

familyfiction

BECAUSE EVERYONE DESERVES A GOOD STORY

May/June 2012

50+
Movies
Books
DVDs



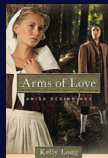
READERS CHOICE AWARDS



COURAGEOUS
Movie of the Year

**ALSO
IN THE
WINNERS
CIRCLE:**

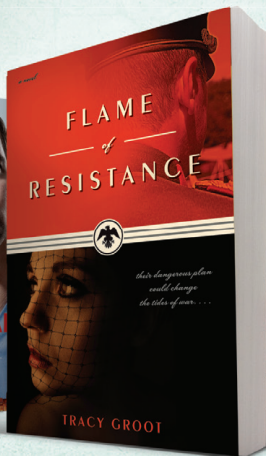
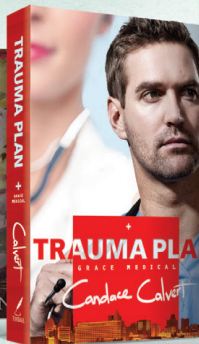
Karen Kingsbury
Bryan Davis
And many more!



inspiring

ENTERTAINMENT

CHRISTIAN FICTION AT ITS BEST



Bees in the Butterfly Garden

MAUREEN LANG

Raised among Fifth Avenue's finest during the Gilded Age, Meg Davenport discards etiquette after her father's death—especially when she discovers he was a talented thief rather than a successful businessman.

Ian Maguire knows his mentor John Davenport wanted to protect his daughter from his crimes. Yet Meg's connections to a wealthy New York family could help his biggest heist yet. Are they both in over their heads?

maureenlang.com



Trauma Plan

CANDACE CALVERT

After a brutal assault leaves former nurse Riley Hale physically impaired, she begins volunteering at a controversial free medical clinic in the midst of a community-wide effort to close its doors. The rebel doctor at the helm, Dr. Jack Travis, hopes Riley's powerful family name will help his cause. But when questions arise about Jack's past, Riley wonders if she can really trust this man she has come to believe in.

candacecalvert.com



Flame of Resistance

TRACY GROOT

On the brink of D-Day in Normandy, France, a prostitute and a downed American fighter pilot become key players in a dangerous plan hatched by the French Resistance. Their mission is to smuggle out intel critical to the impending Allied invasion. But when loyalties are betrayed, the pilot's life becomes more important than the mission to a woman who is more than just a prostitute, who finally realizes her courage could change history.

tracygroot.com



Skip Rock Shallows

JAN WATSON

Recent medical school graduate, Lilly Gray Corbett, accepts an internship in the coal camp of Skip Rock, Kentucky, leaving her beau in Boston. She soon meets a handsome miner who seems oddly familiar, forcing her to choose between an imagined future and an unexpected path in this engaging work of historical fiction. Jan Watson is an award-winning author of the Troublesome Creek series.

janwatson.net

FEATURES

May/June 2012



READERS CHOICE AWARDS

We put out the call for your favorite Christian stories and storytellers of 2011. Categories include Author of the Year, Best Novel, Movie or DVD of the Year and much more!



**Q&A With
Tracy Groot**

Presented by
Tyndale House



**2012 Summer
Reading Guide**

PLUS YOUR FAVORITES IN THESE GENRES:

Amish
Suspense
Historical
Speculative
Romance

Young Adult
Contemporary
Movie/DVD
Childrens
Comics/Animation

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ABOUT**

**CHECK OUT OUR
NEW COLUMN!**



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AMISH

Kelly Long

PLUS

Laura V. Hilton, Naomi King and Vannetta Chapman



HISTORICAL

Stephen Bly

PLUS

Tracy Higley, Tracy Groot and James Scott Bell



ROMANCE

Deborah Raney

PLUS

Becky Wade, Jennifer Johnson and Rosslyn Elliott



CONTEMPORARY

Janice Thompson

PLUS

7 Hours, Terri Blackstock and Candace Calvert



CHILDRENS

L.L. Samson

PLUS

Phil Smouse, Jerry Jenkins, Chris Fabry and
Max Elliot Anderson

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NEW CONTEMPORARY ROMANCE

That'll Sweeten Your Summer!


"Submerged is romantic suspense that will keep you up at night."

—Bestselling author **DEE HENDERSON**

Bailey Craig has reluctantly returned to her small Alaska hometown only to bury a loved one, until dark evidence emerges surrounding the death. Can she and a former flame move beyond the hurts of the past to find the murderer—before Bailey becomes the next victim?

Submerged by Dani Pettrey
ALASKAN COURAGE # 1

To learn more about Dani, go to danipettrey.com.

 Find Dani on Facebook!


"A beautiful story that proves sometimes falling in love is a matter of faith. Becky Wade creates characters readers will love."

—LISA WINGATE, national bestselling author of
Blue Moon Bay and *Dandelion Summer*

Kate Donovan, burned out and in need of an adventure, is only too happy to help her grandmother restore her childhood home. But when she encounters the wounded man hired to renovate the house, Kate discovers her heart has other plans...

My Stubborn Heart by Becky Wade

To learn more about Becky go to beckywade.com.

 Find Becky on Facebook!

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WHO WE ARE



CHRIS WELL

Chris Well is the editor of *Family-Fiction* and *FamilyFiction Edge*—plus the website, social media and weekly email newsletter. Somehow, he also finds time to be an author, too. StudioWell.com

Rel Mollet resides in Melbourne, Australia, with her movie-loving husband and three book-loving daughters.

relzreviewz.blogspot.com



REL MOLLET



C.J. DARLINGTON

C.J., the author of *Bound by Guilt*, is the cofounder of TitleTrakk.com. cjdarlington.com

Katie Hart spends her free time reading, connecting with authors, and dreaming up new stories.

BladesofBetrayal.com



KATIE HART



CHRISTA BANISTER

Christa, the author of *Around the World in 80 Dates*, weighs in on pop culture on her blog. ChristaBanister.typepad.com

Ben Avery, the creator of *Time Flyz* and *ArmorQuest*, writes comics, performs with puppets and plays Lego with his kids.

BenAvery.com



BEN AVERY



CHRIS JAGER

Chris Jager works at a great bookstore, writes a review blog and just generally reads as much as she can. Bbhfiction.blogspot.com

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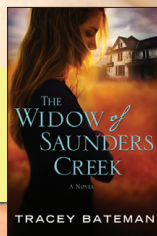
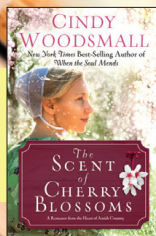
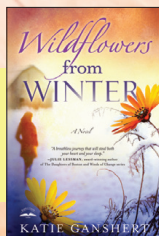
When Life Gives You Lemons... READ A BOOK!

Summer is finally here and in the midst of the heat, there's one sure fire way to relax—entertaining, portable, and as refreshing as a frosted glass of lemonade—reading!

And we can help you find the perfect book.



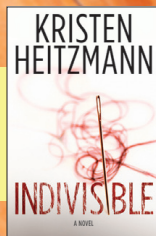
Connect with
the characters



Be swept away
to another place



Immerse yourself
in a page-turner



Luxuriate in a
beautiful story



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Our site sports more than 500 book trailers—these creative videos share a sense of the book in video form. They range from “movie trailer”-style videos to author promos.

<http://www.FamilyFiction.com/books/trailers>

4. 392 FEATURES & PROFILES

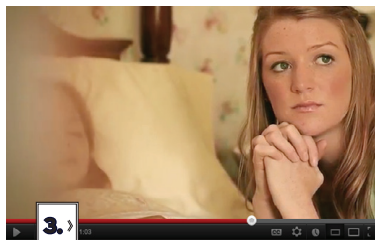
Click through for more than 300 feature stories, profiles and Q&A's with many popular Christian authors. Just click on any of the titles to read the full feature and to learn more about each author.

<http://www.FamilyFiction.com/features>

5. 341 CHRISTIAN & FAMILY-FRIENDLY MOVIES

Find a list of over 300 Christian and family-friendly movies. Some movies are original titles, while others are based on popular books, such as C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia series. Just click on the movie name or image to learn more.

<http://www.FamilyFiction.com/movies>



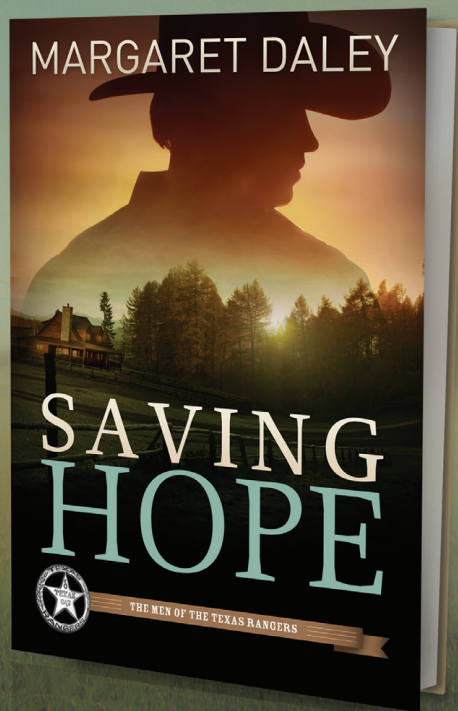
1. Lauraine Snelling 2. *Beyond Hope's Valley* by Tricia Goyer
3. *The Irish Healer* by Nancy Herriman 4. "If you like Beth Wiseman..." 5. *What's in the Bible?: Exile and Return*

A DESPERATE FIGHT *for* TRUTH

" Intense, gritty, exciting,
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could want! "

- MARTA PERRY

Texas Ranger Wyatt Sheridan and Beacon of Hope school director Kate Winslow are forced into a dangerous struggle against a human trafficking organization when a student goes missing. But the battle brings dire consequences as Wyatt's daughter is terrorized, and Kate is kidnapped. Wyatt's faith and skills are challenged as he fights for the truth before evil destroys everyone he loves.





