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A Song for Issy Bradley: A Novel

Carys Bray



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A Song for Issy Bradley: A Novel Carys Bray A mesmerizing literary debut novel of doubt, faith, and perseverance in the aftermath of a family tragedy—for fans of *Me Before You*, *Little Bee*, and *Tell the Wolves I'm Home*.

The Bradleys see the world as a place where miracles are possible, and where nothing is more important than family. This is their story.

It is the story of Ian Bradley—husband, father, math teacher, and Mormon bishop—and his unshakeable belief that everything will turn out all right if he can only endure to the end, like the pioneers did. It is the story of his wife, Claire, her lonely wait for a sign from God, and her desperate need for life to pause while she comes to terms with tragedy.

And it is the story of their children: sixteen-year-old Zippy, experiencing the throes of first love; cynical fourteen-year-old Al, who would rather play soccer than read the Book of Mormon; and seven-year-old Jacob, whose faith is bigger than a mustard seed—probably bigger than a toffee candy, he thinks—and which he's planning to use to mend his broken family with a miracle.

Intensely moving, unexpectedly funny, and deeply observed, *A Song for Issy Bradley* explores the outer reaches of doubt and faith, and of a family trying to figure out how to carry on when the innermost workings of their world have broken apart.

Praise for A Song for Issy Bradley

"I loved *A Song for Issy Bradley*. It's wry, smart . . . moving and comforting. . . . A terrific book [about] faith, and what happens to that faith when the unimaginable happens."—**Nick Hornby**, *The Believer*

"The Book of Mormon with an English accent."-New York Post

"Bray fully inhabits each of her characters, displaying an admirable range of narrative talent rare in a first novel. Fans of *The Lonely Polygamist* and *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* will savor this thrilling glimpse behind the scenes of a family in crisis."—*Booklist* (starred review)

"With wit and compassion, plus insider knowledge of the Mormon way of life, Bray exposes the raw emotions of a family in crisis. An intriguing and heartbreaking story from an author to watch."—*Library Journal*

"An absorbing, beautifully written debut novel with surprising moments of humor."-Kirkus Reviews

"In this wry, original, generous-spirited debut novel, members of a family come to terms with grief, each in his or her own way. They wrestle with belief and disillusionment, desire and hopelessness, pervasive sorrow and moments of transcendent joy. The result is riveting, powerful, and quietly devastating. Quite simply, *A Song for Issy Bradley* took my breath away."—Christina Baker Kline, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Orphan Train

"A Song for Issy Bradley is that rarest of things—a book that is beautiful, tender, and a page-turner. Carys Bray made me fall hopelessly in love with each and every one of the Bradleys."—Carol Rifka Brunt, New York Times bestselling author of Tell the Wolves I'm Home

"I cannot remember the last time I have felt so emotionally invested in a novel. It is brilliant and profoundly moving, utterly compelling and almost unbearably real."—Nathan Filer, author of *The Shock of the Fall*

From the Hardcover edition.

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Michael Alvarado:

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Homer Douglas:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book may be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled A Song for Issy Bradley: A Novel can be fine book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Paul Anderson:

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book specially book entitled A Song for Issy Bradley: A Novel the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a reserve then become one contact form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get previous to. The A Song for Issy Bradley: A Novel giving you one more experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful details for your better life within this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern this is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a casino game. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

William Culley:

As a pupil exactly feel bored to be able to reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library as well as to make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just small students that has reading's spirit or real their passion. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to go to the library. They go to right now there but nothing reading significantly. Any students feel that examining is not important, boring along with can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is being complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on this era, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this A Song for Issy Bradley: A Novel can make you truly feel more interested to read.

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