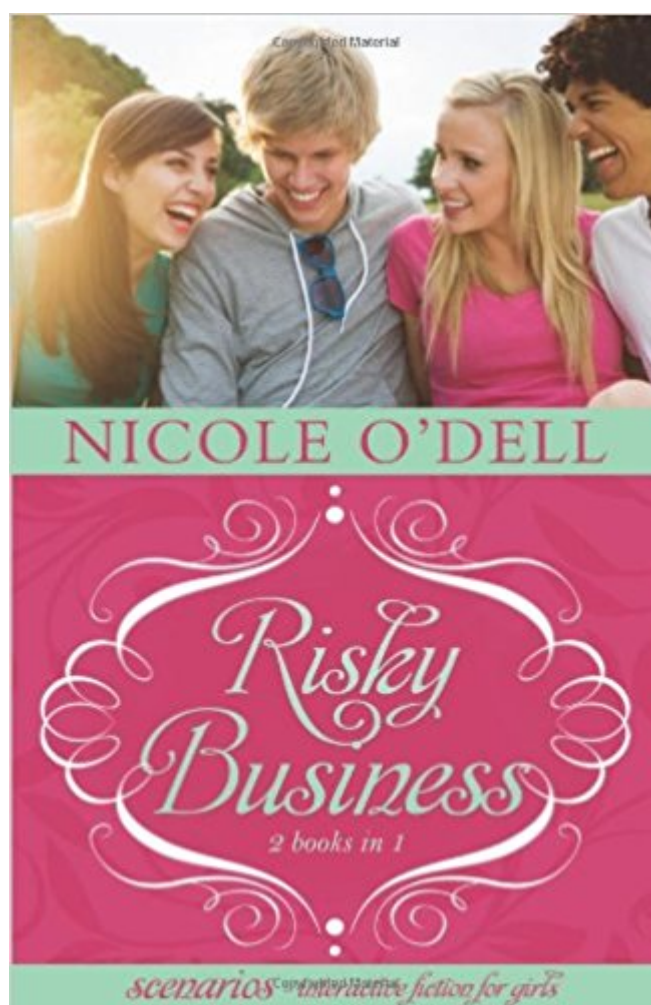


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SCENARIOS 3 & 4--Risky Business: 2 Interactive Stories In 1 (Scenarios For Girls)



Synopsis

Decisions, decisions! How is a girl supposed to choose? Lessons of right and wrong are put to the test in the Scenarios series, where you can test your decision-making abilities in an eye-opening, but safe, way. Each book follows a character up to the point where she has to make an important, life-changing decision—then it's your turn to choose. Will your choices lead to a happy ending?

Book Information

Series: Scenarios for Girls

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

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Age Range: 12 - 15 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

... a rare author with a tender heart for teenage girls, O'Dell has poured that care into her stories that will lead many readers to make wise choices. ----Robin Jones Gunn best-selling author of the Christy Miller Series and the Katie Weldon Series...a fast-paced series inviting readers to actually make tough choices that affect every teen. What an impact to see where your choices lead! ----Jenny B. Jones, Award-winning author of the A Charmed life series and the Katie Parker Production series This is a great book for young girls that uses realistic scenarios to show situations they may be confronted with peers and consequences of wrong decisions and rewards of better decisions. I foresee many young girls reading this and having opportunity to choose ahead of time what decision they would make if found in a similar situation. It could very well save many young

girls from future heartache as well as show them, if they have already made some bad decisions, God can show them how to turn things around if they will turn to Him and receive His help. An excellent series! (Joyce B. Book Bargains and Previews 2011-05-03) In each situation, the teens face tough decisions that test their faith, their common sense, and their loyalty to their friends. The stories in Risky Business share great messages in following your gut instinct, and readers will love getting to see the story play out from both angles. (Tracy Farnsworth Roundtable Review for Kids 2011-05-26) There are two different stories in this book.~ Even better than that, there are different endings that the reader can choose.~ Depending on the action you choose for the character to take, the consequences/endings vary.~ What a great way to teach without preaching! In the first story, Molly becomes a hotshot employee, working her way up to an assistant manager in training.~ Not bad for a highschool student.~ However, she has to choose between being a great employee and being well-liked by the popular girls.~ In the second story, Kate is a great swimmer.~ She is so great that she could get a scholarship.~ Does she have what it takes to be the cream of the crop?~ She worries that she will fall short.~ Her teammates offer up a sure way to excel, but it is illegal.~ What will these girls do?~ Both are normal teens.~ These situations are realistic.~ This is such a good book!~ I am going to keep it for my daughter to read in a few years.~ Stories like these just do not go out of style. (Stephanie Rollins Book Reviews R Us 2011-07-18)

In Magna, Molly Jacobs gets hired at the ultimate girls' clothing store and her friends--even the popular girls in school--are envious. In Making Waves,~ sophomore Kate Walker has decided to try something new this year. She secures a spot on her school's swim team~ but soon becomes obsessed~ with practice and making it through the championships with flying colors.~ What happens when~ Molly and~ Kate are faced with making difficult choices?~ How will they handle the risky business? Readers help~ Molly and Kate make the difficult decisions and see how~ their choices create consequences with life-altering results.