TRACY GROOT

Tracy Groot was working as an accounts payable clerk in a big corporation when she realized she would rather write. Tracy wrote commercials for a year, quit to have a baby, and didn't return to that writing job because by then she realized she *really* wanted to write books. Her latest novel is *Flame of Resistance* (Tyndale House).

Q You have written historical fiction set in Bible times, but *FLAME OF RESISTANCE* resets the biblical account of Rahab during World War II—on the brink of D-Day, in fact. How did you first consider this combination?

I'd just finished Stephen Ambrose's *Pegasus Bridge*, the fascinating story of the spearhead action of D-Day, as fought by the British 6th Airborne. In the book, Ambrose mentioned a Germans-only brothel in the little town of Bénouville, in Normandy, France. A little "what if" must have lodged itself in the back of my brain: "Okay, so get this: brothel in Bénouville. Supposed to be for Germans only, right? But they join with the *Resistance*, see, and there's a downed American pilot and a prostitute named Brigitte who works for the French Resistance. . . ." Stephen Ambrose got the ball rolling.

How different an experience was it writing this than a more traditional work of "biblical fiction"?

The elements in my ancient retellings are the same elements you'll find in my contemporary retellings. I was pretty focused on the pigeonhole of ancient stories, until the higher-ups made me see that what I bring to that category is the same stuff I bring to another. Stuff like a sense of place, danger, peril, adventure, truth, characterization, a little romance . . . When I focus on what I love about storytelling, I can write in whatever genre comes my way. This was a psychological breakthrough.

How important is it to know the biblical account when reading the book?

I don't think you need to know the story of Rahab to enhance the reading of *Flame of Resistance*; it's kind of fun to connect dots and draw parallels

after the fact, if at all. Having said that, knowing the story of Rahab may deepen the reading. For example, I read the book of Hosea before I read Francine Rivers' *Redeeming Love*, and it deepened the story for me.

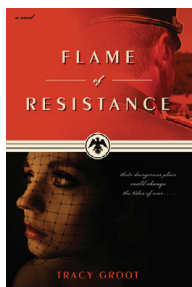
What kind of research did you do for **FLAME OF RESISTANCE**?

I needed to approach this book differently than, say, *Madman*. Since this story deals with a recent historical event with exhaustive documentation, I needed to be more sure than ever of dotted i's and crossed t's. I wanted a strong sense of place for the novel, so my husband and I spent time in Bénouville, Normandy, to get the lay of the land and the feel for the book. I also had the privilege of interviewing elderly people who provided direct source information, including French, Dutch, British and American folk. I learned about living under German occupation, about P-47s, the correct way to handle a rifle, tactics and strategies of the French Resistance—and yes, the inner workings of a brothel (!) (In case you're wondering, I didn't conduct interviews for that—just tracked down some books and did a lot of reading. . .) I was also able to get my hands on

the original transcript of the interrogation of an American pilot at a camp in Trieste, Italy. Much of the experience of my pilot in the book is based on this transcript. It even introduced me to a few historical figures whom I would end up including as characters in my story, including Krista Hegel and Sturmbannführer Schiffer. Research is an amazing catalyst for story, and you meet the most amazing people—folks who become friends for life!

What do you want readers to take away from **FLAME OF RESISTANCE**?

First, entertainment and diversion. That's the job of a storyteller, and if that's the number one takeaway, then color me happy. Second, if I can convey a greater understanding of what Allied forces went through to win the war, if I can make the reader have a better feel for what went on behind different curtains on the approach to D-Day, if I can put the reader in the shoes of a prostitute who may remind them of another prostitute from the book of Joshua, if I can make the reader have a better understanding that not every German was a Nazi, and that the French didn't just lay down arms when their country was taken . . . well, then color me happier.



"I don't think you need to know the story of Rahab to enhance the reading of *Flame of Resistance*; it's kind of fun to connect dots and draw parallels after the fact, if at all. Having said that, knowing the story of Rahab may deepen the reading."

FIND TRACY GROOT ONLINE: <http://www.TracyGroot.com>
<http://www.Facebook.com/TracyGroot>

2012 FamilyFiction **READERS CHOICE AWARDS**

Welcome to our second annual awards issue! We put out the call for your favorite Christian stories and storytellers of 2011—in all kinds of categories. On the following pages, see how *FamilyFiction* readers voted.



IN THE WINNERS CIRCLE:

Karen Kingsbury
Bryan Davis
Amanda L. Davis





AUTHOR OF THE YEAR

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 01 Karen Kingsbury | 06 Wanda E. Brunstetter |
| 02 Bryan Davis | 07 Ted Dekker |
| 03 Julie Lessman | 08 Terri Blackstock |
| 04 Jim Stovall | 09 Sandra Orchard |
| 05 Beverly Lewis | 10 Julie Cave |



NOVEL OF THE YEAR

- 01** *Song of the Ovulum*
(Children of the Bard)
Bryan Davis
(Living Ink)
- 02** *Longing* (Bailey Flanigan Series)
Karen Kingsbury
(Zondervan)
- 03** *The Lamp*
Jim Stovall with Tracy J. Trost
(Destiny Image)
- 04** *A Heart Revealed* (Winds of Change)
Julie Lessman
(Revell Books)
- 05** *Deep Cover* (Undercover Cops)
Sandra Orchard
(Love Inspired Suspense)
- 06** *Pieces of Light* (A Dinah Harris Mystery)
Julie Cave
(New Leaf)
- 07** *The Colonel's Lady*
Laura Frantz
(Revell Books)
- 08** *Always the Wedding Planner, Never the Bride* (Emma Rae Creation)
Sandra D. Bricker
(Abingdon Press)
- 09** *A Cowboy's Touch* (A Big Sky Romance)
Denise Hunter
(Thomas Nelson)
- 10** *Forbidden* (The Books of Mortals)
Ted Dekker and Tosca Lee
(Center Street)

MOVIE OR DVD OF THE YEAR

- 01** *Courageous*
- 02** *Soul Surfer*
- 03** *The Lamp*
- 04** *The Shunning*
- 05** *The Grace Card*
- 06** *Like Dandelion Dust*
- 07** *Dolphin's Tale*

NEW AUTHOR OF THE YEAR

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 01 Amanda L. Davis | 06 Ronie Kendig |
| 02 Tracy Trost | 07 Melanie Dickerson |
| 03 Brock Eastman | 08 Ginny Yttrup |
| 04 Sandra Orchard | 09 Keven Newsome |
| 05 Julie Cave | 10 Mandy Goff |



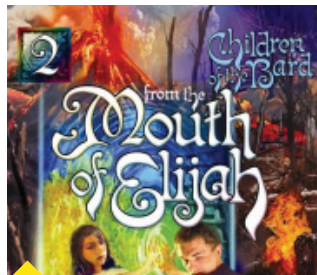
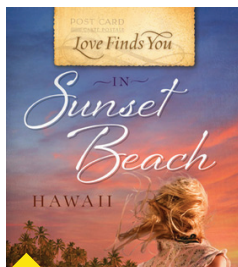
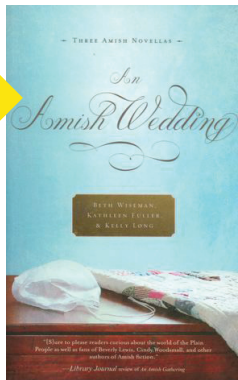
BOOK TRAILER OF THE YEAR

- Longing **01**
Karen Kingsbury
- Always the Wedding Planner, Never the Bride **02**
Sandra D. Bricker
- Taken **03**
Brock Eastman
- The Healing **04**
Wanda E. Brunstetter
- The Merchant's Daughter **05**
Melanie Dickerson



COLLECTION OF THE YEAR

- An Amish Wedding **01**
Beth Wiseman, Kathleen Fuller, Kelly Long
(Thomas Nelson)
- A Log Cabin Christmas: **02**
Historical Romances during American Pioneer Christmases
Margaret Brownley, Wanda E. Brunstetter, Kelly Eileen Hake, Liz Tolisma, Michelle Ule, Debra Ullrick, Erica Vetsch
(Barbour Books)
- Smitten **03**
Colleen Coble, Kristin Billerbeck, Diann Hunt, Denise Hunter
(Thomas Nelson)



SERIES OF THE YEAR (SINGLE AUTHOR)

- 01** Children of the Bard
Bryan Davis
(Living Ink)
- 02** Bailey Flanigan
Karen Kingsbury
(Zondervan)
- 03** Winds of Change
Julie Lessman
(Revell Books)
- 04** The Rose Trilogy
Beverly Lewis
(Bethany House)
- 05** Discarded Heroes
Ronie Kendig
(Barbour Books)

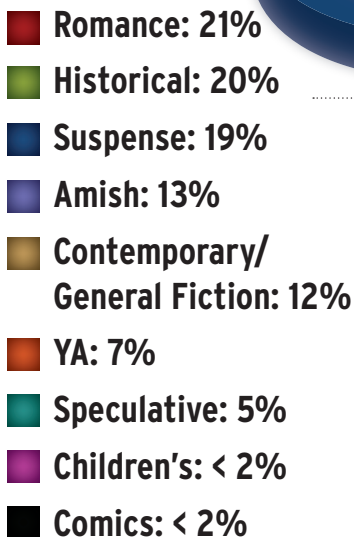
SERIES OF THE YEAR (MULTIPLE AUTHORS)

