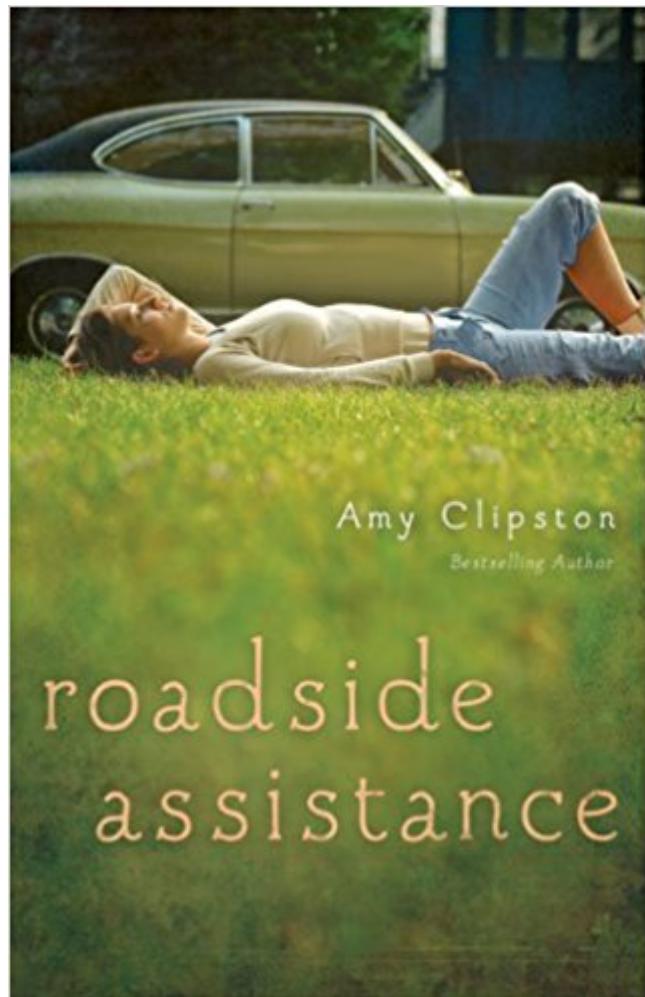


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# Roadside Assistance



## Synopsis

A very bumpy ride. Emily Curtis is used to dealing with her problems while under the hood of an old Chevy, but when her mom dies, Emily's world seems shaken beyond repair. Driven from home by hospital bills they can't pay, Emily and her dad move in with his wealthy sister, who intends to make her niece more feminine—in other words, just like Whitney, Emily's perfect cousin. But when Emily hears the engine of a 1970 Dodge Challenger, and sees the cute gearhead, Zander, next door, things seem to be looking up. But even working alongside Zander can't completely fix the hole in Emily's life. Ever since her mom died, Emily hasn't been able to pray, and no one—not even Zander—seems to understand. But sometimes the help you need can come from the person you least expect.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Tomboy Emily Curtis lost her ability to pray when her mother died. Overwhelmed by hospital bills that they can't pay, Emily and her dad are forced to move in with Emily's aunt and her perfect cousin, Whitney. Things seem to be going from bad to worse until she meets cute next-door neighbor Zander and his 1970s Dodge Challenger. Emily has never felt as at home as she does working under the hood of a car. Can Zander help her find her faith again? VERDICT Clipston, the best-selling author of the *œKauffman Amish Bakery•* series, makes her young adult fiction debut with glowing results. Emily's angst over losing her mother and being compared to her more feminine cousin is palpable. Engaging characters and believable story line make this a sure bet for teens who enjoy Melody Carlson. It will also appeal to adult readers of YA fiction. (Library Journal) In

her first novel for teens, adult author Clipston (the Kaufmann Amish Bakery series) presents the conventional spiritual journey of 17-year-old Emily, whose life has been uprooted since her mother's death from cancer: Emily's father's auto shop went belly up, they lost their house to foreclosure, and had to sell the beloved '69 Camaro she had fixed up. And moving in with her wealthy aunt, uncle, and beautiful cousin Whitney (to whom she has always been compared) makes Emily feel like a charity case. Emily rebuffs repeated invitations from Whitney and her friends, the pastoral staff at their new church, and her father, preferring to stay in her room writing journal entries to her mother and pondering her uncertain relationship with God. A developing friendship with Zander, a cute neighbor who shares her passion for cars, provides some solace, but she finds his strong Christian faith unnerving. Emily's struggles with grief, difference, dependency, and the need for someone to depend on provide opportunities for growth, friendship, and budding romance. The story follows a predictable course, but the characters are well developed and it remains affecting. Ages 13-16. (May) (Publisher's Weekly)

Amy Clipston is the award-winning and bestselling author of the Kauffman Amish Bakery series. Her novels have hit multiple bestseller lists including CBD, CBA, and ECPA. Amy holds a degree in communication from Virginia Wesleyan College and works full-time for the City of Charlotte, NC. Amy lives in North Carolina with her husband, two sons, and three spoiled rotten cats. Visit her online at [amyclipston.com](http://amyclipston.com) Facebook: AmyClipstonBooks Twitter: @AmyClipston

