



## How It's Done

By Christine Kole MacLean

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**How It's Done** By Christine Kole MacLean

### Selected for the Book Sense Autumn 2006 Children's Pick List!

It's not like there's a "find yourself" kit or road signs that say "This way to being your own person." If you're lucky, maybe there's someone who can help you, like a fat lady on the beach might yell "Keep going! You can do it!" if you're a lousy swimmer and in way over your head. The funny thing is, that person is never who you think it's going to be. It's never who you want it to be.

"*How It's Done* is a richly woven tale of a young woman who discovers what it really means to be an adult. This story, told with honesty and heart, held me in my seat to the very end. I have discovered a new favorite writer in Christine MacLean."

?**Han Nolan**, National Book Award winner and author of *Send Me Down a Miracle* and *Dancing on the Edge*

"Compelling, realistic... Once you start reading, you won't stop."

?**Will Weaver**, author of *Full Service*, a 2005 Horn Book Fanfare winner

"MacLean writes about what can happen once all the rules get broken. I was hooked and could not stop turning pages."

?**Laurie Faria Stolarz**, bestselling author of the Blue is for Nightmares series

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## How It's Done By Christine Kole MacLean Bibliography

- Rank: #2649236 in Books
- Published on: 2006-09-08
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 1.03" h x 5.70" w x 8.34" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 336 pages



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### Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 9 Up—Grace Passedge, 18, was raised in a strict fundamentalist Christian family, with a righteous father and a mother hesitant to make waves. When he refuses to let her attend the senior party, bans her from reading romance novels, and makes her promise to remain a virgin until marriage, the teen rebels. While accompanying her friend Liv to a lecture at a local college, Grace meets a dashing, worldly professor who sweeps her off her feet and leads her into breaking her father's rules. She soon finds herself engaged to Michael, suspecting she might be pregnant as she plans her wedding, and wondering if she is doing the right thing by marrying someone with whom she has so little in common except good sex. When Liv betrays their friendship, and a new boy catches her eye, Grace is forced to make some important decisions about friends, family, and romantic relationships. Although it is difficult to envision the age difference between Grace and Michael, the characters are basically well drawn and believable. Readers will see early on that Grace is bound on a collision course, not because her father says her choices are wrong but because they go against her personal convictions. Unlike Jody in Valerie Hobbs's *Letting Go of Bobby James, or How I Found My Self of Steam* (Farrar, 2004), Grace acknowledges the truth in the nick of time. She grows through her experiences, leaving the impression that she will be a stronger and better person.—Diane P. Tuccillo, *City of Mesa Library, AZ*

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#### Review

..." will strike a chord with many teens."

"MacLean delivers a gently redemptive, compelling story of a young woman who wants to grow up too fast."

"Convincing characters and eloquent, hard-hitting first-person narration make this novel a gut-wrenching look at growing up and finding yourself."

"MacLean's writing moves the action swiftly enough for reluctant readers, and girls, who like Grace, relish romantic reads, will keep this book circulating."

#### From the Back Cover

Brought up in a fundamentalist home, eighteen-year-old Grace feels trapped in a suburban Alcatraz by her overbearing father and her timid mother. An affair with a college professor—a man of the world who's more likely to quote Shelley than scripture—seems like a great escape. But freedom brings with it unanticipated complications and Grace discovers that being involved with an older man is not all chardonnay and poetry.

How It's Done is an unflinching story of love and freedom and the price you pay for both.

How It's Done is a richly woven tale of a young woman who discovers what it really means to be an adult. This story, told with honesty and heart, held me in my seat to the very end. I have discovered a new favorite writer in Christine MacLean. -Han Nolan, National Book Award winner and author of *Send Me Down a Miracle* and *Dancing on the Edge*

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Christine Kole MacLean grew up on a farm in West Michigan, where, as the youngest of six children, she excelled at getting out of chores. Later, thinking it would be easier than digging ditches, she became a writer. (Most of the time, it is, she says, and it's never given me blisters.) She remains a writer because it's the only job in which daydreaming and telling lies somehow reveal truths rather than obscure them. She writes and tells lies from her home near Grand Rapids, Michigan.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Susan Tokarz:**

Do you one of people who can't read pleasant if the sentence chained inside the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This How It's Done book is readable by means of you who hate those straight word style. You will find the details here are arrange for enjoyable reading experience without leaving even decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer involving How It's Done content conveys objective easily to understand by many individuals. The printed and e-book are not different in the written content but it just different such as it. So , do you nonetheless thinking How It's Done is not loveable to be your top list reading book?

#### **Carla Spiegel:**

Reading a reserve can be one of a lot of action that everyone in the world adores. Do you like reading book consequently. There are a lot of reasons why people enjoyed. First reading a guide will give you a lot of new data. When you read a e-book you will get new information due to the fact book is one of many ways to share the information or their idea. Second, examining a book will make a person more imaginative. When you examining a book especially fictional book the author will bring you to definitely imagine the story how the people do it anything. Third, you can share your knowledge to some others. When you read this How It's Done, you are able to tells your family, friends as well as soon about yours reserve. Your knowledge can inspire the others, make them reading a book.

#### **Brian Griffith:**

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book specially book entitled How It's Done your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unknown for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a book then become one form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get before. The How It's Done giving you yet another experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful info for your better life with this era. So now let us demonstrate the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

**James Fitzpatrick:**

Your reading 6th sense will not betray anyone, why because this How It's Done reserve written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who else read the book. Written within good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your current hunger then you still uncertainty How It's Done as good book not only by the cover but also by content. This is one guide that can break don't evaluate book by its protect, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick this particular!? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to yet another sixth sense.

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