

## Doesn't She Look Natural?: Fairlawn Series #1

by Angela Hunt

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### About the Book

How do you cope when God asks you to bury a dream? In this new series by best-selling author Angela Hunt, readers will meet Jennifer Graham, the no-nonsense chief of staff for a Virginia senator who quits her job after a divorce and finds herself an unemployed single mom. Forced to live with her mother until she can find work on Capitol Hill that does not involve her gregarious ex-husband, her efforts are stymied until she learns that she has inherited a funeral home in picturesque Mt. Dora. Jennifer journeys to the small Florida town with her two sons and her mother, never dreaming that within a mortuary she will discover she has inherited a rewarding career that teaches her far more about life than death.

### Discussion Guide

- 1. Doesn't She Look Natural?** is the first of three novels featuring Jennifer Graham and the Fairlawn Funeral Home. Where do you think the author will take Jennifer and her family in subsequent books?
2. What are some of the major themes of this novel? Does the author use any symbols to illustrate those themes?
3. At one point, Jennifer says: "Only a stupid dog would run away from a boy who loved him, and only a selfish animal would stay away while we were all worried sick about him." Who do you think she is really talking about in this passage?
4. In the first sentence, Jennifer tells us that she's developed a "crème brûlée" crust. How does this metaphor describe Jennifer as a person?
5. Is there anything in this story to which you can personally relate? Did you find yourself identifying with any of the characters?
6. What spiritual truth do you think the author meant to convey in this novel? Was that developed with the same care and attention as the characters and the plot?
7. Most of this story is told from Jennifer's viewpoint. How would it have been different if Joella or Gerald had been telling the story?
8. How important is the setting to this novel? Would it have worked as well if it had been set in a metropolitan area?
9. How does this book compare to others you've read by Angela Hunt? Do you see any similar themes or

character traits?

**10.** At several points in the novel, Jennifer mentions surrender. How does this theme apply to the story? How does it apply in your life?

**11.** Have you ever been called to sacrifice a cherished dream? How painful was the experience, and what convinced you to do it?

#### Author Bio

With nearly five million copies of her books sold worldwide, Angela Hunt is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *THE TALE OF THREE TREES*, *THE NOTE* and *THE NATIVITY STORY*. Angela's novels have won or been nominated for several prestigious industry awards, including the RITA Award, the Christy Award, the ECPA Christian Book Award and the HOLT Medallion Award. Romantic Times Book Club presented Angela with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006. In 2008, she completed her doctorate in Biblical Studies and is currently completing her Th.D. Angela and her husband live in Florida, along with their mastiffs.

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**Publication Date:** August 2, 2007  
**Genres:** Christian, Fiction  
**Paperback:** 368 pages  
**Publisher:** Tyndale House Publishers  
**ISBN-10:** 1414311699  
**ISBN-13:** 9781414311692