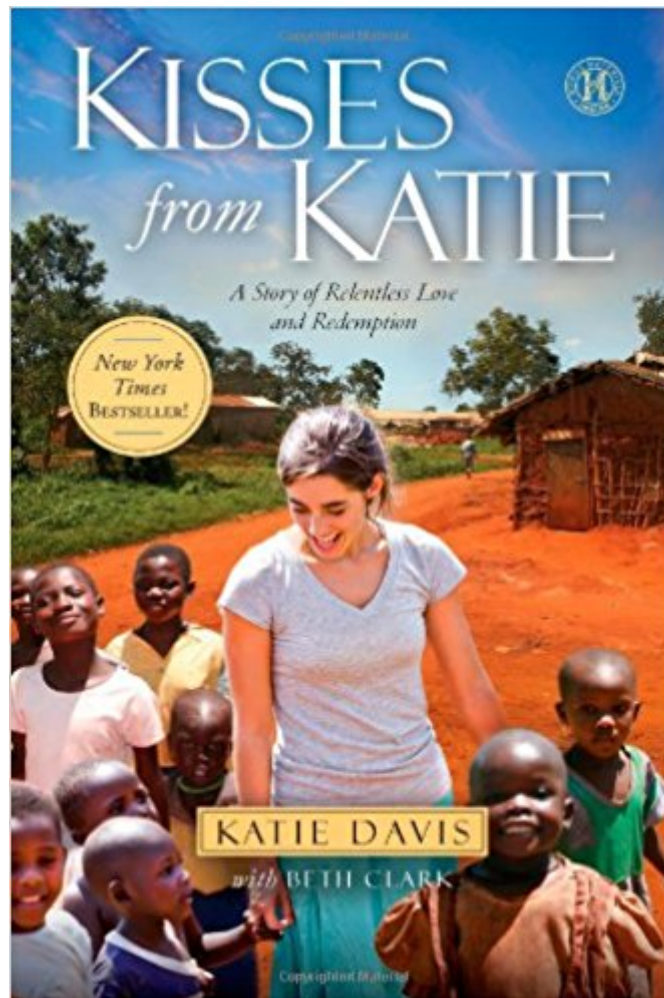




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Kisses From Katie: A Story Of Relentless Love And Redemption



Synopsis

The New York Times bestselling account of a courageous eighteen-year-old from Nashville who gave up every comfort and convenience to become the adoptive mother to thirteen girls in Uganda. What would cause an eighteen-year-old senior class president and homecoming queen from Nashville, Tennessee, to disobey and disappoint her parents by forgoing college, break her little brother's heart, lose all but a handful of her friends (because they think she has gone off the deep end), and break up with the love of her life, all so she could move to Uganda, where she knew only one person and didn't even speak the language? A passion to follow Jesus. Katie Davis left over Christmas break of her senior year for a short mission trip to Uganda and her life was turned completely inside out. She found herself so moved by the people of Uganda and the needs she saw that she knew her calling was to return and care for them. Katie, a charismatic and articulate young woman, is in the process of adopting thirteen children in Uganda and has established a ministry, Amazima, that feeds and sends hundreds more to school while teaching them the Word of Jesus Christ. Kisses from Katie invites readers on a journey of radical love down the red dirt roads of Uganda. You'll laugh and cry with Katie as she follows Jesus into the impossible and finds joy and beauty beneath the dust. Katie and her children delight in saying yes to the people God places in front of them and challenge readers to do the same, changing the world one person at a time.

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Customer Reviews

"When you think of what one young woman can accomplish by simply being open to God's call no matter the cost, you begin to ask questions like, "Am I really open to God's will for my life"? Through Katie's life, we're reminded how God can use ordinary people to do extraordinary things for Him. We simply need to be willing to be used."--Rich Stearns, President of World Vision US, Author of *The Hole in Our Gospel*"Scripture is filled with remarkable stories of children being used by God to accomplish His purposes here on earth. "Kisses from Katie" is another wonderful reminder that 'big' things for the kingdom do not come from age or experience, but as an overflow of a deeper love within. I highly encourage you to read this captivating account of obedience to God's call, and I challenge you to consider what you are doing to 'care for the least of these.'"--Dr. Wess Stafford, President and CEO, Compassion International"I was blown away when I first heard of Katie's incredible story. I'm excited many others will now have the opportunity to be inspired and challenged by it."--Scott Harrison, Founder/CEO of charity: water"With reckless abandon, Katie Davis followed her heart to care for orphans living in extreme poverty in Uganda. Her stories captivate the reader to take action, join her work, and make the world a better place for children--one by one."--Senator William H. Frist, MD"Katie Davis has the story that makes radio talk show hosts stop in their tracks and say with deep disbelief, 'No, she didn't.' But, yes, she did! At the age of nineteen, Katie Davis left the upper-middle-class life to move to Uganda, start a nonprofit organization, and begin the adoption process for thirteen daughters who needed a mother. Now she is the young dynamo of the gospel, bringing love and joy not just to her children but to an entire village and region. She is an inspiration and a testament to what God will do when one is willing to be used."--Hugh Hewitt, host of *The Hugh Hewitt Radio Show*"I was profoundly moved, challenged, and convicted as I read "Kisses from K"atie, and I came away wanting to know Jesus the way that Katie does. This is an honest and compelling account of one young woman's journey of obedience to a Jesus who loves the whole world, especially the forgotten and the marginalized. Jesus was the most revolutionary and subversive man who ever lived. Following Him should lead us to be graciously radical in His name."--Mike Erre, author of *Why the Bible Matters* and *The Jesus of Suburbia*"A breathtaking journey into the sorrow and beauty of abandon to Jesus Christ. Katie Davis is young, still learning daily how best to serve. Yet her reckless, Peter-like love calls the bluff of a Christianity that refers to Jesus as 'Lord' with only partial intent of doing what he says. This is not a book to read if you wish for your comfort, convenience, and control to remain undisturbed. But if you stand willing to act upon belief, here you will encounter the full heartache and joy that await any person who ventures near to God's heart through adoption and other ways of loving the orphan in distress."--Jedd Medefind, president, Christian Alliance for Orphans"Katie is one of the most courageous and inspiring young

