The Starlite Drive-In: A Novel by Marjorie Reynolds

If They Had Awards For Books, This Would Win The Oscar.

When land developers uncover human bones at the site of an old drive-in, Callie Anne Benton realizes that she alone knows the identity of the victim who was murdered thirty-six years ago. In The Starlite Drive-in Callie Anne recalls the tumultuous summer of 1956. She is nearly thirteen and stuck at home with her parents. Her father is an angry, bitter man and her mother is an agoraphobic who hasn’t left the house in five years. When a drifter named Charlie Memphis comes to work at the drive-in, everyones life changes. Callie Anne witnesses the development of an intense relationship between her mother, Teal, and Charlie, who eventually cajoles Teal out of the house but not far enough away to protect her from her ill-tempered husband. A disastrous turn of events eventually leads the grown-up Callie Anne to unlock the secret of the decades-old mystery.

My Personal Review:
I am a twenty-four year old husband, and father, and I’ve just recently began to really enjoy reading. Although most of the books that I’ve read have been either action adventures, or romantic adventures, I must say that I now understand why my wife so enjoys love stories. When I first picked up the book to read, I really didn’t know what to expect, but within only a few pages I was already falling in love with Callie Anne. As I read farther into the book, I found my eyes reading every word, while my mind went on a wonderful adventure in rural Indiana. This book brought back memories of my childhood growing up out in the country, and of my young loves. Sometimes I find myself not loving my Wife the way that she needs to be loved, and reading this book really helped me to understand how beautiful she is and that life is too short to take her for granted. Callie Anne also reminds me of how I imagine my little girl to be when she grows up some more. Marjorie Reynolds is a wonderful Author, And I’m looking forward to reading more of her books.

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