Last year Emily's mom died from cancer. Her dad's business couldn't keep up with the medical debts, so now the two of them have to stay at her aunt's and uncle's. One word: humiliating. When will her dad find work so they can find a place of their own? And where is God when she needs Him? Roadside assistance is a story of a girl with doubt. Had God forgotten her? Why was she not feeling Him? Why did her attempts at prayer never work? But it's also a story about learning to open up to the ways God can show His unfailing love. I think, though, that some changes to the "technique" of writing would have been great. For example, having Emily have a clear goal and adding a worse protagonist who wants to mess it all up. To my taste, the beginning through the middle of the book could use some more drama, but it gets better at the end. Overall, the message of His care is great, but the writing could use some improvement, I think.

Car-obsessed Emily and her financially strapped father move in with his well-off sister, her banker husband and their beautiful and brilliant daughter. Quite a change of pace for Clipston but an

interesting story in its own right, as Emily grieves her mother's death and tries to adjust to her new situation. This is the best kind of YA story; the main character is a teen, but Clipston does not talk down to the reader of any age. The characters are not perfect Christians by any means but they have different strengths and weaknesses, just like real people. Spelling, grammar, and Kindle formatting were okay except for odd placement of a large initial letter at the beginning of each chapter. The title had practically nothing to do with the story.

One of my daughter's favorite books.

This is a great book! I felt so sorry for Emily & her dad from the beginning, but, felt for her during the struggle of the story. I really wanted her to connect with friends & saw her keeping the wall up. I am so glad she moved where she did & the folks were there to reach out to her. I can't imagine how hard it was for her & for her dad. I know some men really have a hard time accepting help/handouts & it must have been so hard on him. I am so thankful for the writing that Amy Clipston did with this. I am so glad she took us through the story the way she did. I am so glad that Emily's friends stayed there even when she was pushing them away. I think I have struggled to keep my relationship with God at times too & I am so happy that Emily found her way back. Great ending! I would love to see another book from Amy Clipston like this one. Fabulous! I got it for my Kindle, but, may have to buy a physical one so that I can share with my friends. I will definitely tell them to read it. Everyone should read it!

Do you know how to fix a car? This girl for sure does! Meet Emily Curtis, a sixteen year old junior who's passion is fixing Chevys. Her life hasn't been easy this past year; her mom died of cancer, her boyfriend broke up with her, and she's now leaving her best friend and the place she calls home to go live in her aunt's house. With the company of her dad Brad, they leave everything behind and are now looking forward to a new start. They move to Brad's sister house, Darlene, which has a fascination of making Emily more feminine. Now living with her aunt isn't going to be easy, and add that she has the perfect cousin, Whitney. Even her grandmother favorites her cousin over her. Emily is not your typical girl. She doesn't care about make-up, clothes and doesn't even own a cellphone. But underneath, she's having some faith issues. She can't pray; not since her mom died. Emily feels lost and everyone around her seem to know their way. She's a loner and keeps to herself. But maybe things aren't as bad as they seem. There's this really cute guy next door named Zander. Will Emily be able to impress him with her mechanical skills? First of all, this book talks a lot about faith

and God. But before you stop reading this because of that factor, hear me out. Even the main character has a hard time with her faith and the religion of those around her. It's doesn't come easy for her to trust God as it does for the others. Apart from the religion factor, this book was different because the main character is a tomboy, and there's not a lot of that in the Young Adult world. She isn't afraid to get her hands dirty with some grease. Her family, which now includes her aunt and her husband and their two kids, Logan and Whitney are amazingly written. Especially Whitney. She's the one that took me by surprise. She isn't what you expect at all. Emily's dad, Brad, tries to be the best father he can be but he's also grieving and has lost his job. Let me tell you, I laughed while reading this book. I got happy and sometimes I could totally relate to what Emily was going through. Other times I wish the author had let the character's actions speak for themselves and not tell us exactly what they were thinking. Sometimes Emily was feeling possessive of Zander; jealous I should say, even when she haven't met him yet. And her mood changed constantly. Maybe it was that she's a teenager; maybe that was the way she was grieving for the loss of her mother. Overall, it was a good read. It showed me that no one is perfect and we have to cherish the time we have with our family. That God is always there and that friends and family is the best support system we can have.

I chose to give this book a five star rating because it is worth it. The plot is easy to follow. The characters are easy to relate to and you can identify with the main character and her father as they take different journeys of faith to regain their love for the Lord after the death of their mother and wife. What I also like about the book is that it free from the clutter of immorality, cuss words and trash that you so often find in a romance novel. I will recommend this as light reading to any age, especially teenagers.

A lot of bad things have happened, loss of a mother, loss of a home, loss of a business. Father and daughter get help from his rich sister but at what cost to the teenage daughter. This story is about finding faith and being who you are instead of thinking you need to be someone else to be accepted. There is a lot of suggestion to the fact that one needs only to rely on God to get them through and it has a sweet message for seeing the love and help from others.

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