women I have ever met. She is a role model of what it looks to follow Jesus in the twenty-first century. "Kisses from Katie" will be one of those books you cannot put down. It will literally transform everything about you and guide the way for you to take your ordinary life and fashion it into something extraordinary."--Tom Davis, author of *Red Letters*, *Fields of the Fatherless*, and *Priceless*"As I read Katie's book, I felt like I was reading Amy Carmichael. As Amy did in her life, Katie shows Jesus to be amazingly wonderful not only in what she writes, but also in how she selflessly cares for the fatherless. If you want to love Jesus more and better understand his love for the least of these, read "Kisses from Katie". She is for our generation what Amy was for hers: a hero in fulfilling God's call to care for orphans."--Dan Cruver, director, *Together for Adoption*, author of *Reclaiming Adoption*"Katie Davis is an inspiration to me as a wife, mom, and follower of Christ. Her devotion to the Lord and her love for His children challenge me to give sacrificially, serve selflessly, and live out my salvation with radical abandon!"--Heather Platt, adoptive mother and wife of David Platt, author of *Radical*

Katie J. Davis is the author of New York Times bestselling *Kisses from Katie*. Originally from Nashville, Tennessee, she now lives in Uganda, where she is the adoptive mother of fourteen little girls. Beth Clark is a writer and publishing consultant and runs a business called Thinkspot Communications in Franklin, Tennessee.

This book is from the heart of a young woman, Katie Davis, who is flawed and broken as all of are, but who chose to live in the center of God's will; and through her God has accomplished incredible feats in her town in Uganda. Her saying "Yes" to God has resulted in an internationally supported ministry that meets the poor, the hungry, the thirsty, the orphans, the widows, the sick, the dying, the broken, and the hopeless in their place of need and provides love, support, food, water, education, job training, medical care, and the healing Gospel of Jesus. For it is through Katie's love and that of her mission partners that the people they serve come to know the incredible love of Jesus who died for them that they may live! This story is real, it is not sugar-coated, and will inspire the readers to realize that God's will for them is not a mystery; it is simply to love people, one at a time, that God has put in their lives, here where they live. They too can have a ministry like Katie's without traveling more than a few feet or a few miles, to love and serve the broken hurting people right in their communities, demonstrating God's love for them in a tangible life-giving way!!

Coming from a life of luxury and convenience, Katie Davis decided to leave her

“perfect” life behind to tend to something greater than herself, Ugandan people. Kate seemed to have everything an eighteen year old could want. She held many titles including class president and homecoming queen, was planning on attending college, and had an amazing boyfriend. After going on a short mission trip to Uganda her senior year, she knew that she could not just forget what she saw. In spite of all the great things and titles that Katie had, she knew that God was telling her that there was more to life. The idea of leaving for a year before college in order to help children in Uganda would not leave her mind so she decided to do it, despite the many people against it. Katie arrived in Uganda in 2007 and began to teach at an orphanage where she quickly became attached to the children. She encountered many disgusting insects and uncomfortable conditions, but she continued to persevere and seek God through it all. Her main mission was to love and she seemed to do this so effortlessly. Through her passion, Katie realized “lack of education” is one of Uganda’s greatest burdens. She therefore began a nonprofit organization in 2008 that supports Ugandan student’s education. The program has grown and by 2011 she had adopted thirteen daughters. Her difficulties were high but she took each day by itself and she constantly explains the joys that come with service. In choosing to leave behind a life of comfort, she was able to attain a greater joy through God’s unfailing presence. Kisses from Katie explains the great joys that come from tending to Catholic Social Teaching. Katie exemplifies the true meaning of giving of oneself for others and exercised the teachings of Life and Dignity, Rights and Responsibilities, Call to Family, Community, and Participation, and Option for the Poor. She gave away her comfortable life in order to help the lives of others. Her respect and treatment of the people who many people would shun is inspiring. She gave of herself for something greater and has taught many people how to love and be loved. Looking beyond the appearance of the dirty or malnourished people, Katie realized the dignity that these people had and tended to their needs. She also realized that there was something bigger than herself that she was responsible for. Instead of pushing away the thought of helping these people, she embraced it and decided to make it her life. She became a part of a huge community that soon became her family. She experienced a love like no other and soon created a family by adopting thirteen little girls. She also saw the needs of the poor in Uganda and continues to help them get education through a non-profit organization. Her devotion to these teachings prove to have outstanding results. Although at times Katie was challenged, she always knew that the joy she was feeling in carrying out her mission was far greater than any other happiness she had experienced. This book is excellent and captures your heart as you hear about the sweet children and the joy that they bring to each day. I highly recommend this

