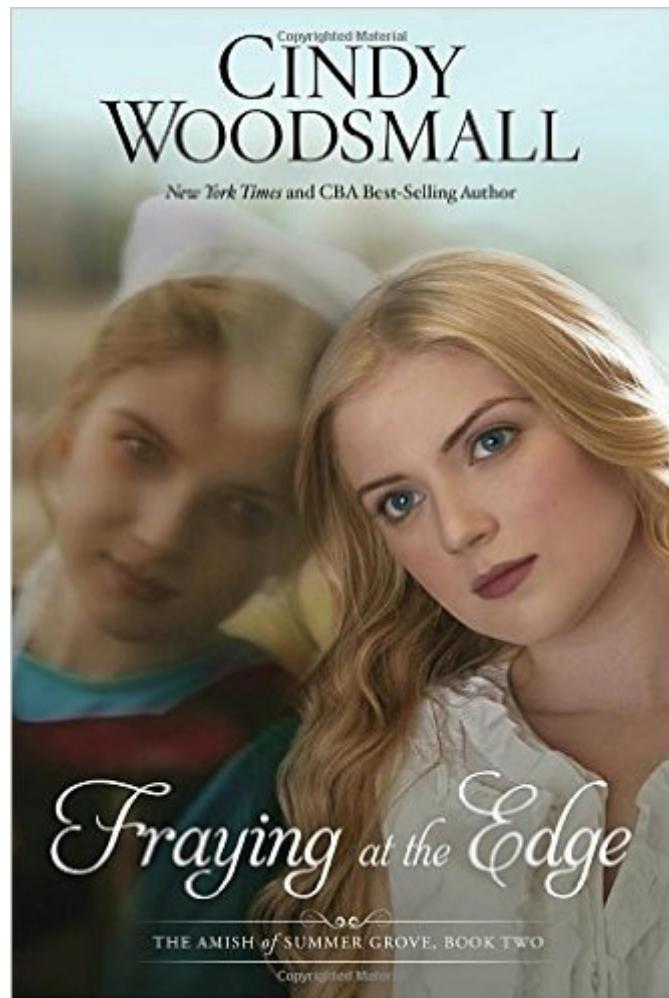


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Fraying At The Edge: A Novel (The Amish Of Summer Grove)



Synopsis

Family, community, faith, and love. These à œquilt blocksâ • sewn together made Arianaâ ™s beautiful life. When they are pulled to pieces, will anything familiar remain? The Old Order Amish life Ariana Brenneman loved vanished virtually overnight with the discovery that she was switched at birth twenty years ago. Now sheâ ™s immersed in theÂ EnglischerÂ world, getting to know her mother and under the authority of her biological father, an atheist intellectual with resolute plans to expand Arianaâ ™s worldview. Only Quill Schlabach, a childhood friend livingÂ Englisch, can steady the tilting ground between Arianaâ ™s two worlds, but can she trust him after so many betrayals? Â At the same time, Skylar Nash is forced to choose rehab or spend several months with her true relatives, the large Brenneman family and their seemingly backward lifeâ "no electricity, no technology, no fun. What the young woman canâ ™t leave behind is her addiction to illegal prescription drugs and a deep emptiness from the belief that she doesnâ ™t belong in either family. Â New ties are binding Ariana and Skylar to the lives they were meant to have. Can they find the wisdom and strength theyâ ™ll need to follow Godâ ™s threads into unexpected futures? Â Fraying at theÂ Edge is the second novel in The Amish of Summer Grove series. Fraying at the Edge is the second novel in the Amish of Summer Grove series.

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Customer Reviews

Fraying at the Edge by Cindy Woodsmall is the second book in The Amish at Summer Grove series.

