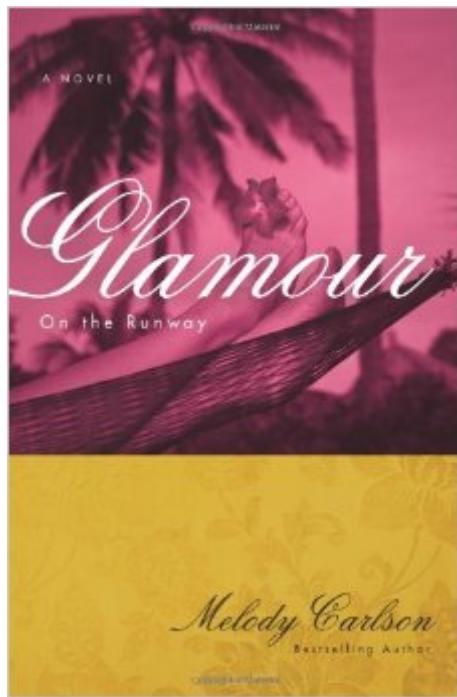


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# Glamour (On The Runway)



## **Synopsis**

Sink or swim? Paigeâ™s engagement to designer Dylan Marceau shocks the fashion world. Although Paige appears to be happy, Erin wonders if itâ™s true love or just a desire for attention and publicity. As Paigeâ™s love life takes off, Erin is feeling pressure from Blake to take their friendship to a romantic level. But is she ready? These two very different sisters still have one thing in common---their fashion TV show and all the drama that comes along with it. As they prepare for a trip to film in the Bahamas, the Forrester sisters discover that paradise isnâ™t all itâ™s cracked up to be. Can they do the right thing in tough situations---and the right thing for each another---in a business that often encourages the worst?

## **Book Information**

Series: On the Runway (Book 5)

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## **Customer Reviews**

Just like the other books in the On The Runway series, much more is taught about fashion than faith. The issues covered are looked at from a moral or logical negative consequences aspect, not spiritual. The big issue in this book is whether or not someone should have sex before marriage. Not once is the Bible considered as a reason for someone having those standards. Rather it is discussed in terms of culture - it's popular, everyone is doing it, therefore Erin's views on it must be wrong. Even Erin's mom gives in and while it is implied that Erin will continue to believe that sex should be saved for marriage, she really isn't shown as having any good reason. There are some discussions about faith and prayer in chapter 6. When Erin feels upset she prays and is reminded of God's faithfulness to her. Then in chapters 15 and 16, another character challenges Erin to look at

others through God's eyes and reminds her of the power of prayer.~ CTF Devourer1 Corinthians 6:18 - Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

Written by Melody Carlson, author of more than 200 books, "Glamour" is the fifth "On the Runway" book. The series follows two very different sisters with one big thing in common: their TV show about fashion. Paige is older, charismatic and thrives in the spotlight, while Erin is more reserved, conservative and striving to live out her Christian faith. This title begins shortly after Paige becomes engaged to designer Dylan Marceau and just before the girls' mom gets married. The sisters clash over issues of premarital sex, body image and the virtues of modesty. Beyond trying to accept her sister's life choices, Erin also needs to tip-toe around her best friends. Molly is a Christian, but pregnant, unwed, and not exactly the best confidant. Blake, also a Christian, clearly wants to progress his relationship with Erin beyond "just friends," but Erin's not so sure. While her views on premarital sex are crisply defined, Erin unwittingly waltzes a gray area of relationship boundaries with Blake. In the midst of this, Erin becomes privy to serious and secret health issues with their producer, Fran. Because Fran has no family or close friends around, Erin takes it upon herself to care for her, which becomes an increasing burden. Most of the book takes place in the Bahamas. The girls take the film crew there for a week-long fashion show. Erin struggles to find her place in this world of TV and fashion while seeking earnestly to live out what she believes to be true, in spite of the ridicule she receives. Her pursuit leads to new friends, stretching endeavors, and even a path toward eco-fashion, a line that may have a place, even for her. **WHAT I LIKE:** This is a well-written easy read, perfect for lazy summer days. I appreciate the assertion that Christians can have a place, though be it small at times, even in the most "secular" of industries. I really liked the one character, Rhiannon -- a strong character worthy of imitation, and would have liked to see more of her. She was a bright beacon in an otherwise worldly collection of characters. **WHAT I DISLIKE:** This is definitely not a stand-alone book. I started reading without researching the title (I don't like spoilers) and was completely lost for the first 80 pages or so. Without the backstory of the first couple books, I didn't know who these characters were, their relation to each other, how old they were, or why the publisher targeted a Christian teen audience. (The material seemed very mature for teens, perhaps better suited for college-aged readers.) While I quickly grow weary of repetition in book series, a quick recap would have been helpful for new-to-this-series readers. I felt uncomfortable with the obvious isolation of the main character, both in her relationships and her beliefs. I would have liked her to have a little more support, but instead she was made to feel like a

