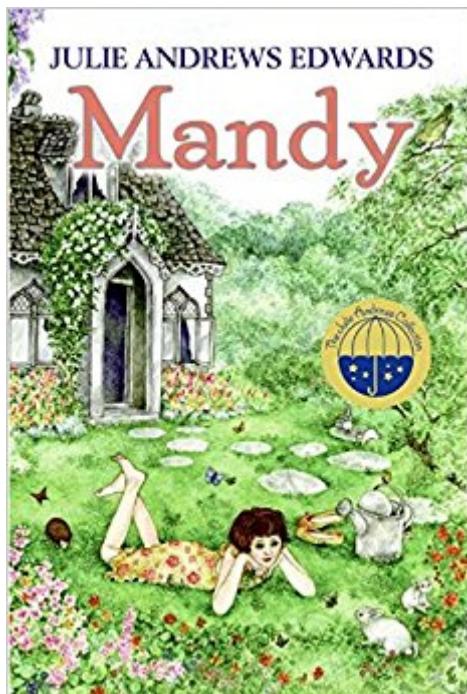


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# Mandy (Julie Andrews Collection)



## **Synopsis**

Mandy, the first childrenâ™s novel ever written by the beloved star of Mary Poppins and The Sound of Music, Julie Andrews, is a modern classic. Mandy, a ten-year-old orphan, dreams of a place to call her own. Escaping over the orphanage wall to explore the outside world, Mandy discovers a tiny deserted cottage in the woods. All through the spring, summer, and fall, Mandy works to make it truly hers. Sometimes she "borrows" things she needs from the orphanage. Sometimes, to guard her secret, she even lies. Then, one stormy night at the cottage, Mandy gets sick, and no one knows how to find herâ "except a special friend she didn't know she had. This is the perfect book for ten-year-old girls who love tiny houses and stories filled with hope.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 730 (What's this?)

Series: Julie Andrews Collection

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; 2 Revised edition (August 15, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061207071

ISBN-13: 978-0061207075

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 240 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #35,260 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Adoption #75 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Orphans & Foster Homes #119 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 2 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

For an orphan child whose life is filled with comfortable, predictable sameness, with no particular hardships, life is, well, all right. Really, what does Mandy have to worry about? So it comes as a surprise even to Mandy when a small restlessness begins to grow in her. This lonely ache sets her to wandering farther afield, and leads her to a startling and wonderful discovery over the orphanage wall--a very old, very small, seemingly abandoned cottage. Embarking on a clandestine domestic

fantasy involving gardening tools and soap flakes, Mandy finds herself being less than honest about where and how she's spending her days. Holding her secret closer and closer to her heart, this imaginative dreamer inadvertently endangers her reputation--and her life. For every child who has fallen in love with *The Secret Garden* or *A Little Princess*, Julie Andrews Edwards's 1971 novel will be a heartwarming discovery. Any sometimes-lonely child with a giant imagination will recognize Mandy's dreams and rejoice in her ultimate fairy-tale happy ending. Judith Gwyn Brown's Edward Gorey-esque pen and ink drawings (with none of Gorey's sinister air) are quietly memorable. Fans of Julie Andrews Edwards--*Sound of Music* star of stage and screen--will be thrilled to see her latest children's book, *Little Bo: The Story of Bonnie Boadicea*, or to an earlier favorite, *The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles*. (Ages 8 to 12) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Beautifully written, sensitive. A joyous novel." -- -- Language Arts --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Mandy is one of those comforting books from childhood that you want to share with your own children and their children and every child you encounter. It becomes extra-special when you realize it was written by actress/singer Julie Andrews (*Sound of Music*, *Mary Poppins*) for her own children years ago. Mandy is a 10 year old orphan who is something of a loner. She is not abused at the orphanage (what a relief after reading about so many abused orphans!) and her needs for shelter, food, clothing, and education are met but there is a deeper emotional need that is not. There is one little girl , her roommate Sue, who really craves her friendship but Mandy often goes off on her own daydreaming and pushes Sue aside which hurts the girl. There is a property on the other side of a high stone wall behind the orphanage near the orphanage's orchard. Mandy creates many fantasies in her mind about what is beyond the wall and one day, she climbs a tree and goes over the wall. There is a lovely but abandoned property here with the dearest little cottage. Mandy decides to make it her own and she cleans it and weeds outside and begins to plant a garden. She has to be tricky and "borrow" things from the orphanage to do so but she works one day a week at a local shop and is able to use her earnings to buy seeds and plants. The descriptions of the discovery, her transformation of the cottage and garden, and the peace she finds there are just lovely. It makes me want to go there myself to the English countryside and see the place. Unfortunately , gray skies cover Mandy's newfound happiness. She gets in trouble for stealing things. The Matron forbids her to leave the school property to go wherever she is going and the ignored Sue becomes sneaky and