Ariana Brenneman is twenty years old and has just discovered that she was switched with another girl at birth. There was a fire at the birthing center the night Ariana and another little girl were born. Everyone had to evacuate and Rachel, the midwife took charge of the babies. The two girls must have been switched at that time. In order to avoid the Rachel, the midwife and now elderly, from being sued or going to jail (by Nicholas Jenkins, her biological father), Ariana must live in the Englisch world with her biological family (blackmail is always a good way to start a relationship). Nicholas does not believe in organized religion and has a very low opinion of the Amish culture (he is an atheist). Nicholas wants Ariana to spend one year with him and her biological mother, Brandi Nash (they are not married to each other). This means that Ariana will have to ask her family to run her new cafÃ© while she is gone and her fiancÃ©, Rudy will have to be patient and await her return. Nicholas makes up a list of items (a life lessons list) for Ariana. He wants her to accomplish a certain number of items on the âœlistâ • (going to a bar, dating, getting her driverâ™s license, hair, clothes, etc.). Ariana is in for a rough adjustment. The only person she can contact is Quill Schlabach, former Amish, who works with his brothers at Schlabach Construction (Nicholas believes he is a good influence). They also help people who wish to leave the Amish community. Ariana had hoped for a future with Quill, but then he left the community unexpectedly with her best friend. How will Ariana adjust to the Englisch world? Will Ariana be the same person when she returns home?

Life could not have changed more dramatically for either Ariana Brenneman or Skyler Nash. In this sequel to "Ties That Bind," the two twenty-year-old women who discovered they were switched at birth are now trying to fit in with their biological families. Ariana has agreed to leave her Amish home for a one-year trial period in exchange for her father not suing the midwife who made the mistake, while Skyler chose a year with her Amish family rather than going to rehab for a drug addiction. Ariana has a sincere desire to do her best in getting to know her new family, but she is quickly overwhelmed by all they ask from her. Her biological father is an atheist who challenges the beliefs she was raised with, and he gives her a 'bucket list' of experiences she can pursue in order to earn points towards a visit with her boyfriend. The title of this book perfectly describes the confusion and self-doubt Ariana goes through as she navigates the changes that have been thrust upon her. Meanwhile Skyler is determined to be as insolent and difficult as possible towards the Brennemans, feeling like her parents disowned their troubled daughter in exchange for a chance to bring home a brand new innocent one. She believes she can still find suppliers to keep her drug habit going, and as soon as she can manage it she plans to run away. Yet as she unwillingly helps

around the farm and in the cafe Ariana that bought just before finding out about her heritage, something begins to change inside Skyler. If this is what working together and truly loving others looks like, maybe she could begin to accept the love and care the Brennemans are offering. We also continue following Quill, the former Amishman who helps families who want to leave the Amish community.

Continuing the absorbing, heart wrenching story from Book 1, Ariana Brenneman's Amish life disappeared in a blink of an eye when it was discovered that she was not the biological daughter of Lovina and Isaac. Now the parents of Skylar Nash have asked that she spend a year with them. Absorbed into an Englischer world with a dad keen to expand her views, especially questioning her deep faith, Ariana is alone. Well, almost. Quill Schlabach is a childhood friend who lives an Englisch life but past betrayals make Ariana wonder whether she can trust him. Yet in a new world with so many expectations thrown at her – “learn to drive (a car), listen to music, watch movies” is she able to get through the next 12 months without some guidance from him? Skylar’s choice is either rehab or staying with the large Brenneman family. A choice she feels that isn’t one. The prospect of living without her phone and modern comforts is one thing but she’s more hurt by the fact that her parents, especially her mother, seemed to have “dropped” her off with zeal. Having the pure and perfect Ariana is an opportunity to start over. The bigger problem, perhaps, for the young woman is her addiction to prescription drugs and the fear that perhaps she doesn’t belong in either family. As the days roll into months, they are both learning how to adjust to their new lives. With one woman having little regard for God and the other with unwavering faith, will they be able to adjust to what is expected of them? For Ariana it’s overwhelming but she knows she belongs back in Summer Grove. Skylar is wary of the devotion her new family show to her. But as she works in Ariana’s cafe she feels her attitude softening towards the hardworking family.

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