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Midwife Crisis: The Calamities Of A Trainee Midwife
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Hilary. Cotterill

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By fran2seait's fine
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A misleading title and cover
By Helen Hancox
This book is the follow-up to *Pelican Crossing*, published in 2004, which I read immediately before reading *Midwife Crisis*. When picking up both books, with humorous cartoons on the front and subtitles such as "the misadventures of a trainee nurse" and "the calamities of a trainee midwife" I was looking forward to reading something like a Christian nursing version of a James Herriott book. I was disappointed. What I found that I was reading was actually a biography of a woman, in this book dealing with her training in midwifery and following the birth of two of her children, although the midwifery aspect seemed to be less than half of the book (my main complaint about the title). Once I realised this was not going to be a funny book, I expected to read about the insights that her midwifery experiences gave to her faith - but I was disappointed. There was huge scope here to tell us about how it feels to encounter life - and death - on a daily basis; to reflect on the importance of human life, perhaps, and its fragility. But this book didn't delve into that, it read more as a description of important events in her life, with very little reflection. Although well written, I felt the book lacked depth considering the possibilities within the subject - and the artwork is unjustifiably misleading. It's not a bad book, it's just a missed opportunity. The amazingly positive reviews on .co.uk are, I suspect, the author's friends writing about it - because they know and love her and know her story. As someone who doesn't know the author personally I can only go by what I've read - she has an interesting story but she hasn't explained enough to make this a worthwhile book to me. By all means buy and read this book but don't expect more of it than it can give.

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