Synopsis
The day Angela Thomas sold the only thing she had, the diamond from her engagement ring, to take care of her kids was the day she began to believe they were going to make it. In that decision, the faith she had always talked about became the faith she was going to learn how to live. In the years since, God has given Angela a passionate desire . . . to live an amazing life, even while raising four kids as a single mom. In this book she shares her hard-earned wisdom on loneliness, dating, finances, and parenting, encouraging every solo mom. "As a gift to our children," she says, "we can become healthy moms who are strong and amazing women in spite of our circumstances."

Book Information
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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars  See all reviews  (46 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews
After reading this book, I continued to struggle with the familiar nagging at my heart and the ache in my stomach, which speak more honestly to me about the realities of single motherhood. While I respect and appreciated many things that this author described about her own experience as a single mother, the heavy emphasis on religion, the reliance on a masculine form of divinity and the reference to the constant craving for a "hunky" male partner, particularly towards the end, left me feeling like this book was directed primarily at the white, high heeled, manicured, primarily Christian raised, middle class lifestyle type of mother. It spoke largely of this one woman’s experience with the hopes that some of it might help other women, likely in similar circumstances. None of the descriptions of this book, nor the on line reviews identify the heavy extent to which the theme of religion, a male God, church, etc. are woven into the chapters. If something in this book resonates
for white middle class women, great, the book is a success. But there remain thousands of women who do not fit in this group. Some of the serious issues that are often part of single motherhood and need real solutions, real acknowledgement, seem to be minimized or ignored. Dealing with abusive ex partners who remain involved in the children’s lives, dealing with the emotional upheaval of depression, experiences of anxiety, trying to secure medical care for oneself and ones children, trying to find and get to therapy or good counselling, legal costs, not dating for years, not dating at all, having to manage house hold repairs, sick children, a full time job, shift work, all of these things alone....they just aren’t dealt with adequately.

Life sometimes does not turn out the way we expect it too. Sometimes, we are thrown for a loop with no where to turn. Who plans after vowing “I DO” and having a couple of “blessed events” to be alone raising children? Who plans on holding the hand of their child while their spouse is lowered into a grave? Who believes that of the 50% of marriages that end in divorce, theirs would be among the statistic? No one expects the worse. But when the worse happens, it’s great to have someone who has been there, show you the way. Not someone who gives you advice they overheard someone say or fish a random verse from the Bible, but someone who has walked the journey you yourself are now embarking. In some circles, Angela Thomas had it all: a husband, four beautiful children, and a successful speaking and writing career. She wrote books encouraging women to seek the beauty and wrote prayers for the expectant mother and new mom. I can imagine she never imagined she’d write a book about herself titled, My Single Mom Life: Stories and Practical Lessons for Your Journey. What was made for her bad was certainly turned around for every reader’s good. Angela speaks candidly about her single mom life. She takes the reader’s hand encouraging single moms to cry, to mourn their lost, but afterward find the courage to begin again accepting their single mom life and be willing to raise their children in a positive new life. What made this book so compelling is Angela retold her story as if she was writing to her best friend. She didn’t offer textbook answers but genuine, heartfelt advice. Readers may find some of her advice hard to read. But isn’t that the real role of a girlfriend? To let you know with love where improvements can be made?

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