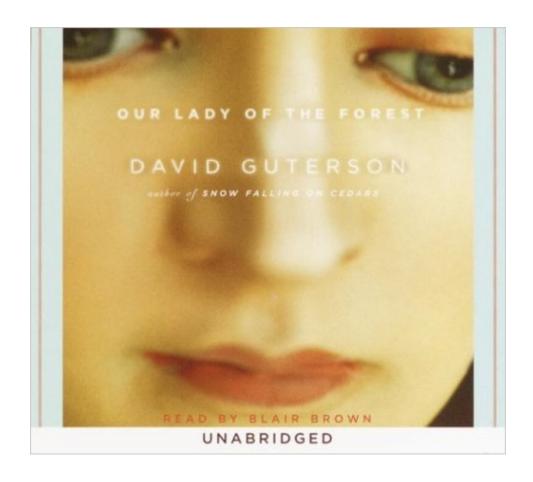
# The book was found

# **Our Lady Of The Forest**





## **Synopsis**

From the best-selling author of Snow Falling on Cedarsâ "an emotionally charged, provocative new novel about a teenage girl who claims to see the Virgin Mary.Ann Holmes seems an unlikely candidate for revelation. A sixteen-year-old runaway, she is an itinerant mushroom picker who lives in a tent. But on a November afternoon, in the foggy woods of North Fork, Washington, the Virgin comes to her, clear as day. Father Collinsâ "a young priest new to North Forkâ "finds Ann disturbingly alluring. But it is up to him to evaluateâ "impartiallyâ "the veracity of Annâ ™s sightings: Are they delusions, or a true calling to God? As word spreads and thousands, including the press, converge upon the town, Carolyn Greer, a smart-talking fellow mushroomer, becomes Annâ ™s disciple of sorts, as well as her impromptu publicity manager. And Tom Cross, an embittered logger whoâ ™s been out of work since his son was paralyzed in a terrible accident, finds in Annâ ™s visions a last chance for redemption for both himself and his son.As Father Collins searches his own soul and Annâ ™s, as Carolyn struggles with her less than admirable intentions, as Tom alternates between despair and hope, Our Lady of the Forest tells a suspenseful, often wryly humorous, and deeply involving story of faith at a contemporary crossroads.From the Hardcover edition.

### **Book Information**

Audio CD

Publisher: Random House Audio; Unabridged edition (September 30, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0739307541

ISBN-13: 978-0739307540

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 2 x 4.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 2.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (113 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,454,551 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > (G) > Guterson, David #7209 in Books > Books on CD > General #10878

in Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged

#### Customer Reviews

In contrast to a couple of other reviewers below, I, as a Catholic, found this book to be an amazing feat of poetic, insightful analysis of the tensions that we all strive to resolve in some manner, between the frailty and caprice of our human nature, especially in the area of sexuality, and our

desire for greater faith and grace, and between the "Church" as simultaneous institution and living organism. As a happily married parent of three children and very active in "mainstream" parish Catholic life, having been involved in charasmatic Catholicism and Marian devotional groups, having traveled to Medjugore in the late 80's, having witnessed a supposed "Marian Locutionary" and the surrounding "hoopla" in the Chicago area at about that same time, having seen saints and shams, and having a rather broad knowledge of the various theological, philosophical and mystical topics interjected and alluded to, "en passent," such as Manichean Cosmogeny, Kaballah, and Platonic solids, I thoroughly enjoyed the perceptive character development of the various personalities involved, whom the author uses to embody and present the various elements of conflict. Through these personalities and their encounter with this unfolding apparition and the "visionary," we see our humanity exposed, and the Grace of God working in unusual, subtle and surprising ways in dark and hidden undercurrents. In the end, we find that God does indeed "work in mysterious ways" and most often in spite of our foolishness and weakness! For the reviewers who accused the author of being "anti Catholic" and too focused on sex, I would say just the opposite. Yes, if you are offended by the laying bare of our human condition, as in the stark portrait offered in Tom Cross, or the "un-priestly" struggle of Fr.

Our Lady of the Forest runs in fits and starts. This story of young girl who is having visions in the primeval forests of the Pacific Northwest is initially compelling, but then gets more tangled and confusing as it goes along. This is a complicated feat because the novel does not concentrate on an extraordinary amount of characters or themes, yet somehow you find yourself losing your way. Anne, the "Joan of Arc" of the story, is a well drawn character who we are intensely interested in, despite Guterson's error of giving away most of Anne's tortured background right off. However, her friend, sceptic, and chief disciple is made out to be nothing more than a caricature of her own irony. There is no heart beating there, even though the author bestows her with heavy-handed secular motivations such as wanting to steal from the massive collections to fund her winter in the tropics. Indeed, all of the characters aside from Anne and Tom Cross, (an unemployed logger who is mean to the core, but obviously searching for healing,) are just mouthpieces to state religious and philosophical questions that anybody with even a freshman Introduction to Philosophy or Theology class already knows. Within the first few pages we get stuff from Aguinas, Pascal's wager, etc. However, the book doesn't go on to illuminate these ideas or fulfill their arguments. Rather, we get long digressions that ultimately prove frustrating, not in their content, but in their context. The community and the world in which Guterson has set his story is indeed fascinating, but perhaps the

book is too short. I had a feeling that Guterson has too many things going on to be accommodated by the brief length. It seems as if the story ends too soon.

#### Download to continue reading...

Our Lady of the Forest Inheritance: How Our Genes Change Our Lives--and Our Lives Change Our Genes The Mind-Gut Connection: How the Hidden Conversation Within Our Bodies Impacts Our Mood, Our Choices, and Our Overall Health Angry Birds Playground: Rain Forest: A Forest Floor to Treetop Adventure Lady and the Tramp (Disney Lady and the Tramp) (Little Golden Book) Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers: How a First Lady Changed America Lunch Lady and the Cyborg Substitute: Lunch Lady #1 Lunch Lady and the League of Librarians: Lunch Lady #2 Lunch Lady and the Summer Camp Shakedown: Lunch Lady #4 Lunch Lady and the Bake Sale Bandit (Lunch Lady, Book 5) Lunch Lady and the Field Trip Fiasco: Lunch Lady #6 Lunch Lady and the Video Game Villain: Lunch Lady #9 Lunch Lady and the Mutant Mathletes: Lunch Lady #7 Lunch Lady and the Picture Day Peril: Lunch Lady #8 Living as United Methodist Christians: Our Story, Our Beliefs, Our Lives Pornified: How Pornography Is Transforming Our Lives, Our Relationships, and Our Families GlobalChurch: Reshaping Our Conversations, Renewing Our Mission, Revitalizing Our Churches The Miraculous Medal: The Story of Our Lady's Appearances to Saint Catherine Laboure Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe / Our Lady of Guadalupe (Spanish Edition) Miraculous Images of Our Lady: 100 Famous Catholic Portraits and Statues

<u>Dmca</u>