



Blessed by Mary J. Stevens

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Fireside Book # 2202

Mary J. Stevens, while still dealing with aspects of acromegaly, now lives a busy and rewarding life in Central Florida with her husband, Bob.

A former Catholic nun of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Mary believes that her life experience, including recovery from brain surgeries and an “out of body” experience were all fantastic blessings from God, Who is intertwined in her life.

In addition to her involvement with her church, teaching catchism and assisting people in need, she enjoys golfing, bowling, and attending music festivities, as well as dining in a variety of interesting restaurants. She looks forward to each day of her life with all the joys and surprises that await her--just knowing that God is at her side.

The purpose of the book is in Mary’s words, “not only to educate people on pituitary tumors but also to stress that no matter what problems you must face--physical, mental, social, economic--stay positive in your attitudes and actions, and let God be a part of your life.”



“You need sex!”

“That would solve your whole problem.” I was stunned. This couldn’t be happening to me, Sister Leah Patrice, a Catholic nun of the order of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Humiliated, I stood in the doctor’s examining room, partially disrobed and feeling vulnerable.

My health problems continued. Mother Leonella thought that if I gained weight, my problems would be solved. Five-feet-five-inches tall and weighing in at one hundred pounds was thin. Gaining weight would definitely be a sign of happiness and belonging and should make me feel better, she thought. Eating more at mealtimes was an impossible task for me, so Mother Leonella had a medication prescribed for me to take one hour prior to meals. Unfortunately, rather than increasing my appetite, it made me so nauseous, I couldn’t eat at all.

We got out of the car at the park and Bob walked with me over to a nearby bench and began to kiss me, over and over. He asked me to sit down and he knelt on one knee and asked, *“Will you marry me?”*

I became so cold, I couldn’t feel myself anymore; then, I felt nothing.

I started traveling backwards very rapidly through a dark tunnel, and began to feel a warmth surrounding me. I left the tunnel and floated in a beautiful, warm white light out in space, way up in the sky. The light seemed to penetrate into my whole being. The scenario was so peaceful, so fantastic, so beautiful, words fail to describe it.

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