- 01** Love Finds You
(Summerside Press)
- 02** Love Inspired Historical
- 03** Love Inspired Suspense
- 04** Love Inspired
- 05** Heartsong Presents
(Barbour Books)



YOU VOTED, NOW HERE ARE ***YOUR*** TOP AUTHORS

FAVORITE GENRE



ROMANCE

01 Julie Lessman

Karen Kingsbury
Denise Hunter
Deeanne Gist
Susan May Warren



AMISH FICTION

01 Beverly Lewis

Wanda E. Brunstetter
Cindy Woodsmall
Beth Wiseman
Amy Clipston



SUSPENSE

01 Terri Blackstock

Ted Dekker
Ronie Kendig
Irene Hannon
Steven James

SPECULATIVE FICTION

01 Bryan Davis

Ted Dekker
Frank Peretti
Amanda L. Davis
Jill Williamson





HISTORICAL FICTION

01 Julie Lessman

Francine Rivers
Mary Connealy
Tamera Alexander
Laura Frantz



YA FICTION

01 Bryan Davis

Jenny B. Jones
Melanie Dickerson
Lisa T. Bergren
Melody Carlson



CONTEMPORARY/ GENERAL FICTION

01 Karen Kingsbury

Susan May Warren
Robin Jones Gunn
Jenny B. Jones
Denise Hunter



CHILDREN'S BOOK CREATORS

01 Wanda E. Brunstetter

Karen Kingsbury and
Jennifer A. Bell
Brock Eastman
Max Lucado and
Toni Goffe
Lisa Tawn Bergren
and Laura J. Bryant



COMIC BOOK

01 Priscilla #4: "O Come, Let Us Adore Him"

Script: Peter
Gonzalez
Art: Jamie Cosley
(Salinas Slugger
Studios)



**FOR MORE AUTHORS, GO TO
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— The — *Women of Pinecraft*

BOOK TWO

Sisters Emma and Jeannie are best friends, as are their teenage daughters Sadie and Tessa. But when a tragic accident results in Tessa's death—and Sadie is to blame—both families reel from grief and loss. Can they find a way from heartbreak to forgiveness?



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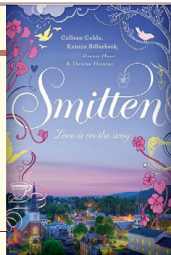
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SMITTEN

Bestselling romance authors Colleen Coble, Kristin Billerbeck, Denise Hunter, and Diann Hunt collaborated on *Smitten* (Thomas Nelson), a collection of novellas about the fictional romantic town of Smitten, Vermont.





2012 SUMMER READING & ENTERTAINMENT

Well, it's about that time: The dog days of summer are almost upon us. In the coming months, as you pack for your summer trips—or for that quality time by the pool or in the backyard—don't forget to include something great to read!

On the following pages, we've compiled a list of plenty of great books to keep you entertained all summer long!

WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS*By Lynette Eason*

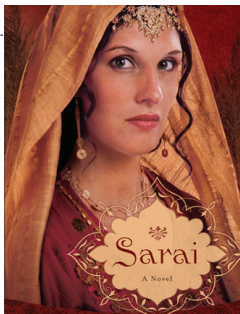
"I LOVE THIS BOOK. IT WILL KEEP YOU GUESSING UNTIL THE VERY END."

—Dee Henderson, best-selling author

In this thrilling romantic suspense novel, smokejumper Alexia Allen returns home to face her past only to find a long-buried secret that threatens her life.

Also available in ebook

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-2007-0>

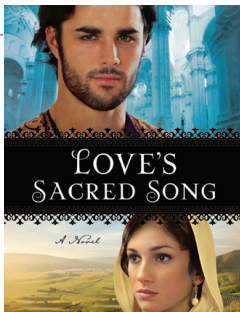
SARAI*By Jill Eileen Smith*

HE PROMISED HER HIS HEART. SHE PROMISED HIM A SON. BUT HOW LONG MUST THEY WAIT?

Combining in-depth research and vivid storytelling, Jill Eileen Smith brings to life the beautiful and inscrutable Sarai in this remarkable story of love, jealousy and undaunted faith.

Also Available in ebook

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-3429-9>

LOVE'S SACRED SONG*By Mesu Andrews*

WISDOM CAME AS GOD'S GIFT, BUT SACRED LOVE WAS FORGED THROUGH PASSION'S FIRE.

The shepherdess, Arielah, has known since she first laid eyes on Solomon that it was her destiny to become his bride. When her father secures a promise from Solomon to marry Arielah as a treaty bride to help unite the kingdom, it seems her dreams will come true.

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-3408-4>

JOY TAKES FLIGHT*By Bonnie Leon*

Kate Evans and Paul Anderson are finally married, settling in and starting a family, but soon it is clear that there are hurdles ahead. Should she continue in her dangerous profession as an Alaskan bush pilot? When tragedy strikes, life begins to unravel, and Kate fears she may have lost Paul for good.

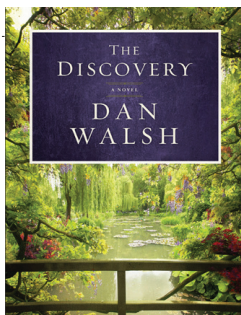
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AN ENGROSSING STORY OF FAMILY SECRETS
AND A LOVE FOR THE AGES

While settling his grandfather's Charleston estate, a young man discovers a secret kept hidden since WWII—one that could change his life forever.

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<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-1981-4>



THE DISCOVERY

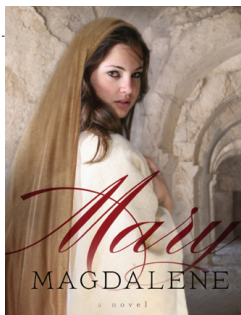
By Dan Walsh

A PORTRAIT OF THIS ENIGMATIC WOMAN COMES
TO LIFE IN THE HANDS OF IMAGINATIVE MASTER
STORYTELLER DIANA WALLIS TAYLOR.

Mary is a woman devastated by circumstances beyond her control and plagued with terrifying dreams—until she has a life-changing confrontation with the Savior.

Also available in ebook

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-2048-3>



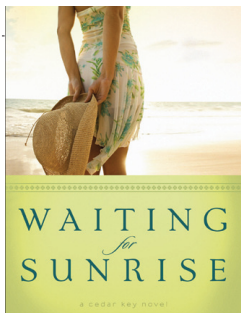
MARY MAGDALENE

By Diana Wallis Taylor

SOMETIMES MOVING FORWARD MEANS MAKING
PEACE WITH YOUR PAST.

Life sometimes gets the best of us. For some, it's daily pressures; for others, it's shadows of the past. For Patsy Milstrap, it's both. When she travels to beautiful Cedar Key on Florida's Gulf Coast in search of healing, she never dreams her past will be waiting for her there.

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-3437-4>



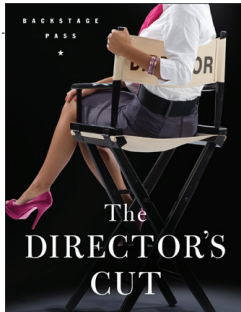
WAITING FOR SUNRISE

By Eva Marie Everson

Sitcom director Tia Morales is used to calling the shots and having everything securely in her control—that is, until a handsome cameraman turns both her heart and her life upside-down.

Also Available in ebook

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-3347-6>



THE DIRECTOR'S CUT

By Janice Thompson

THE RIDE OF HER LIFE

By Lorna Seilstad



Filled with the sweet romance of summer, *The Ride of Her Life* will have you laughing out loud and sighing contentedly as you spend the summer of 1906 in Lake Manawa.

Also available in ebook

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-3447-3>

A LOVE FORBIDDEN

By Kathleen Morgan



Set against the powerful backdrop of the Colorado Rockies in 1879, a young schoolteacher finds herself caught in a clash of cultures as she fights for love against overwhelming odds.

Also Available in ebooks

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-1971-5>

THE PURSUIT OF LUCY BANNING

By Olivia Newport



"HATS OFF TO OLIVIA NEWPORT. HER CHARACTERS ARE COMPELLING, AND CHICAGO'S HISTORY COMES ALIVE ON EACH PAGE."

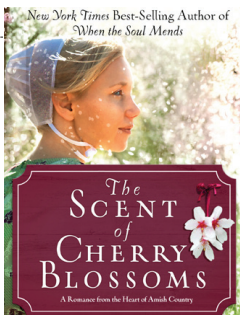
—Andrea Boeshaar, author of *Seasons of Redemption* series

In this passionate romance set against the backdrop of the 1893 Chicago Exposition, a young socialite wrestles with family expectations and social boundaries.

<http://www.revellbooks.com/Book.asp?isbn=978-0-8007-2038-4>

THE SCENT OF CHERRY BLOSSOMS

By Cindy Woodsmall



Annie Martin loves the Plain ways of her Old Order Mennonite people, like those revered by her beloved grandfather. But as spring moves into Pennsylvania and Annie spends time amongst the cherry trees with the handsome Aden Zook, she wishes she could forget how deeply the lines between the Old Order Amish and Old Order Mennonite are drawn.

<http://bit.ly/TSOCBFF>

Joe is the wrong guy at the wrong time. But Beth cannot get this former special ops officer out of her head. When someone threatens Seagrove Village, Beth is forced to trust Joe. Will she be strong enough to survive the inevitable broken heart?

<http://bit.ly/vickihinze>

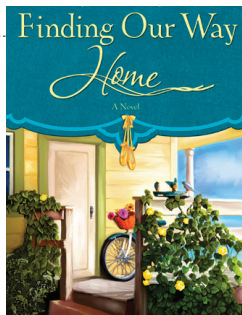


NOT THIS TIME

By Vicki Hinze

When principal ballerina Sasha Davis suffers a career-ending injury, she retreats to her recently deceased mother's home to recover. But she can't do it alone, so she places an ad in the newspaper for a temporary live-in aide. She gets a lot more than she bargained for when 19-year-old Evelyn Burt shows up.

