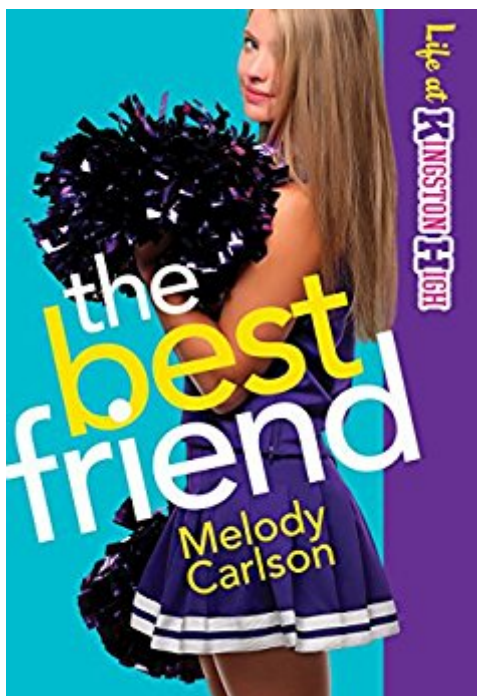


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# The Best Friend (Life At Kingston High Book #2)



## Synopsis

Lishia Vance is flummoxed. One day she has friends. The next day everyone has turned against her. No explanation. Just complete social isolation. Even her best friend Janelle isn't giving her the time of day. When she makes a connection with Riley Atkins, a popular cheerleader, things start looking up. But is Riley really as good a friend as she seems? Or is Lishia better off without her? With her signature insight into the lives of teen girls, bestselling author Melody Carlson explores the treacherous world of friendship, loyalty, and choices girls face in high school.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

o my word that was great melody has soooooo many great books and I didn't think there could be more but there was amazing book

Amazing lessons about life to learn.

Great book! Melody Carlson never disappoints. The book shows you that the people u choice to

hang out with can impact your life.

The Best Friend is the second book in the Life at Kingston High series. Lishia had friends! Well, she thought she did, and now they are all gone. She is so alone, her entire Youth Group has pretty much vanished from her life. So Lishia decides to find some new friends, and become the best friend she can be to someone. That someone winds up being Riley Atkins. Riley is a cheerleader, but she is also rather conniving, and manipulating. Lishia isn't use to this, and isn't sure what it is exactly, so it is quite confusing to her. She is doing her all to be a really good best friend to Riley, but in the process she isn't sure about the direction this is going. She has gone from bland to blonde and on the cheer leading squad, but is this what she really wants? Who all is paying the price for this besides Lishia as she bends over backwards to be there for her "best friend". A very good book for teens, and some adults too!

Lishia Vance went from being popular to being an outcast in a matter of days. Feeling left out at the closeness of the girl she thought was her best friend and a new girl, Lishia finds herself pulling away from her youth group friends and even from God. When she strikes up a conversation with popular, beautiful cheerleader, Riley Atkins, Lishia suddenly finds herself thrust into being a member of the "in crowd." But is the cost too much? Is Riley too good to be true or is she genuine? Lishia doesn't know and it's going to take some pretty interesting events for her to discover what exactly she's looking for. This book is definitely targeted for teens and preteens. As I'm neither, it was a very quick read for me. Early on, I was able to see the direction that the events were heading, and I found myself hoping that Lishia would have some good Christian friends come to her and tell her that she's heading down a dangerous path. While this probably won't make my read again list, I did get several important things from the story. The first that it's so easy to get caught up in the trappings of the world because it's "pretty". And to me, that reminded me of what sin looks like in our lives. The second thing I got from this book is the value of being honest and telling the truth saves you a world of hurt. Also being willing to say you're sorry is another point that the author makes. Overall, this was a very entertaining book and I recommend it to teens and preteens. I received this book for free from the publisher, Revell a division of Baker Publishing Group, for the purpose of reviewing. Look for The Best Friend at your favorite bookseller in June 2012 from Revell a division of Baker Publishing Group. Rating - 3 stars, but it's really more of 3.5 star book for me.

In her second book in the "Life at Kingston High" series, Melody Carlson dives back into life at the

high school. Through the relationship between Lishia and Riley and their interaction with the cheerleading squad, Carlson peels back the layers of angst that sometimes surround teen girl friendships. The story is interesting - in a "non preachy" way, Carlson uses fiction to talk about a variety of issues: friendship, integrity, honesty and more. In a sea of teen books that seem "dark," this series is a "lighter" read. (No vampires or werewolf here). However, amid the storyline, Carlson unpacks topics like underage drinking, tainted drinks (date rape drugs) and teen blackmail. In all honesty, the books are written about high school girls - and the things they will do for other people. Especially when they might have a low self confidence. On the scale of one to five, I give this book a solid three. It's a good follow up to The Jerk Magnet - Chelsea's story (it introduces Lishia as a minor character.). I know from past experience, the tween/teen girls I work with love Carlson's books. So I anticipate this series being popular as well. Note: As a freelance journalist, I was provided a copy of this book by Revell, a division of Baker Publishing Group. This review was not influenced by a free book - just in case you (or the FTC) were worried about this detail. You might also like:

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