**Clarion Review**

Autobiography & Memoir

**Ordinary Miracles: A Journey through Primary and Secondary Infertility**
Krissi Marie McVicker
iUniverse
978-1-4697-5812-1
Five Stars (out of Five)

*Ordinary Miracles* tells the story of one woman's journey through infertility, in vitro fertilization, and the birth of her children. Krissi Marie McVicker's story is specific and personal yet relatable to readers.

McVicker went through infertility prior to her first and second pregnancies. This book provides what McVicker found lacking in many infertility books—emotion. Her words will echo powerfully with readers who, when faced with infertility, have asked, "Why me?"

The book gives voice to the silent pain that plagues many families. The narrative will particularly appeal to mothers having difficulty conceiving or those healing from the emotional wounds of infertility even after their baby is born. It's also a moving story for men who, like McVicker's husband, are suffering with low sperm count or who want to understand what their wife is going through with infertility.

The book is organized chronologically, and readers journey with McVicker though her heartbreak, exhaustion, and joy. They will also be inspired by her resilience, faith, and practical wisdom. The table of contents walks readers through the book and McVicker's experiences; it is just detailed enough to serve as a useful guide.

McVicker is an accomplished writer, and her experience shows in the straightforward clarity of this book. The pacing fits the content. It's a short book with a good sense of direction. The times when the pace slows occur when McVicker's waiting is the most intense.

While her primary territory is emotion, McVicker covers practical aspects, too, from endless pregnancy tests and ovulation predictor kits to the long process of in vitro fertilization—with both fresh and frozen embryos. Through it all, readers follow her growing fear, stress, and helplessness, and they feel the ultimate joy of the birth of her daughter and her twins.

McVicker shares her story with honesty and vulnerability. While she writes about heartache, she writes with both the wisdom of one who's lived through struggle and the joy of a mother of three healthy children.

*Melissa Wuske*