<http://bit.ly/baumbich>



FINDING OUR WAY HOME

By Charlene Ann Baumbich

Hulga Klager's lifelong passion for beauty and knowledge becomes the story of how the generosity of sharing one's gifts transforms the lives of family, a community and far beyond.

<http://bit.ly/jkirkpatrick>

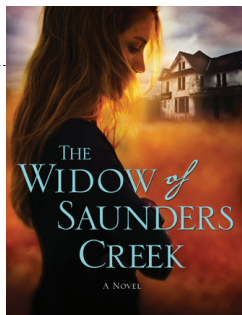


WHERE LILACS STILL BLOOM

By Jane Kirkpatrick

A young widow takes refuge in her husband's family home, seeking reconnection with what little she has left of him. What she finds, through the belief of her husband's devout cousin, is that sometimes the strongest thing you can do is to let go of the past and have faith.

<http://bit.ly/tbateman>

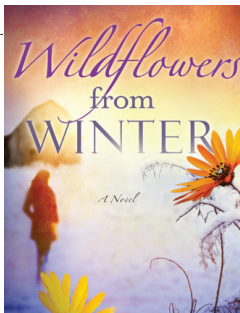


THE WIDOW OF SAUNDERS CREEK

By Tracy Bateman

WILDFLOWERS FROM WINTER

By Katie Ganshert



Bethany Quinn was happy to leave her small town 10 years ago to create her new successful life. But when tragedies strike at home, she is forced to return. Out of options, everything comes into question as Bethany tries to find a place where love and faith make sense again.

<http://bit.ly/FFRGganshert>

THE BRIDE WORE BLUE

By Mona Hodgson

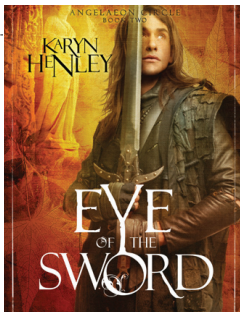


Vivian's made one bad decision too many and she's looking for a fresh start. But between the lies about her past and the lies about the present, there's no room to accept help—or love—from her sisters or anyone else. Not even that sheriff's deputy who has his eye on her.

<http://bit.ly/ffhodgson>

EYE OF THE SWORD

By Karyn Henley

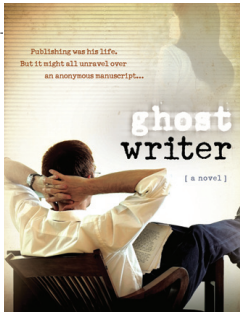


Trevin is on a quest for the king, but his heart is set on winning the princess. Through fire caves, encounters with angels and confrontations with immortals, Trevin uncovers his past and commits his future to the one he loves.

<http://bit.ly/ffhenley>

GHOST WRITER

By Rene Gutteridge

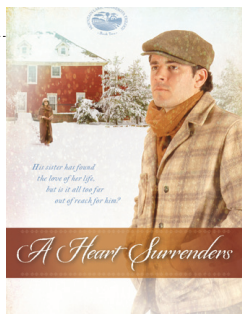


Jonathan is an editor who starts receiving an anonymous story eerily similar to his own life. It contains painful details about his life that no one else could know. As the suspense builds, Jonathan must confront the demons in his own life to understand the mystery behind the story.

<http://www.hendrickson.com/html/product/569643.trade.html?&category=all>

Book two of the Mountain Lake, Minnesota Trilogy, by best-selling author Kim Vogel Sawyer. David longs for love and security, but questions if it's possible for someone like him. Can he set aside his fears, overcome his painful past and open his heart to God's plan?

<http://www.hendrickson.com/html/product/569261.trade.html?&category=all>

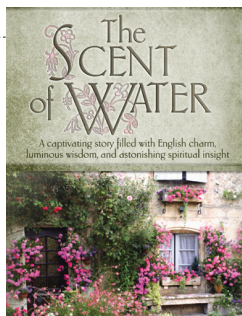


A HEART SURRENDERS

By Kim Vogel Sawyer

A captivating story filled with English charm, luminous wisdom and astounding spiritual insight. Mary is a city girl who makes a life-changing decision to leave London for the countryside. The unfolding of her understanding of herself, her past and the people around her creates a memorable story of love's redemptive power.

<http://www.hendrickson.com/html/product/568417.trade.html?&category=all>



THE SCENT OF WATER

By Elizabeth Goudge

Book four of the Cheney Duvall, M.D. series by Lynn Morris. Cheney and Shiloh have left New York for South Carolina and become embroiled in the political, social and economic troubles of the war-torn city. Will they be able to bring restoration when their very lives are at risk?

<http://www.hendrickson.com/html/product/567410.trade.html?&category=all>

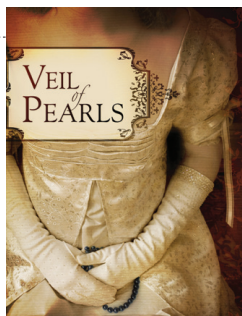


TOWARD THE SUNRISING

By Lynn Morris

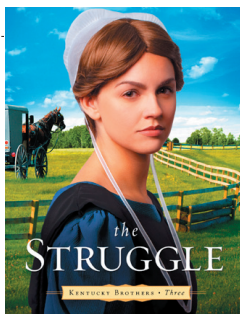
Charleston in 1811 is bustling with immigrants like Adalia, a runaway slave so light-skinned that no one guesses. She is terrified her secret will be discovered, but when the handsome son of a prominent family sweeps her into his glamorous world, the secret could be ruinous—for both of them.

<http://www.barbourbooks.com/product/Veil-of-Pearls,9280.aspx?Tab=Books&sj=789>



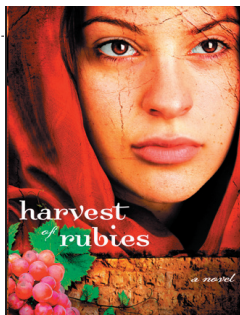
VEIL OF PEARLS

By MaryLu Tyndall

THE STRUGGLE*By Wanda E. Brunstetter*

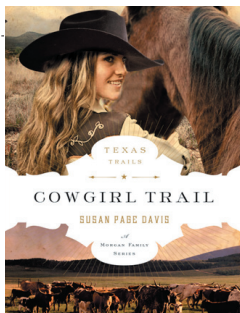
Lancaster County Amish man Timothy Fisher has moved his wife Hannah and daughter Mindy to Kentucky, the land of tomorrow. But when a tragic accident occurs, their marriage seems splintered beyond repair. What drastic measures will God take to save their grief and heal their breach?

<http://www.barbourbooks.com/product/Struggle,9257.aspx?Tab=Books&sj=713>

HARVEST OF RUBIES*By Tessa Afshar*

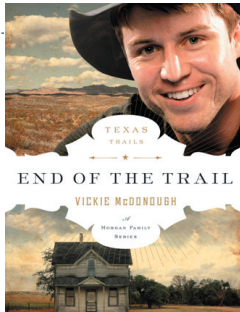
The prophet Nehemiah's cousin can speak several languages, write on tablets of clay and solve mysteries. She becomes the queen's favorite scribe. Not bad for a woman living in a man's world. Darius is accustomed to having his way. An aristocrat, the last thing he expects is an arranged marriage to the queen's scribe, a woman who scorns him. Can two such different people overcome the idols that bind them?

http://www.moodypublishers.com/pub_productDetail.aspx?id=41823&pid=81029

COWGIRL TRAIL*By Susan Page Davis*

In 1884, Maggie Porter returns home after accompanying her mother to a sanatorium for a prolonged illness. Alex Bright is in charge at Rocking P Ranch and the spring roundup and cattle drive are about to begin. But the cowboys strike, so Maggie turns to her friends for help.

http://www.moodypublishers.com/pub_productDetail.aspx?id=41830&pid=79982

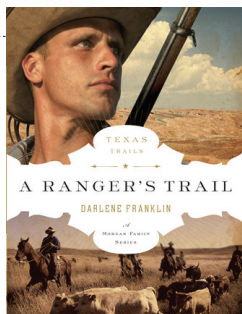
END OF THE TRAIL*By Vickie McDonough*

In 1896, Brooks returns to town to give back the deed to a ranch he won in a high stakes poker game. In town, he finds the ranch owner dead. On the way to the ranch he is ambushed. With a noose around his neck, he says his first prayer to God.

http://www.moodypublishers.com/pub_productDetail.aspx?id=41829&pid=86209

Leta Denning vows to seek vengeance on behalf of her slain husband. Will Leta's quest for revenge keep her from discovering love the second time around?

http://www.moodypublishers.com/pub_productDetail.aspx?id=41829&pid=79981



A RANGER'S TRAIL

By Darlene Franklin

This is the first book in a series based on the true stories of heroic women who served during the Civil War. On the battlefields, Charlotte and the other nurses endure corruption, opposition and battle wounds never seen before by women.