Magna & Making Waves by Nicole O'Dell are a wonderful resource for young teen girls and even adults like me. I've really enjoyed the Scenarios books for girls - these latest two being the third and fourth book. The first two: Truth or Dare and All that Glitters were great as well! These are Christian based books that portray the main character in a story and then give the reader two directions that the main character can take when she's forced to face a tough situation. You can of course read both routes as I do. The reader gets to see what happens to the main character based on which

decision she makes. These books carry many good messages for young girls as they address the pressures that young girls feel in this world today. I absolutely recommend these books!

Magna follows Molly Jacobs as she is navigating the normal life of a teen girl. Molly and her best friends decide that they need to get jobs so they'll have some extra money for some cool clothes and all the other things important to a teen girl. After getting permission from their parents to look for part time jobs the girls put their heads together to see what would be the best place for them to apply. They come up with the popular clothing store **Magna** and apply. Much to their excitement they secure interviews but the only one hired ends up being Molly. Molly seems to really have a knack for putting outfits together for people and in short order is doing very well at the store and receives a promotion. But along with the great job comes the peer pressure as well. All of a sudden girls at school who never paid any attention to her are asking her for favors and if that isn't bad enough her best friends start pressuring her too. What will Molly do? Will she stand up for what she believes is right and refuse her friends or will she fall under the pressure of wanting to please her friends instead? One of these choices can have dire consequences for Molly but is her faith and belief in herself strong enough to hold up against her best friends and the need to be popular?

Making Waves follows Kate as she and her mother are trying to rebuild their lives after the passing of her father and not only that but Kate is also dealing with her sister recently getting married and her best friend Olivia moving away. So Kate decides to join the swim team, not only to make friends but because she loves to swim. Swimming is one thing that can make her feel somewhat better. Of course being the strong swimmer that she is, Kate makes the team and quickly finds herself somewhat in the spotlight. It turns out that Kate is a really good swimmer; really better than most on her team. But with all this new attention also comes the pressure to do better all the time and some of the girls on the team ask Kate if she'd like to try these energy drinks and later some pills that would give her more energy and enable her to perform better. So what will Kate do? Will she fall under the pressure and the need to be better and break those records that she really wants to break? Will she put aside her faith and do what she knows is wrong and disappoint her mother or will she hold true to her beliefs and be strong knowing she can make it on her own?

As I've said these are great books for teen girls. So many are faced with hard decisions especially in this day and age and I think being able to read about a lot of these situations portrayed in the books and seeing what happens depending on which route you take would really help them to maybe make the right decisions at some point in their own lives. Again these books are Christian based and that isn't to everyone's liking. For me, I think that's part of the charm of these books - it's ok to have faith in God and it's ok to live your life believing in doing what's right. I think wherever young people can

find support nowadays is a good thing!

Review by Jill Williamson This is a two-books-in-one volume that is the second volume in Nicole O'Dell's series *Scenarios- Interactive Fiction for Girls*. Read each story, then choose what the main character will do next by choosing one of two alternate endings. I highly recommend this series to all girls. These are fun stories with relatable characters that give the reader a chance to see each side of a major choice. I've given a review of each story below.

Magna Molly and her friends want to find a part time job to earn extra cash and a discount on great clothes. But Molly is the only one of her trio that gets hired at Manga, the coolest clothing store ever. At first everything is going great. Molly is really good at her job and quickly gets more responsibility. But some girls at school try to bully her into giving her special deals and then her best friends ask her to do something she knows is wrong. What will Molly do? You decide. Whether Molly chose to break the law or stand against her friends, she was still Molly. There were consequences to both choices, and some consequences were harder to live through than others, but the story wasn't preachy. It was honest. So even in the ending where Molly chose to break the law, there was still redemption, and it was neat to read how she dealt with such humbling circumstances.

Making Waves An avid lake swimmer, sophomore Kate Walker tries out for the swimming team. Not only does she make the team, she makes varsity and becomes the best swimmer on the team. Her coach talks with her about the future and the possibilities of college scholarships. Kate is excited, but her new schedule has her so busy, it's hard to keep up. Some of the other girls on the team share their secret with Kate: coffee and energy drinks. Kate knows that her coach probably wouldn't like them drinking so much caffeine, but it's legal, so it's okay, right? But as the season progresses to the state championship and the opportunity to set a new record and impress a college scout, Kate is beyond stressed out. When her teammates offer her a way to get through the day that Kate knows is illegal, what will she do? You decide. In both endings Kate was able to push through the consequences and find redemption. The enormity of the choice she faced played out in both endings and showed how much power one right or wrong choice can make in a person's life.

My almost 11 y.o. LOVES the Scenario books. Yes, I capitalized on purpose because that almost captures her enthusiasm for this series. Why does she love these books? Because she loves being the character and choosing the outcome. She'll select the wrong choice, and then go back and make the right choice. It leads to great conversations as we talk about what makes one choice better than the other. In the first story, Magna, one of the girls gets hired at a popular clothing store.

Sneaking out coupons to her friends turns into pressure to help them shoplift dresses and jeans for an upcoming party. Will she do and what are the consequences if she does. And what should she do with the money she earns? Then in Making Waves, the main character joins a swim team and is offered performance enhancing drugs. What harm could come of that? What I love about this book and the others in the series is the way they address real life issues head on, and help tweens and teens decide ahead of time what they would do in a similar situation. Like Choose your Adventures with a purpose.

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