Maggie, the farmers youngest daughter, loves getting gifts, especially mysterious ones. One wintry day, she receives a package in the mail. She excitedly opens the package to find a bulb buried in a crate of dirt. This was not what Maggie expected. She had hoped for a doll or a game, not a bulb that would one day become a plant. When spring comes, she finds the bulb in the cellar and tosses the lifeless thing into the garden, never to think of it again. . . . Until she walks outside on Easter morning and finds the most beautiful lily she has ever seen. Through the unique gift of a bulb, Maggie discovers the power of grace and forgiveness and the true meaning of Easter.

Features:
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My Personal Review:
There are many books about Easter to choose from. The Parable of the Lily, written by Liz Curtis Higgs and illustrated by Nancy Munger, is a lively, engaging story about a girl named Maggie who receives a mysterious gift shortly after Christmas. It looks like just a box of dirt to her. Not understanding what it really is, she puts the box in the cellar with the other gardening items. When the weather gets warmer, and her father is working in the garden, Maggie knocks the box off from the cellar shelf in her haste to get her gardening tools. She spills the dirt, and a flower bulb that was buried in the dirt, onto the floor. When she cleans the mess up, she tosses dirt and all outside into the yard. Several weeks later, when she wakes up on Easter morning, she finds out how special the gift really is. A beautiful Easter lily is blooming in her garden.
Although The Parable of the Lily isnt about Jesus death and resurrection, there are Bible verses interspersed throughout the text that connect whats happening in the story to life of Jesus. The bright, colorful illustrations help convey the story line.

What I like: I liked the whole book. The story was written well and the illustrations helped enhance the story line.

What I dislike: Nothing.

Overall Rating: Excellent.

Age Appeal: 3 - 7.

Christine M. Irvin - Christian Childrens Book Review

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