freak and a prude, even by her own mother. This does little to encourage readers to stand up for their faith, morals or integrity. Finally, I just struggle with the main premise of this series. Girls naturally fight against the materialism of fashion while seeking healthy body and self image. I've seen the pressures already hit my seven-year-old daughter! I don't see how books like this alleviate that pressure. In fact, it seems to serve the contrary. This book features a character who has not yet fallen victim to those traps, yet throughout her journey, she gets sucked in more and more until she actually "enjoys" it. I'm not saying we can't enjoy fashion, but why change her? She was fine being herself without an obsession for expensive clothes and brand name styles.

**OVERALL RATING:** Good.

**PARENTS NOTE:** While none of these topics are the main point of the book, this title does include premarital sex, teen pregnancy, and under-age drinking.

Tanya -- Christian Children's Book Review

Great books, the girls have loved each and every one. Very nice, wholesome reading. While the focus is around a fashionable person, the main point of the book is not. It's a great addition for someone who wants a non-worldly book series for their daughters to read.

Paige and Erin are back for the fifth installment of the On the Runway series and things are just as crazy as before. Paige's engagement to Dylan Marceau shocked the fashion world and Runway fans. Even though Paige seems to be happy, Erin can't but wonder if the engagement is true love or just a desire for attention and publicity. As Paige's love life takes off, Erin starts to feel pressure from Blake to become more than friends. But she doesn't know if she's ready. Amidst all this, they still have their TV show and all the drama that comes with it. As they prepare for a trip to the Bahamas they realize that paradise isn't all its cracked up to be storms of different calibers and types. Will they be able to do the right thing in a business that encourages the worst? Or will they crack and put aside their virtue for fame?----- As I've mentioned before, Melody Carlson is by far one of my favorite, if not my favorite young adult author. She has a knack for expressing just how teens feel and act. This book is no different. She perfectly expresses how a Christian teen would feel in the spotlight trying to hold on to her values. It's amazing how accurate her books are. Another thing this author is great at is making her characters realistic. She makes the characters' struggles understandable and believable. They make mistakes, they learn, the struggle. It makes her characters that much more likable. The character development isn't a massive part of the story, just because character development was pretty much already established in the first four books of the series. Romance is still under construction in this book, Paige has a fiancÃ©, their mom is married

now, but Erin's relationship with Blake is still in question. I can't help but root for that relationship I work out. The author left a question mark on that topic, hopefully it gets worked out in the next book. One of my favorite parts of this book is the light that the author paints fashion. She basically puts that fashion isn't wrong, even for Christians. That it's actually a good way to share your faith and make a difference in the industry. It makes me, and those who read this, rethink any opinions that they have about fashion. Overall, this the best installment of this series yet. I highly recommend this series for any teen or preteen girl who likes fashion. I give this book a four out of five. \*I received this complimentary copy of this book from Zondervan for this review. All opinions expressed are my own.\*

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