

November 2016

# FamilyFiction edge

## THE CARTOONS/GAMES/COMICS ISSUE!



**Bibleman** saves the day!

**VeggieTales** on Netflix

Steampunk allegory

**The Aetherlight**

New Christian comics

And more!



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## **SPECIAL SECTION: CARTOONS, GAMES, & COMICS**

In this special section, discover the latest from Christian storytellers in animation, gaming, and comic books. Find out about the brand-new Bibleman cartoon, the video game that retells the Bible as a steampunk adventure, a reprint of a classic Christian comic book, and so much more!



### **SUPER FICTION FOR YOUR FALL**

Find out why nonfiction writer Matt Mikalatos launched his new fiction series in a world of superheroes.

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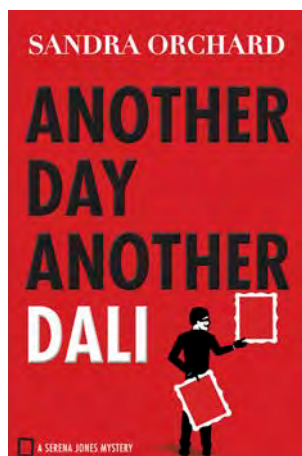
# DEPARTMENTS

NOV 2016

## START READING NOW!!

Excerpt from *Another Day, Another Dali*  
by Sandra Orchard in this issue!

CLICK ON BOOK COVER TO GO



CLICK TO GO ►

## SUSPENSE



**Sandra Orchard**

*Plus New Releases*

## SPECULATIVE



**Patrick Carr**

*Plus New Releases*

## YOUNG ADULT



**C.J. Darlington**

*Plus New Releases*

Check out a list of all new releases this month!

<http://www.familyfiction.com/books/new-releases/>

Watch recent book trailers here!

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And that Resistance needs you!



## WHO WE ARE

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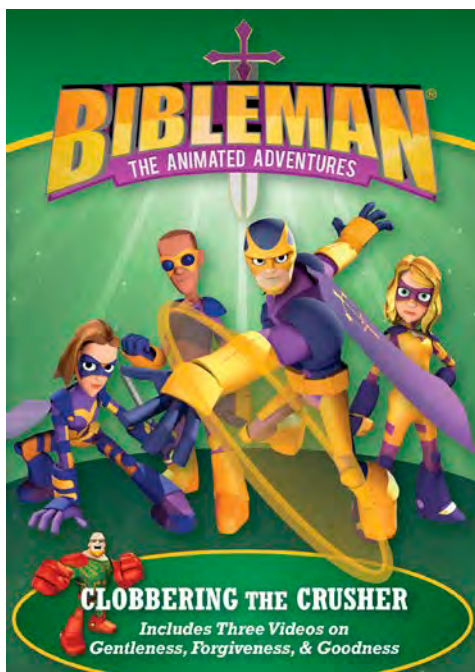
# BIBLEMAN



## IS BACK!



## AND HE'S A CARTOON!



## B&H Kids brings back Bibleman with a brand-new, animated look.

A whole new audience will get to know a longtime fan favorite superhero. B&H Kids has partnered with P23 Entertainment Inc. to produce 26 episodes of *Bibleman: The Animated Adventures*, and the new CGI-animated series debuts on DVD October 15.

"We are very excited about the rebranding the iconic franchise," says Cliff McDowell, president of P23 Entertainment. "This is something that I wanted to produce for over eight years. Taking it into the animation world only made the best creative sense, and the ministry impact will last for generations to come as animation is timeless."

The Bibleman brand began in 1995 from Pamplin Entertainment as a live action series of videos starring Willie Aames, and was accompanied by books, toys and even a live tour. The brand was bought by Thomas Nelson, and they produced additional live action videos starring Robert T. Schlipp. In fall of 2013 the Bibleman property moved to B&H Kids.



At the 2015 San Diego ComicCon, B&H Kids announced the re-launch of the long-standing and hugely popular Bibleman brand. Since then, B&H has been revealing new details about the re-launch, including the all-new logo and initial character images. Two complete episodes were previewed at the Christian Comics Arts panel during ComicCon 2016.

The relaunch features multiple products—including DVDs, comics, books, building block sets, mini-figures, and even Bibleman's sword.

"It's been years in the making," says Dan Lynch, publisher for B&H Kids, "and we believe old and new Bibleman fans will be thrilled. The new series pays homage to the past and at the same time introduces many new elements, storylines—and of course, villains." **FFE**

**CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE TRAILER FOR THE NEW ANIMATED SERIES!**







## ANIMATED SERIES 'OWLEGORIES' INTRODUCES NEW CHARACTER VOICED BY 'DUCK DYNASTY' STAR

*Duck Dynasty's "Uncle Si" Robertson* guest voices a brand-new character on the latest volume of *Owlegories*, a gospel-centered animated DVD series and interactive digital app that explores the nature of God the Creator through the use of allegories, metaphors and analogies.

The third volume in the series, *Owlegories Vol. 3: The Fire, The Duck, The Seasons*, features three lessons, brand-new music and a new character—Uncle Fly—voiced by Robertson.