New July 2012

http://www.moodypublishers.com/pub_product-Detail.aspx?id=41829&pid=86206&l=W

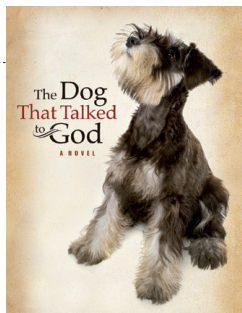


WEDDED TO WAR

By Jocelyn Green

What would you do if you discovered that your schnauzer could talk? Recently widowed Mary Fassler decides to listen! But when Rufus begins sharing advice that could result in major changes, Mary gets the feeling the pooch might not be steering her in the right direction. Or, is she just afraid to take the leap and discover something she desperately needs? Only Rufus...and God...know.

http://www.christianbook.com/the-dog-that-talked-to-god/jp-kraus/9781426742569/pd/742561?product_redirect=1&Ntt=742561&item_code=&Ntk=keywords&event=ESRCP



THE DOG THAT TALKED TO GOD

By Jim Kraus

Will the conflicted Mary Katherine be lost to the English world, or to Daniel, who may take her away to Florida? Or will she embrace her Amish faith and recognize Jacob as the man she should marry and build a life with?

http://www.christianbook.com/her-restless-heart-stitches-in-time/barbara-cameron/9781426714276/pd/714276?product_redirect=1&Ntt=714276&item_code=&Ntk=keywords&event=ESRCP

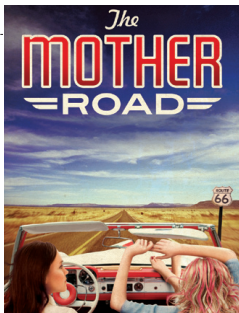


HER RESTLESS HEART

By Barbara Cameron

THE MOTHER ROAD

By Jennifer AlLee



Within the course of a week, marriage expert Natalie is dumped by her husband and discovers her estranged sister is pregnant. A road trip on Route 66 may not help, but it sure couldn't hurt. Will it bring the two sisters closer together or be the biggest wrong turn ever?

http://www.christianbook.com/the-mother-road-jennifer-allee/9781426713125/pd/713125?product_redirect=1&Ntt=713125&item_code=&Ntk=keywords&event=ESRCP

ALWAYS THE DESIGNER, NEVER THE BRIDE

By Sandra D. Bricker

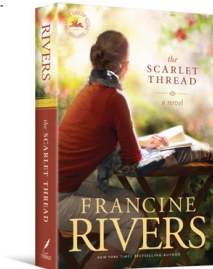


No matter how busy she is, dress designer Audrey can't say no to her friend Carly when she asks her to be maid of honor—and create the perfect wedding dress. Then the groom's best man—tattooed biker J.R. Hunt—walks in and turns Audrey's world upside down!

http://www.christianbook.com/always-designer-never-bride-emma-creation/sandra-bricker/9781426732232/pd/73223X?product_redirect=1&Ntt=73223X&item_code=&Ntk=keywords&event=ESRCP

THE SCARLET THREAD

By Francine Rivers

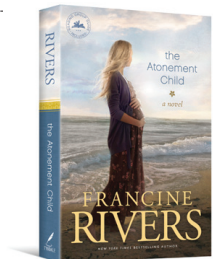


Two women, centuries apart, are joined through a tattered journal as they contend with God, husbands and even themselves. Sierra Madrid's life has just been completely disrupted when she discovers the journal of her ancestor Mary Kathryn McMurray, a young woman who endured harsh conditions on the Oregon Trail.

<http://francinerivers.com/books/scarlet-thread>

THE ATONEMENT CHILD

By Francine Rivers



Dynah Carey's life was wonderful. She was engaged to a great guy, had doting parents and was a faithful child of God. Then Dynah's perfect life is changed by a rape that results in an unwanted pregnancy. Her family is torn apart as she faces the most momentous choice of her life.

<http://francinerivers.com/books/atonement-child>

Don't miss the exciting conclusion to The Last Disciple series! An unlikely hero emerges to face the evil Nero; will it cost him his life?

Available August 2012.

[http://www.tyndale.com/
The-Last-Temple/9780842384469](http://www.tyndale.com/The-Last-Temple/9780842384469)

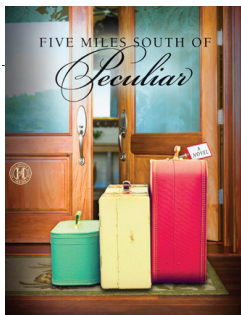


THE LAST TEMPLE

By Hank Hanegraaff &
Sigmund Brouwer

In a season of destiny, three unique women reunite and take unexpected journeys of the heart. Sisters Darlene, Carlene and Magnolia Caldwell have their own stories as to why they are in Sycamores, an estate five miles south of a town called Peculiar. But can they discover who they are meant to be when life takes an unforeseen detour?

[http://books.simonandschuster.com/
Five-Miles-South-of-Peculiar/
Angela-Hunt/9781439182048](http://books.simonandschuster.com/Five-Miles-South-of-Peculiar/Angela-Hunt/9781439182048)

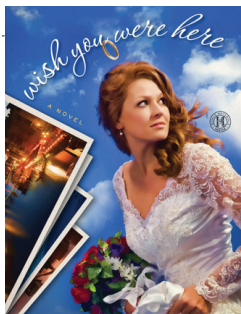


FIVE MILES SOUTH OF PECULIAR

By Angela Hunt

Allison Denman is supposed to get married in five days, but everything is all wrong. Recognizing she doesn't have all the answers won't be easy—she's used to being in control. To find her way again, she will have to believe that God has a plan, and find the strength to let Him lead.

[http://books.simonandschuster.com/
Wish-You-Were-Here/Beth-K-Vogt/9781451659863](http://books.simonandschuster.com/Wish-You-Were-Here/Beth-K-Vogt/9781451659863)

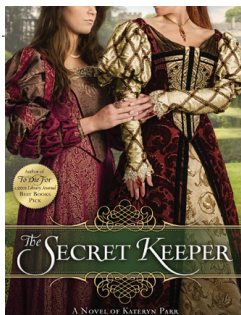


WISH YOU WERE HERE

By Beth K. Vogt

The author of *To Die For* returns with a rich historical tale of the tumultuous court of Henry VIII, where a young woman is caught between love and honor.

[http://books.simonandschuster.com/
Secret-Keeper/Sandra-Byrd/9781439183144](http://books.simonandschuster.com/Secret-Keeper/Sandra-Byrd/9781439183144)



THE SECRET KEEPER

By Sandra Byrd



KELLY LONG

The Missing Piece

For the first title in her Amish Beginnings series, author Kelly Long goes back in time for a revealing look at the Amish culture when they weren't the "buggies, bonnets or quilt people."

Whenever she's writing, author Kelly Long is naturally drawn to dreaming up passionate, problematic characters, and the same definitely holds true for her latest novel, *Arms of Love* (Thomas Nelson), the first title from her new Amish Beginnings series.

"I've always liked complex people who are dealing with real temptations and struggling spiritually," Kelly reveals. "I think this characterizes most of us at one time or another. I like to bring about story resolutions which glorify God's power."

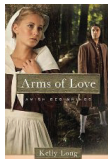
With her new novel, Long tackles what she feels is a missing piece of Amish culture in the outside world's perception of them—their past. "The persecution they suf-

fered in the Old Country was incredible, but it formed the core of their strength," Kelly shares. "I hope that people will take away the concept that God can truly be revolutionary through His love in our lives, if we allow Him to work."

For devout readers of Kelly's previous novels, *Arms of Love* also provides a little insight into Jacob Wyse from *Lilly's Wedding Quilt* by introducing them to another member of the family tree—Adam, a great-grandfather several generations removed. "Adam is most certainly the tall, dark and handsome type, but he's got a lot of layers. He's faced physical and mental abuse all of his life; he's badly in love but cannot do anything about it because of a deathbed promise; he suffers from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder); and he's torn between keeping to the Amish ways or taking up arms in the Revolution," Kelly shares. "But through all of this, he's compassionate, empathetic and resourceful—definitely a guy I'd like to spend some time with."



"The persecution they suffered in the Old Country was incredible, but it formed the core of their strength."



ARMS OF LOVE
(AMISH BEGINNINGS)
Thomas Nelson

MORE KELLY LONG ONLINE: <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/kelly-long/>

NEWS & NOTES

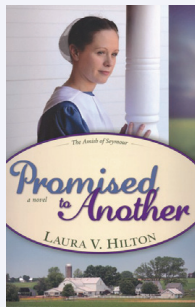


ESCAPE THROUGH LIT

As the Amish of Seymour series draws to a close with *Promised to Another* (Whitaker House), **Laura V. Hilton** has one final journey for the feisty, free-thinking Annie Beiler, a woman who's never really fit the typical Amish persona. In *Promised to Another*, Annie is torn between two men—the one she was always “promised” to, and a new guy who moves to town from Pennsylvania.

Laura says the life of the Amish appeals to readers because people want an escape. “Sometimes we need to find the peace and simplicity that resounded in the lives of our ancestors. Our minds and living spaces are cluttered, and we need relief from our crowded lives,” Laura says. “By not using electricity or modern conveniences, the Amish are fascinating and surrounded by mystery.”

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/laura-v-hilton/>



FOUNDATION OF FAITH

Naomi King's novel *Abby Finds Her Calling* (NAL) is a yarn that one doesn't necessarily expect from an “Amish” title. When Abby's younger sister Zanna disappears on her wedding day, Abby is called upon to make sense of situations that defy the traditional Amish way of things. “When learning that Zanna is pregnant by a man who's not her jilted groom sets Cedar Creek abuzz with unkind speculation and gossip, Abby is all about peacemaking and unconditional love,” Naomi shares. “She takes it upon herself to stop the rumors and start the healing—both for her sister and for James Graber, the groom, with whom Abby has secretly been in love for most of her life.”

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/genres/amish/>

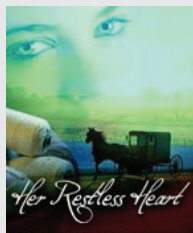
LESSON IN GRACE

Writing her latest Amish mystery, *A Perfect Square* (Zondervan), author **Vannetta Chapman** says she was inspired by two things—working with teens the past 15 years, and her father-in-law, George Chapman. “I dedicated this book to Paw, who is suffering from late stage Alzheimer's. I know many families are dealing with this terrible disease,” Vannetta says. “While it has its moments of heartbreak, it also has its moments of grace—as a family we cling to those.”

