On-line Book Review Post by Vanessa Maina » 06 Aug 2021, 09:48

My Journey Back To Heaven; Gabriel's story written by C. L. Rugg is a fantasy-based novel based on Archangel Gabriel. For five thousand years, Angel Gabriel has been living in heaven as an archangel, the right hand of the goddess, and a leader by all rights to other archangels. However, his existence in heaven is troubled by the fact that he never got to have the human experience. He was conceived on earth as a stillborn, and as a result, his soul ended up in heaven. Most of the angels and souls in heaven have gotten the chance to experience humanity on earth as human beings themselves. Hence, feeling like something was missing and pushed further by unforeseeable events, Gabriel decides he wants to experience the earth as a human being. With the goddess Yahweh's blessing and with the support and help of his archangel friends and all of heaven's angels, he re-enters earth once again into a family, as a first of his kind, a hybrid between an angel and a human with his past life as an archangel forgotten but not entirely.

This story is a spiritual and fantasy book written in three parts; the first section of Gabriel's life from childhood through adolescence and finishing high school, his journey through college and finding love, and the final part of Gabriel's final fate.

Upon starting to read the story, my first impression was this feeling of calmness and soothing that the book evoked in me. The story itself is well structured and very easy to follow without being confused. I will admit that it took me a little while to get into the story. What I found interesting was how descriptive the author was in the book. The descriptions given in the book about heaven, how it looks like, its structures, some of the characters in the book, like the archangels, were well written that it was easy to picture it all in my head as I was reading. I loved this about the book. I was also intrigued

by how the author took a different approach when it came to religion. The author did not focus on only Christianity when writing the book. There were influences from other religions such as Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, and some influences from scientific discoveries such as dinosaurs. It was refreshing that the story did not only follow one religion to base the whole story on.

However, I have some reservations from the book on some of Gabriel's conversations with Archangel Aseem while he was eight years old. The author wrote the discussion in such a way that it did not seem as if it is a talk between an eight-year-old with a grownup. Considering the memories from his past life were temporarily lost to Gabriel, in his human form, especially at this age in the book, the full comprehension of the conversation raised eyebrows for me.

I give this book a rating of 4 out of 5. I give this rating because the book was a good read with a great storyline. I would recommend this book to any reader who enjoys some fantasy mixed in with spirituality and someone with an open mind when it comes to religion and spirituality.

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