seeks to find out Mandy's secret. At the same time, the gate she had discovered that leads in the property without going over the wall is suddenly locked, she spies what she thinks is a prince riding a horse at a distance (and develops some fantasies about that) and SOMEONE is spying on her-they start leaving her notes. When deadly disaster strikes her and she falls ill at the cottage-well, you'll have to read and see. This book is so charming, sweet, comforting, and warm, I could roll it like my favorite soft blanket around me on a cold day. Don't hesitate to read this if you are an adult. You should never be too old to enjoy such a good story.

This was and remains my favorite book from childhood. I first read MANDY as a girl and was completely enchanted by the writing style and premise. A little girl making a secret place of her own intrigued me, as did the problems Mandy faced in trying to keep her prize to herself. And the ending was very touching. I read that book over and over until it was completely worn out. Much later as a mother, I named a daughter after the title character, and when she was old enough, gifted her with a copy of the book. I recently bought yet another copy for my youngest, who couldn't WAIT to get it in the mail after I read the sample pages out loud.

I remember reading this book as a young girl and loving it. I purchased it as part of a gift to my niece. I hope she loves it as much as I did when I was younger.

My six-year old daughter wanted me to type her review. "I love Mandy. It's really fun. I like the cottage that she found. She made it really pretty. I think the woman who took her was nice, and the room that she was in when she was sick was really pretty. It was nice for Bill to rescue her and make her feel better. It was 297 pages. I want to get the next book, but there is no next one." I have only read the first 4 chapters. My daughter just discovered reading by herself with this book. She fell in love with it while I was reading it with her, and she just couldn't put it down. She read the rest herself. I can't believe how much she loves this book. She actually cried when she realized there was no sequel. She wanted to know what happens next with Mandy. When we were looking at reviews to find another great book on , SHE insisted that she needed to write a review of her own for Mandy. This book is especially good for younger kids who need advanced story-lines, because this book is appropriately innocent. I'm a happy mom. My child can't wait to read more.

Bought this to read with my "At Risk" student for a volunteer program I am in. The student and I both enjoyed the story!

As a ten-year-old on Christmas, this was the very best gift I received and has remained a source of joy for me for my entire life. I honestly don't think there's a better story for girls. A young orphan--a sensitive soul--climbs a high wall, finds an enchanted cottage and makes it into her own little home. She falls ill, is rescued by a handsome stranger on a great horse, and get herself adopted by a wonderful family. It doesn't get better than this. I know the American girl thing is all the rage now, but this is a book that touches the soul in profound and memorable ways.

Remember my 4th grade teacher reading this to the class, LOVED IT!! The writing is so descriptive and detailed, could really imagine being there. Julie Andrews is a great author, the way she wrote, really put you in with Mandy and you could just feel like you are there with her. Climbing the tree, going over the wall, cleaning, resting by the stream, it is so beautiful! Would highly recommend reading this to a little girl!!

I read this book when I was a little so i bought it for my daughter and she is loving it.

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