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/vannetta-chapman/>

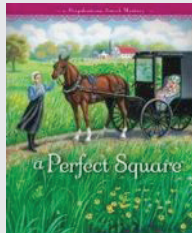


NEW RELEASES



**HER
RESTLESS
HEART
(STITCHES
IN TIME)**

Barbara Cameron
(Abingdon Press)



**A PERFECT
SQUARE (A
SHIPSHE-
WANA AMISH
MYSTERY)**

Vannetta Chapman
(Zondervan)



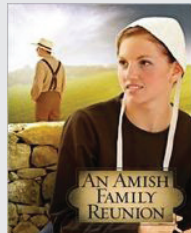
**A SEASON
OF LOVE
(KAUFFMAN
AMISH
BAKERY)**

Amy Clipston
(Zondervan)



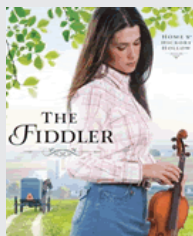
**FOLLOWING
YOUR HEART
(FIELDS OF
HOME)**

Jerry Eicher
(Harvest House)



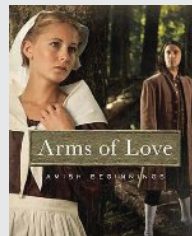
**AN AMISH
FAMILY
REUNION**

Mary Ellis
(Harvest House)



**THE FIDDLER
(HOME TO
HICKORY
HOLLOW)**

Beverly Lewis
(Bethany House)



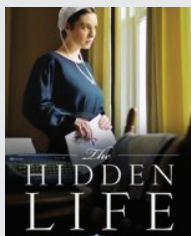
**ARMS OF
LOVE (AMISH
BEGINNINGS)**

Kelly Long
(Thomas Nelson)



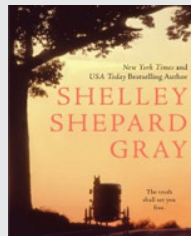
**BRUSH OF
ANGEL'S
WINGS
(HEAVEN ON
EARTH)**

Ruth Reid
(Thomas Nelson)



**THE HIDDEN
LIFE: AN
AMISH QUILT
NOVEL**

Adina Senft
(FaithWords)



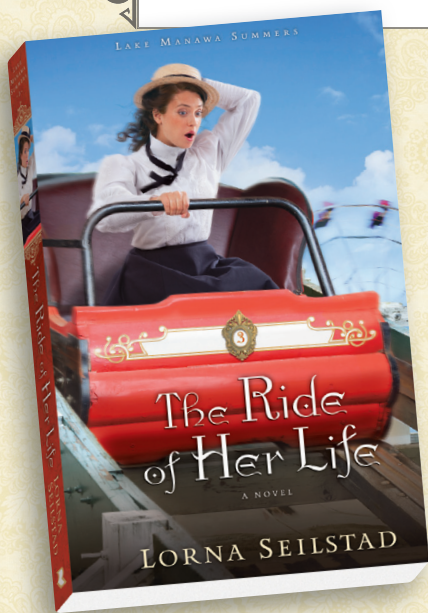
**MISSING: THE
SECRETS OF
CRITTENDEN
COUNTY**

*Shelley Shepard
Gray*
(Avon Inspire)



“Buckle up! With a sparkle of humor, heart-pumping romance, and a writing style that is fresh, fun, and addictive, Lorna Seilstad takes you along the fun-filled shores of Lake Manawa.”

—JULIE LESSMAN, award-winning author of the *Daughters of Boston* and the *Winds of Change* series



Filled with the sweet romance of summer, *The Ride of Her Life* will have you laughing out loud and sighing contentedly as you spend the summer of 1906 at Lake Manawa.



“With her expected wit and humor, Lorna Seilstad has penned another winner. Hang on and enjoy—this book is truly a fun ride.”

—JUDITH MILLER, bestselling author of the *Daughters of Amana* series



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STEPHEN BLY & FAMILY

Keep the Faith

The words on Stephen Bly's grave-stone reflect the life he lived as a husband, father, friend and writer: "Fought the good fight, Finished the race, Kept the faith."

On June 9, 2011, the world lost a masterful storyteller and the author of more than 100 books. His wife, Janet, and sons, Russell, Michael and Aaron, were determined that Stephen's last incomplete novel would not be lost—and the result is *Stuart Brannon's Last Shot* (Center Point).

With only 7000 words of Stephen's to use, Janet began this memorable family project. "I sensed from the beginning that the inclusion of our sons in the creating process would be like getting Steve involved. After all, they have his genes and together they portrayed his wit and plotting abilities. Including them was the only chance to match the story-writing ability their dad possessed."



**STUART BRANNON'S
LAST SHOT**
Center Point

She says that writing together helped the family mourn and heal. "Working with my sons brought comfort as we labored on behalf of someone we dearly loved and missed. It was exciting to watch my sons get engaged in the process. Some welcome healing took place in the midst of all the brainstorming, with laughter and the occasional stab of tears."

The main character of the novel, Stuart Brannon, was a favorite of Stephen's—so the ongoing challenge for Janet was to stay true to the character and Stephen's writing style. "That meant lots of listening to the audios of the original six-book Stuart Brannon series," she says, "as well as other novels that featured Brannon as a cameo appearance. Although so much of Brannon's life differed in details, the journey along the frontier of Brannon's soul was like peering into my husband's."

Featuring golf in an historical western novel was prompted by Stephen's love for the game and his initial story idea. "The last few years while he battled cancer, my husband took up golf again, a game in which he excelled in his early years."

The theme of *Stuart Brannon's Last Shot* is this: Those who pursue justice, truth and mercy will succeed to God's glory in the end—just as Stephen did.



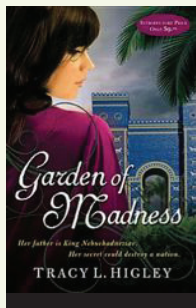
Stephen Bly (1944-2011)

NEWS & NOTES



BABYLON REDISCOVERED

Tracy Higley transports readers into ancient times with *Garden of Madness* (Thomas Nelson), the untold story of King Nebuchadnezzar's daughter Tiamat—a story still relevant today. Tracy explains, "Culture changes, and with it the values and morals held by those whose only standard is what their culture holds to be true. But Truth doesn't change, and neither does the human heart. From pagans watching their gladiator games to Americans and their football games, we are the same on the inside—still seeking something to worship, still frustrated with the broken world in which we live, still knowing in our hearts that there must be more than this."



› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/t-l-higley/>

RAHAB'S LEGACY

Christy Award winner **Tracy Groot** returns with a World War II novel based on the Biblical story of Rahab, *Flame of Resistance* (Tyndale House). Inspiration struck Tracy as she was reading a number of books on the conflict. "One of them was Stephen Ambrose's *Pegasus Bridge*, the story of the spearhead action of D-Day, as fought by the British 6th Airborne Division. In it, he mentioned a brothel in the little French town of Benouville, where the battle was fought. That's all it took, that one little mention. I thought, "Hey...I wonder if there was a French prostitute sympathetic to the Allied Cause..."

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/genres/historical/>

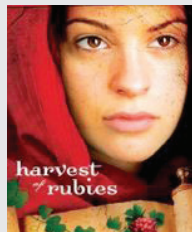
LEGAL EAGLE

Prolific author **James Scott Bell** is re-releasing his Shannon Saga series, co-authored with **Tracie Peterson**, in digital eBook form. "My original idea was to create a Perry Mason-type of series," James shares. "I wanted to take Kit Shannon from 1903 all the way up to the 1950s, with her still practicing law. I could cover a lot of historical periods that way. It was fun to think about doing lots of Kit stories that way. So who knows? If the series catches on in digital format, I may just want to keep it going."

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/genres/historical/>

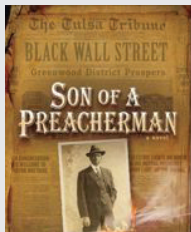


NEW RELEASES



HARVEST OF RUBIES

Tessa Afshar
(Moody Publishers)



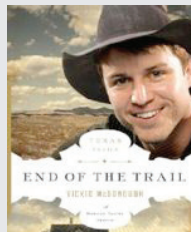
SON OF A PREACHER-MAN

Marlene Banks
(Moody Publishers)



LOVE IN DISGUISE

Carol Cox
(Bethany House)



END OF THE TRAIL

Vickie McDonough
(Moody Publishers)



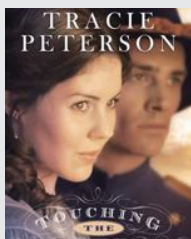
A LOVE FORBIDDEN

Kathleen Morgan
(Revell Books)



THE PURSUIT OF LUCY BANNING: A NOVEL (AVENUE OF DREAMS)

Olivia Newport
(Revell Books)



TOUCHING THE SKY (LAND OF THE LONE STAR)

Tracie Peterson
(Bethany House)



THE RIDE OF HER LIFE (LAKE MANAWA SUMMERS)

Lorna Seilstad
(Revell Books)



MARY MAGDALENE: A NOVEL

Diana Wallis Taylor
(Revell Books)



SHORT-STRAW BRIDE

Karen Witemeyer
(Bethany House)

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DEBORAH RANEY

Love and Forgiveness

Immersing herself in the fictional town of Hanover Falls for almost four years, Deborah Raney is left a little bereft having completed her trilogy.

The origins of the Hanover Falls series began when Deborah's husband left a newspaper clipping on the kitchen table. "It was an account of a fire that, in an instant, took the lives of nine firefighters from the same South Carolina city," she shares. "As I read their tragic stories and thought about what life might look like for the loved ones of those firefighters in the weeks and months to come, the Hanover Falls novels began to take form in my mind."

