circle of friends. She soon discovers they all belong to a religious group, the Fishers of Men. At first, as Dorry becomes involved with the Fishers, she is eager to fit in and flattered by her new friends' attention. But the Fishers make harsh demands of their members, and Dorry must make greater and greater sacrifices. In demonstrating her devotion, Dorry finds herself compromising her grades, her job, and even her family's love. How much is too much? And where will the cult's demands end?

## **Book Information**

File Size: 1908 KB

Print Length: 275 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (August 30, 2011)

Publication Date: August 30, 2011

Sold by: Simon and Schuster Digital Sales Inc

Language: English

ASIN: B0053GI8LY

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #758,084 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #59 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Runaways #80 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Runaways #100 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Peer Pressure

## **Customer Reviews**

Alone. That's what Dorry Stephens was. Dorry had just moved from a small town in Ohio to Indianapolis and had no friends. Then Fishers came and wanted to be Dorry's friends. They even invited her to join their church. Or cult. As Dorry becomes more involved with Fishers, the less she is involved with everything else. She no longer has time for her family or school. I think Margaret Peterson Haddix wrote this book very well. She took us through Dorry's mind like we were her, or at

least knew her. Its one book I've read where the main character isn't popular, pretty, and rich. She doesn't even have that giggly best friend. Its very realistic about the people and Fishers itself. A few things I didn't like were that it got a little slow in a few parts, some things happened more than once, and the ending was too predictable. You could definitely see it coming. I think the flaws of the book are covered by the good points. The book was very good and I would definitely recommend it.

"You are damned Dorry Stevens! You are one of the lost! " Angela called after her..... Dorry Stevens was just a regular teenage high school student attending Crestwood High in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. Noone liked her, noone ever talked to her, and noone even cared that she was there. Dorry was awfully lonely. All she wanted to do was go back to Bryden, Ohio, USA. Thats where all of her friends were. But her mom and dad wouldn't let her. One day, while eating lunch at school, a beautiful blonde haired girl comes up to Dorry and asked her to eat lunch with her and her group of her friends. Dorry almost choked, and she was soooo happy. So day by day Dorry ate lunch with the group. Soon Angela, the blonde haired girl, persuades Dorry to join a religious group she's in called Fishers of Men. She says it's a wonderful experience and the answer to everything. So Dorry figured "Why not? My parents don't care, they don't attend church! I don't think they even believe in God!" So 1 Saturday night, Dorry goes to a Fishers party and absolutely loves it. Then Angela asks Dorry to go with her to the church on Sunday. So she does. Time goes by and Angela tells Dorry more and more about Fishers. The only thing she doesn't tell her is that it's an evil, brain-washing cult. Soon Dorry finds herself spending less time with her family and doing wierd things. Will Dorry realize Fishers is a cult? Will she stay or quit? I wont tell you, go get the book and find out. Margaret Haddix is a great author and even though she based this particular book at a high school level, she uses words that you easily understand. Even at a junior high level. I really enjoyed this book. I will tell you that for me, the beginning was kinda boring, but by the 4th or 5th chapter you really start to enjoy it. So go get this book and read it and DO NOT just skip to the end, you won't understand a thing unless you read it from beginning to end.

Leaving Fishers is one of the creepiest, most fascinating books I have read in a long, long time. In this book, Dorry Stephens is a sweet, shy and lonely girl who is new in school and friendless. A group of attractive and well-dressed girls and boys come to her and accept her in their group. Soon she is swept into the Christian sect to which they all belong--the Fishers of Men--and finds herself enjoying the unconditional love and security she find with her new group of friends. However, once she gets more deeply into the group, she finds that she is compromising every aspect of her well

being to live up to the expectations of the cult. By the time she realizes this, she has no idea what to do--and she fears the wrath of the group if she disobeys in any way. After I read this, I took a whole new look into religion--both the good and bad aspects of it. I highly recommend this book for the over-12 crowd (lots of complex and mature subject matter). It will cause you to think long and hard about the things a lonely person will do for friends and how once you've been brainwashed into doing something, it is nearly impossible to stop.

Leaving Fishers by Margaret Peterson Haddix follows Dorry who is feeling unliked and alone after her family moves to a new town. After meeting Angela and her group of friends she finally feels accepted. She then agrees to attend a church party with her new friends and then she slowly becomes wrapped up in their religion, the Fishers. While things at the beginning seem bright and wonderful they soon get harsher and more demanding of Dorry's time and energy to the point where she is putting her academics and her family relationships at risk. This is an interesting book that shows readers how cults slowly brainwash new members while also dispelling the myth that cults are always worshipers of strange religions by making the Fishers a Christian Cult. The author also makes sure to emphasize that faith wasn't the problem, it was the specific religion. I enjoyed this book and remained interested throughout. My only complaint is that the book ended too quickly. I would have preferred a longer resolution to the story as it ended very quickly and without as much drama as there should have been. Appropriateness: There is no adult content in this book. There are a few mentions of sex but not in regards to anything the characters are doing. I would encourage parents to use this book as an opportunity to talk to their kids about cults, religion and faith. I recommend this book to readers 12+.

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