book as it teaches about life, love, and the fulfillment of following God's will.

Kisses from Katie by Katie Davis and Beth Clark, follows eighteen-year-old Katie Davis as she takes a complete leap of faith after graduating high school. Katie decided she wanted to take a year off after high school to become a missionary in Uganda. During her winter break, she and her mother traveled to Uganda to volunteer, so Katie could have an understanding of what she wanted to do after high school. They helped out in an orphanage, and Katie fell in love with the people and the culture of Uganda. She knew God was calling her to serve in Uganda. Her parents were very hesitant about this decision because they were worried about her future and everything she would miss out on. Reluctantly, they allowed her to go. After completing high school, Katie moved from her hometown of Nashville, Tennessee, to the unfamiliar Uganda with God as her guide. She left behind her family, her boyfriend, and all the comforts of living in a first world country behind, to follow the plan God had for her. She first started as a kindergarten teacher at a center ran by a priest she had met while she was in Uganda over her break. Her students barely spoke any English, and it was hard for her to adjust. Her new environment put a lot of strain on her, and she worried that she had made a huge mistake. During this time, she lived in a small room and had to sleep under a mosquito net on a very modest bed. However, during this difficult time, she prayed and trusted in God. She loved sharing God's love with all the children and spreading her faith to everyone she met. After seeing families struggling to send their children to school and knowing how important education is, Katie decided to create a sponsorship organization, Amazima, to help these individuals. She moved away from her new comfort zone at the center where she taught into a house which served as the headquarters for her ministry. She hired a friend, Christina, to help with it and to live with her. The organization became way bigger than Katie thought. Although they struggled with expenses, they found a way to sponsor many more children than they thought possible. She knew God would provide for her and these children. The organization provided an education, school supplies, three meals a day, and an after school ministry. It also helped with medical care. Katie could never turn anyone away that was in need. She became known as the "mom" around the village where she lived in Uganda. As her ministry grew, more and more people came to her asking for help. This eventually led to her adopting thirteen little girls over a few years. Through her whole journey, she relied on God as her strength. She knew that it was His will for her to be doing this mission, and she sacrificed everything she could to listen. Katie encountered many adversities along her journey but helping so many children have a better future helped keep her going. Seeing the children on fire for the Lord was

worth all her suffering. She saw God in every person she met and truly was a disciple of God. This book was my favorite I've read in a while. Katie's story of struggling with joy truly inspired me and opened my eyes to my own life. Being able to go inside her mindset during this time period in her life made me realize all the things in life I take for granted. There are various Catholic Social Teachings present in the book that all taught me a valuable lesson. The most evident principle is Life and Dignity of the Human Person. Every person Katie encounters, no matter what their race, health, or financial status is, she treats them with the same respect. She can see past all their faults and only see Jesus within them. She makes sure everyone feels worthy. For example, she helped numerous children by helping them get rid of jiggers, curing their sickness, and feeding them. She made them feel loved and respected. All walks of life could rely on her to help. Another teaching present is the Call to Family, Community, and Participation. The first time Katie visits Uganda she sees that there are problems that could be fixed. Instead of not trying to help aid these situations, she took action. She felt called to this community and would do everything in power to help them like paying for their education, giving them medical care, or even housing them when in need. She actively participated by spreading the Word and love of God to people of Uganda. She adopted young girls in need when she could have easily sent them away. She sacrificed her comfortable lifestyle to make the lives of her children better because she knew she had the resources to help. The way Katie helps the poor people of Uganda portrays the principle of Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. The whole purpose of her ministry Amazima is to help the impoverished families pay for education, so their children can have a better life. Her organization also provides hot meals for these children who usually have nothing to eat at home. She exhausts every resource she has available to help anyone in poverty. She helps give them hope. Katie Davis is the perfect example of living of God's will. She gives up everything to go on a journey God calls her to go on. Because of this, she is ultimately rewarded with a fulfilling and joy-filled life. Katie can teach us all a lot about having faith and being completely selfless.

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