## Hundred Crickets Singing: A Coming-of-Age Story About Family, Loss, and Growth



#### A Hundred Crickets Singing by Cathy Gohlke

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.6 out of 5 Language : English File size : 7575 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 425 pages Lending : Enabled



Cathy Gohlke's *Hundred Crickets Singing* is a beautiful and moving coming-of-age story about a young girl who is sent to live with her aunt and uncle in a small town after her parents' divorce. The novel explores the themes of family, loss, and growth, and it is sure to resonate with readers of all ages.

#### Summary

Hundred Crickets Singing tells the story of Lily, a 12-year-old girl who is sent to live with her aunt and uncle in the small town of Elmwood, Indiana, after her parents' divorce. Lily is heartbroken to leave her home and friends, but she is determined to make the best of her new life.

Lily's aunt and uncle, Margie and David, are kind and welcoming, but they are also very different from Lily's parents. Margie is a stay-at-home mom

who loves to cook and garden, while David is a hard-working farmer. Lily is not used to this kind of life, but she slowly begins to adjust.

As Lily settles into her new home, she makes friends with a group of local children. She also meets a mysterious old woman named Mrs. Tillman, who lives in a dilapidated house on the edge of town. Mrs. Tillman tells Lily stories about the old days, and Lily is fascinated by her tales.

As the summer progresses, Lily begins to heal from the pain of her parents' divorce. She learns to appreciate the simple things in life, and she discovers the importance of family and community.

#### Characters

The characters in *Hundred Crickets Singing* are complex and well-developed. Lily is a relatable and sympathetic protagonist, and readers will root for her as she navigates the challenges of her new life.

Margie and David are also well-developed characters. They are loving and supportive parents, but they are also struggling to adjust to their new roles. Lily's friendship with Mrs. Tillman is one of the most touching relationships in the novel. Mrs. Tillman is a wise and compassionate woman, and she helps Lily to see the world in a new light.

#### **Themes**

Hundred Crickets Singing explores a number of important themes, including family, loss, and growth.

**Family** is one of the most important themes in the novel. Lily's family is broken, but she learns to find new family members in her aunt, uncle, and

friends.

**Loss** is another important theme. Lily has lost her home, her friends, and her parents' marriage. She must learn to cope with these losses and find new ways to be happy.

**Growth** is a third important theme. Lily grows up a lot over the course of the novel. She learns to be more independent, more resilient, and more compassionate.

Hundred Crickets Singing is a beautifully written and moving coming-of-age story. It is a story about family, loss, and growth, and it is sure to resonate with readers of all ages.

I highly recommend this novel to anyone who is looking for a heartwarming and thought-provoking read.



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