The final novel, *After All* (Howard Book), begins 18 months after the loss of five Hanover Falls firefighters—a story of healing and love, but not your usual 20-something romance. "I love writing

romance about older couples," Deborah explains. "I think mature romantic love comes far closer to being a reflection of the love God has for us. Not that giddy, somewhat unrealistic passion we feel when we're falling in love for the first time—though that's wonderful, too!—but the kind of love that takes comfort and security in the commitment that undergirds it. That's the kind of love that lasts."

Deborah also explores the question of how one forgives someone who is no longer alive to say that they are sorry. "In our humanness we want closure for every difficult situation—but this side of heaven, that's not always possible." Her wish is that the message in *After All* offers great hope for those who might be struggling in their own lives.

The thread of redemption runs through all Deborah's novels, from Christ's death on the cross but also the way God redeems every sorrow and loss in our lives. Yet Deborah surmises, "Possibly the most wonderful redemption is found in learning to forgive as we've been forgiven, and in having the chance to love again."



"In our humanness we want closure for every difficult situation—but this side of heaven, that's not always possible."



AFTER ALL (HANOVER FALLS)

Howard Books

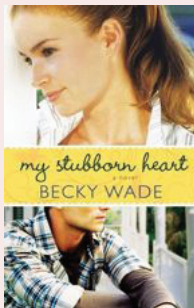
MORE DEBORAH RANEY ONLINE: <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/deborah-raney/>

NEWS & NOTES



TEARS AND TRUST

Debut author **Becky Wade** adores a “dramatic and emotional” love story. “The kind you can’t put down,” she says. “The kind that brings tears to your eyes.” For her novel *My Stubborn Heart* (Bethany House), she has combined that kind of contemporary romance with a meaningful faith journey for her characters Matt and Kate. “I think their relationship is a unique blend of friendship, humor, trust and healing—and heart-pounding, deep, and fervent love.”



› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/genres/romance/>

THE SHAPE OF LOVE

As a 7th grade language arts teacher, **Jennifer Johnson** reads a lot of young adult fiction—and became enamored with the love triangles found in YA hit series *Twilight* and *Hunger Games*. “I was sucked into teetering feelings of which guy the heroine should choose—and I loved it. I loved the inner struggle within the heroine and the inner struggle within myself. Should I root for Edward or Jacob, Gale or Peeta? So I thought, ‘Hey, I should write a story like that but with an obvious Christian focus.’” The heroine in *A Wedding Song in Lexington, Kentucky* (Barbour Books) is determined to remain single yet finds herself torn between a rugged farmer and an accomplished lawyer.

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/jennifer-johnson/>

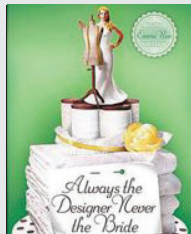
MUSICAL MISSION

Rosslyn Elliott brings another historical character to life in her second *Saddler’s Legacy* novel. Benjamin Hanby composed around 80 songs, and when he wasn’t making music he was assisting slaves in the Underground Railway during the 1850s. Enjoy Rosslyn’s take on his romance with Kate Winter in *Sweeter than Birdsong* (Thomas Nelson).

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/genres/romance/>



NEW RELEASES



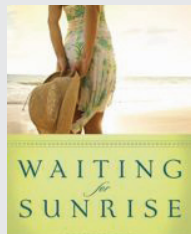
ALWAYS THE DESIGNER, NEVER THE BRIDE
Sandra D. Bricker
(Abingdon Press)



WHEN LOVE COMES MY WAY
Lori Copeland
(Harvest House)



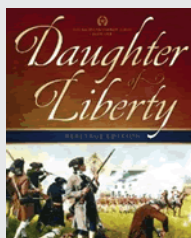
COWGIRL TRAIL (THE TEXAS TRAIL SERIES)
Susan Page Davis
(River North)



WAITING FOR SUNRISE: A CEDAR KEY NOVEL
Eva Marie Everson
(Revell Books)



THE IRISH HEALER
Nancy Herriman
(Worthy Publishing)



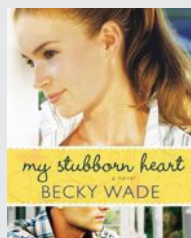
DAUGHTER OF LIBERTY (THE AMERICAN PATRIOT SERIES #1)
J.M. Hochstetler
(Sheaf House)



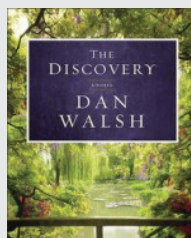
TIES THAT BIND: RIBBONS WEST (NEW EDITION)
Judith Pella and Tracie Peterson
(Bethany House)



THE LONG WAY HOME (SECRET REFUGE)
Lauraine Snelling
(Bethany House)



MY STUBBORN HEART
Becky Wade
(Bethany House)



THE DISCOVERY: A NOVEL
Dan Walsh
(Revell Books)

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Today's Christian Music



JANICE THOMPSON

Behind the Scenes

Thanks to having a background in the movie biz, Janice Thompson has always brought a little Hollywood to her novels. Now with *The Director's Cut* (Revell Books), she introduces us to an actress who eventually learns she's not the director of her own life.

A diehard fan of musical comedy, especially *The Sound of Music* and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, author Janice Thompson isn't embarrassed to admit that she's not afraid to spontaneously burst into song. If anything, she always envisions her life with a pretty fantastic backing soundtrack.

And that love of musicals, complete with exquisite choreography, is something that can't help but translate to her writing as well. Known for her light comedic voice and quirky characters, Janice loves to take her readers to "fun places" and "teach them some hard truths along the way."

With *The Director's Cut*, Janice hopes the funnier stuff will make

the lessons a bit easier to swallow. Centering around the theme of relinquishing control of our lives since God's the one in charge anyway, Janice admits that she and the somewhat headstrong protagonist, Tia Morales, share quite a bit in common.

"I hope it doesn't sound too self-centered to confess that I patterned Tia after myself," Janice shares. "I direct at a Christian theater here in the Houston area. Taking my place in the director's chair comes naturally. I'm not saying that I enjoy telling people what to do—okay, maybe I am saying that—but I'm pretty good at 'seeing' how a scene should be acted out on the stage."

Pulling from her theater and movie-writing experience as she crafted Tia's character, she knew from time spent working in Hollywood that you have to be tough to get the job done.

"But I also know that directors are people, too! That's why I worked so hard to show Tia's vulnerable side outside of the studio," Janice says. "We directors love being inside the studio/theater because we have some level of control inside of those walls. Outside, however. . .well, that's a different story! I can't control my offstage life any more than Tia can control hers, so that's why this book was so fun to write—it's a lesson that everyone can relate to!"



"I'm not saying that I enjoy telling people what to do—okay, maybe I am saying that—but I'm pretty good at 'seeing' how a scene should be acted out on the stage."



THE DIRECTOR'S CUT
(BACKSTAGE PASS)
Revell Books

MORE JANICE THOMPSON ONLINE: <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/janice-hanna-thompson/>

NEWS & NOTES



WHAT-IF SCENARIO

A unique project titled *7 Hours* (Tyndale House) is a digital-only collection of seven novellas unified by one very perplexing scenario, presented to the authors: “You are about to die. But you may choose from one of three options: Live seven more hours, travel back in time and relive seven hours, or accept the inevitable and die now.”

Seven authors contributed—**James Andrew Wilson, Travis Thrasher, Rene Gutteridge, Tom Pawlik, Mike Dellosso, Ronie Kendig** and **Robin Parrish**. And since each author writes in various genres, the approaches to storytelling couldn’t be more different—or fascinating. “We were hooked from the start by this fabulous concept,” says Tyndale’s Karen Watson. “It wrestles with the great human equalizer—how we respond to our own mortality.”



› <http://www.familyfiction.com/books/7-hours-omnibus/>

TEN YEARS

For the book’s 10th anniversary, **Terri Blackstock’s** best-selling novel *Covenant Child* (Thomas Nelson) is getting a grand re-release with plenty of extras—including new supplemental materials, a reading group guide, and a brand-new afterword. “*Covenant Child* was very special to me because it so clearly illustrates grace and redemption,” Terri shares. “Hopefully many more people will have the chance to see the absurdity of eating from the garbage when you could be sitting at the banquet table.”

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/robin-jones-gunn>

GRACE IN THE MIDST OF TRAUMA

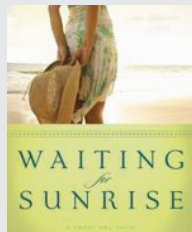
Fans of medical series like *Grey’s Anatomy* will find a kindred spirit in **Candace Calvert’s** new Grace Medical Series (Tyndale House). Drawing from her own experiences as a nurse, not to mention spending lots of time in the ER after suffering multiple injuries in an equestrian accident, Candace says she and the protagonist Riley Hale share quite a bit in common.

“Fear is such a universal human experience,” Candace shares. “I wanted to explore it with this story and show the triumph of hope through faith. People sometimes call me the ‘author of medical hope opera,’ and I couldn’t be more pleased.”

