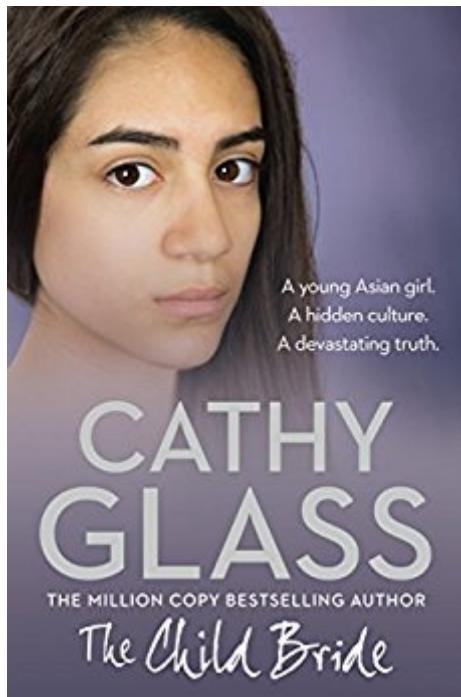


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# The Child Bride



## **Synopsis**

Cathy Glass, international bestselling author, tells the shocking story of Zeena, a young Asian girl desperate to escape from her family. When 14 -year-old Zeena begs to be taken into care with a non-Asian family, she is clearly petrified. But of what? Placed in the home of experienced foster carer Cathy and her family, Zeena gradually settles into her new life, but misses her little brothers and sisters terribly. Prevented from having any contact with them by her family who insist she has brought shame and dishonour on the whole community, Zeena tries to see them at school. But when her father and uncle find out, they bundle her into a car and threaten to set fire to her if she makes anymore trouble. Zeena is too frightened to press charges against them despite being offered police protection in a safe house. Eventually, Cathy discovers the devastating truth from Zeena, and with devastation she believes there is little she can do to help her.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I enjoy all of Cathy Glass's fostering books. This one was very good, the story of 14 year old Zeena, of Indian (Asian) origin. She requested to be in care after her family had married her off to a 50 year old relative in Bangladesh because she was 'damaged goods,' having been raped at the age of nine

by a cousin. She contracted two STIs/virus, and was repulsed and horrified by her situation and her family's lack of understanding. They made Zeena feel worthless, and she had to do most of the household work and childcare of her siblings. Her mother played a cruel trick on her by packing inappropriate clothing for her and calling her names like 'slut.' Even more horrific details would later come out about Zeena's sad and abusive life. Cathy's warm supportive household helped heal Zeena. This book calls attention to the hideous practice of children being forced into underage marriage, often to older men. I can't wait for Cathy's next book, Saving Danny, which I pre-ordered.

I have read all of Cathy Glass' s books and enjoyed them all. I have come to regard Cathy as almost a personal friend. However, I found The Child Bride to be the most intense and absorbing of all. A wonderful book, by an incredibly fine author.

This was a very intense story. Cathy & her family are the greatest. They are so patient with all the children they take in. I was so touched by Zeena's story I couldn't help but shed some tears for her. She is a strong & determined young lady, thanks to Cathy & her family. I will continue to read more of Cathy's books Cant wait for the next one to come out.

A beautifully written account of 14year old Zeena who came into Kathy's care for protection from her sexually abusive father &uncle & others. It amazed me how long it took for Zeena to divulge this horrific abusive to Kathy whom she finally came to love &trust along with her family. She was unspoilt & it showed in her respect & gracious manner. Kathy is an amazing author & a fine example of how to cope with teenagers. How she manages to find time to write astounds me!! I fell in love with Zeena &so wanted Kathy to adopt her.

I have read 14 Cathy Glass books & they have all taken me on a journey - I enjoy reading the follow up's on Cathy's web site. I am sure most foster carers are in it with the best of intentions however Cathy you are special! The way you care for these children & your own Cathy is a credit to you. I trust you will take some 'Cathy time' when adult company comes along. The world is a better place for your being. Please keep writing the books.

Honestly, this book is amazing! I read the whole thing in one day. The subject matter, although sad, didn't shock me because I've read many accounts of abuse in those cultures. This is one of the more disturbing ones. Perfectly written and narrated by Cathy Glass. I just want to say, God bless

her for what she does. I'm sure that she, along with some good and caring people, saved this poor young girl from a life of certain servitude and possibly death. I also visited Cathy's website to see how Zeena is doing now. She is doing very well, and although she may have the scars of abuse, she didn't let it stop her from realizing her dreams. Good for you Zeena! You are truly a resilient and special girl. Bless you always! I highly recommend this book.

This was an engaging story that was well written about a teen who though born in the UK is bound culturally with rural Bangladesh. The teen puts herself in foster care to escape her cultural expectations but Cathy and her family must uncover her secrets if they expect to help her.

I am new to Cathy Glass, but will certainly be a frequent reader. The Child Bride was an amazing book. I thought at first that I was reading fiction, and thought the author quite a skilled writer, to capture my attention so well with such a seemingly real story. However, about half-way through the book, I suddenly realized I was NOT reading fiction, and broke down crying. By the time I ended the book, I cried even more, both for Zeena and for the way Cathy wrote the story, as well as the author's kindness and loving care of the horribly abused child. I also wrote to Ms Glass, to thank her for conveying a message which rarely gets aired, and immediately heard back from her. She's definitely a multi-gifted woman, and deserving of very high praise.

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