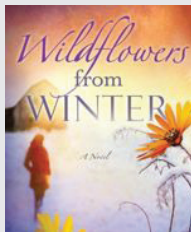
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NEW RELEASES



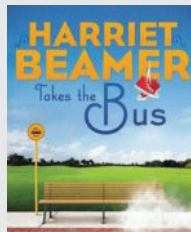
**WAITING FOR
SUNRISE:
A CEDAR KEY
NOVEL**
Eva Marie Everson
(Revell Books)



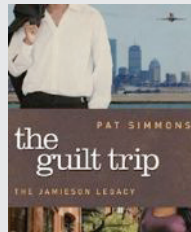
**WILD-
FLOWERS
FROM
WINTER:
A NOVEL**
Katie Ganshert
(WaterBrook Press)



**HEAVEN
HELP HELEN
SLOANE:
A NOVEL**
Jeff Lucas
(Zondervan)



**HARRIET
BEAMER
TAKES THE
BUS**
Joyce Magnin
(Zondervan)



**THE GUILT
TRIP (THE
JAMIESON
LEGACY)**
Pat Simmons
(Moody Publishers)



**STARDUST:
A NOVEL**
Carla Stewart
(FaithWords)



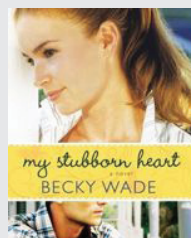
**HOPE
SPRINGS**
Kim Cash Tate
(Thomas Nelson)



**TRAVELERS
REST**
Ann Tatlock
(Bethany House)



**THE
DIRECTOR'S
CUT
(BACKSTAGE
PASS)**
Janice Thompson
(Revell Books)



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HEART**
Becky Wade
(Bethany House)

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L.L. SAMSON Enchanting Readers

When readers open the pages of her *The Enchanted Attic* series, L.L. Samson hopes they aren't just getting into her story, but that they are actually opening the door to a wide world of literature.

In the series' first book, *Facing the Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Zonderkidz), twins Ophelia and Linus find themselves in the middle of an adventure when Quasimodo himself steps out of the pages of a book and into a hidden attic discovered by the siblings. "Classic literature gets such a bad rap," complains the author, "'boring,' 'long,' 'old-fashioned,' 'hard to read.'"

Of course, she relates to this reaction, because it's how she felt in school. Not to mention, "Two of my three children don't like to read, so I know how hard it is. My hope is to interest the young reader in the character, to emotionally relate

with him or her, and take that comfort level into the reading experience later on."

She chose *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* for her first book partly because she loved the Disney movie, but the themes of that book also resonated with her. "In our culture, the outward has become more important than ever," she says, "but Quasimodo's beauty lay in his hope for people and his willingness to lay down his life for those he loved. Sound familiar?"

She hopes readers will come away feeling kinder toward themselves and accepting of those around them, just the way God made them. She also hopes they will be encouraged to dive into the classic books that inspired her, too. "The entire *Enchanted Attic* series is a whole lot of fun for all ages," she says. "It's like the old song: 'A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down.' Only in the case the medicine is the sugar!"



"My hope is to interest the young reader in the character, to emotionally relate with him or her, and take that comfort level into the reading experience later on."



**FACING THE
HUNCHBACK OF
NOTRE DAME (THE
ENCHANTED ATTIC)**
Zonderkidz

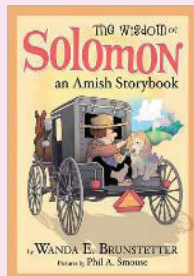
NEWS & NOTES



YOUTHFUL WISDOM

Illustrator **Phil Smouse** came up with the idea for *The Wisdom of Solomon Lapp* (Barbour Books) while walking his dog in Lancaster County. But, he says, “I felt we needed someone who really knew the Amish intimately to do the book properly.”

Enter **Wanda E. Brunstetter**. “I’d seen Wanda’s name here and there, but never realized we worked with the same publisher.” With Smouse illustrating, Brunstetter wrote the stories, chronicling the misadventures of the title character and teaching children lessons about Proverbs against the backdrop of Amish culture in Lancaster County. “One thing I love about the Amish is that their outward lives reflect their inward decision to follow Christ and live out their convictions,” Smouse says. “That’s a valuable lesson for any believer.”



› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/wanda-brunstetter/>

DOUBLE DUO

The mystery-solving duo Ashley and Bryce Timberline were brought to life in 15 volumes by another duo—writers **Jerry Jenkins** and **Chris Fabry**. Now, Red Rock Mysteries are being re-released for Kindle and Kindle apps (Tyndale Kids). “The Red Rock series was designed to give readers a thrilling mystery ride from start to finish,” Fabry explains. “But mainly I want to provide hope for kids in families struggling to recover from loss.”

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/genres/childrens/books/>

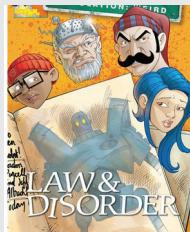
STORIES FOR BOYS

Scuba diving. Hunting for pirate treasure. White water rafting. Those are just some of the adventures Sam Cooper discovers when he moves to Harper’s Inlet. But for author **Max Elliot Anderson**, the adventure is just part of what readers discover when they read the Sam Cooper Adventure series. “In addition to being exciting stories,” he says, “each book teaches lessons about character, honesty, friendship, along with warnings about making wrong choices, greed, selfishness and other pitfalls.” *River Rampage* (Port Yonder Press), the third book in the series, takes Sam Cooper and his friends rafting on the Colorado River.

› <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/max-elliott-anderson/>



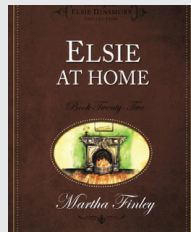
NEW RELEASES



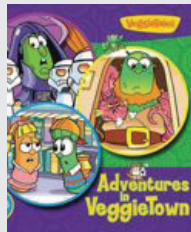
LAW & DISORDER (WELCOME TO HOLSOM)
(Influence)



BOW-WOW WIGGLE-WAGGLE
Mary Newell DePalma
(Wm. B. Eerdmans)



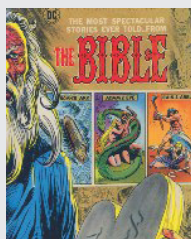
ELSIE AT HOME
Martha Finley
(Hendrickson Publishers)



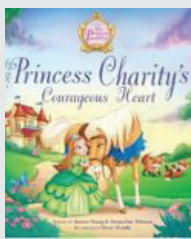
ADVENTURES IN VEGGIETOWN
VeggieTales
(Zonderkidz)



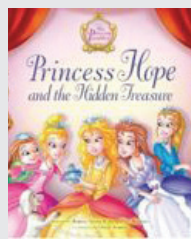
EVERY WHICH WAY TO PRAY
Joyce Meyer
(Zondervan)



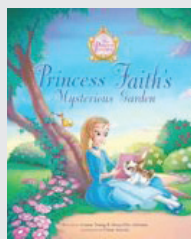
THE MOST SPECTACULAR STORIES EVER TOLD... FROM THE BIBLE
Sheldon Mayer, Joe Kubert, and Nestor Redondo
(DC Comics)



PRINCESS CHARITY'S COURAGEOUS HEART (PRINCESS PARABLES)
Jacqueline Johnson, Jeanna Young, drawn by Omar Aranda
(Zonderkidz)



PRINCESS HOPE AND THE HIDDEN TREASURE (PRINCESS PARABLES)
Jacqueline Johnson, Jeanna Young, drawn by Omar Aranda
(Zonderkidz)



PRINCESS FAITH'S GARDEN SURPRISE (PRINCESS PARABLES)
Jacqueline Johnson, Jeanna Young, drawn by Omar Aranda
(Zonderkidz)



SUMMER OF THE WOLVES (SISTERS IN ALL SEASONS)
Lisa Williams Kline
(Zonderkidz)

MORE CHILDREN'S BOOKS HERE: <http://www.familyfiction.com/genres/childrens/books/>

Welcome to a new page devoted to helping you find great booksellers, libraries and church libraries in your area! In the coming issues, we will be spotlighting bookstores and libraries that do a great job of helping their patrons find Christian fiction. We'll also feature photos and news of Christian authors "out in the field."

This is the front of our store right now—but we are doing a serious renovation this year, so it won't look like this much longer.



GO [HTTP://FULTONRDBAPTIST.COM](http://FULTONRDBAPTIST.COM) > #251-471-2525

CHURCH LIBRARY:
FULTON
ROAD
BAPTIST
CHURCH
Mobile, AL

Fulton Baptist Church started their church library in 2009 with little else than a donation and a desire to share good books with the congregation. Cindy McCord says that because they are a smaller library, they work on the honor system. Readers can check out books any time they wish and bring them back when they are done. "I try to keep a good balance

of what the readers like," Cindy says—even if it isn't what she would normally read. She also keeps readers up-to-date on the church website.

Cindy encourages other churches to start a library—even if they don't have much room, or have little or no budget. "Our library is small, but it is a busy and thriving place," she says. "So don't hesitate—go ahead and start a library!"

**FIND A CHRISTIAN RETAIL
STORE NEAR YOU!**

[HTTP://CBA.KNOW-WHERE.COM/CBA/](http://CBA.KNOW-WHERE.COM/CBA/)



GO [HTTP://BAKERBOOKSTORE.COM](http://BAKERBOOKSTORE.COM) > #616-957-3110

CHRISTIAN BOOKSELLER:
BAKER BOOK HOUSE
Grand Rapids, MI

For this first column, I'll start with the store where I work—Baker Book House—which has been in business over 75 years. My job as the fiction buyer is to cater to the fiction readers of the area, which feeds my reading addiction. As I have said for years, the only thing fiction readers like almost as much as reading fiction books is talking *about* fiction. I get to do both of those activities—and someone pays me to do them!

Baker Book House is known for both new and used books. In fact, we have over 90,000 used books in stock. The used fiction department offers me a chance to help someone find an out-of-print book that could complete a series, or that book they have been searching for a long time.

"Here's a photo with Chad and Julie at Bible Bookstore in Vincennes, Indiana. Terrific people and gracious hosts!"—Denise Hunter, *The Accidental Bride: A Big Sky Romance* (Thomas Nelson)



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