"Turns out that several of his grandchildren are big fans of *Owlegories*," says series co-creator **Thomas Boto**. "He was really generous with his time and would ad-lib lines, too, which was a lot of fun! It was also very evident when he shared the gospel at the end of the episode that he has a strong passion and love for the Lord."

The DVD also introduces the original song "A Time for Everything," written by *Owlegories* co-writer/co-director **Keith Alcorn** (*Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius*, *The Ant Bully*) with music by award-winning film composer and producer **Mark Menza** (*Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius*, *Dragon Ball GT*, *Beet and Wishbone*).

In addition to Robertson's presentation of the gospel, *Vol. 3* also shares special messages from **Ben Stuart** of Breakaway Ministries and renowned photographer, entrepreneur and humanitarian **Jeremy Cowart**. **FFE**





## SEASON 4 ON NETFLIX

Bob the Tomato, Larry the Cucumber and the rest of the veggie cast continue their adventures off the countertop.

The *VeggieTales* gang has been let out of the crisper for another season of their show on Netflix. The fourth season of *VeggieTales in the House* continues the adventures of Bob the Tomato, Larry the Cucumber, and an assortment of familiar food characters. (Try not to think about it over dinner.)

In the 1990s, Big Idea Entertainment launched the cartoon in a direct-to-video format. The *VeggieTales* series quickly became a sensation, thanks to its combination of biblical lessons, character-driven humor, and catchy “silly songs.” Soon the property grew to include CDs, games, books and even a couple of movies.

Today, Big Idea is owned by DreamWorks Animation, which led to the Netflix series. The format for *VeggieTales in the House* includes two all-new stories with original songs in each episode.

Despite the new platform, Mike Nawrocki, co-creator of *VeggieTales* (and voice of Larry the Cucumber), says that Christian values are still the heart of VeggieTales. “Our biggest goal,” he told Kidscreen, “is to be a resource for parents who want to help pass on biblical values to their kids with wholesome entertainment that is fun to watch.”

*VeggieTales* co-creator Phil Vischer (who also happens to be the voice of Bob the Tomato) told BP News that the Netflix series means that Bob and Larry are now available on tablets, phones and all kinds of devices. The series is easier than ever for parents—and kids—to find.

“Whenever parents are looking for Bob and Larry to help teach values to their kids,” he said, “it’s just a push button away.” **FFE**

**CLICK HERE TO WATCH A CLIP ONLINE!**





## A CHRISTIAN ALLEGORY FOR THE GAMING GENERATION

**The Aetherlight encourages dialogue about faith and life  
in a way kids can understand.**

*by Chris Well*

When you hear people mention “Angry Birds” or “Pokemon Go” or “World of Warcraft,” are you familiar with them? Your children certainly are.

Today’s youngsters are growing up in a world where gaming is commonplace. It’s not enough to tell them a story—they have to play it.

That’s why a ministry in New Zealand hatched a plan to reach out to kids in their own vernacular. That plan led to the formation of Scarlet City Studios—and an allegorical adventure game.

At first glance, *The Aetherlight: Chronicles of the Resistance* merely looks like an exciting web-based adventure game. But it’s so much more: Scarlet City Studios has reimagined the epic tale of the Bible as a steampunk, allegorical story that’s entertaining, creative—and educational. A partner of the American Bible Society, Scarlet City Studios uses digital media to tell stories of redemption. By closely following the story of the Bible—but in a steampunk-inspired land—players make connections and discoveries for themselves, and see the Bible stories in a new light.

“We’re trying to connect young people with the story of Scripture,” says Tim Cleary, a youth minister who wrote the story behind *The Aetherlight*. “We want to bring it to life again in a way that touches their felt needs for games, for entertainment, and for education.”

“We know there’s a battle for the hearts and minds of young people today,” says American Bible Society President and CEO Roy Peterson. “Capturing the

biblical imagination of kids through *The Aetherlight* is a great tool to help the next generation come to know God's Word."

*The Aetherlight: Chronicles of the Resistance* will be released in new episodes several times a year to provide a platform for genuine biblical engagement for children. More than just a great game in a safe environment, purchasing each new episode unlocks a new part of the biblical narrative for them to explore.

Analytical tools help parents track their child's progress. *The Aetherlight* creates opportunities for parents and children to discuss matters of faith and life in a way that youngsters can grasp and enjoy.

Cleary notes that this digital generation wants to actively participate rather than simply consume content. "Games give you that opportunity," he says. "The other thing that is immensely exciting from an educational point of view is that good story is not tied up in the part of our brain that handles rote learning—with information and facts—it's stored with memory."

And that, he says, is the strength of the storytelling model used for *The Aetherlight*. "We're able to let you 'feel' the story—making it an experience less likely to be forgotten, or simply filed away. The Aetherlight allows the Bible to occupy a place in their imaginations, not just a place in their brains."



**WE'RE TRYING TO CONNECT YOUNG PEOPLE  
WITH THE STORY OF SCRIPTURE.**

—Tim Cleary, Scarlet City Studios

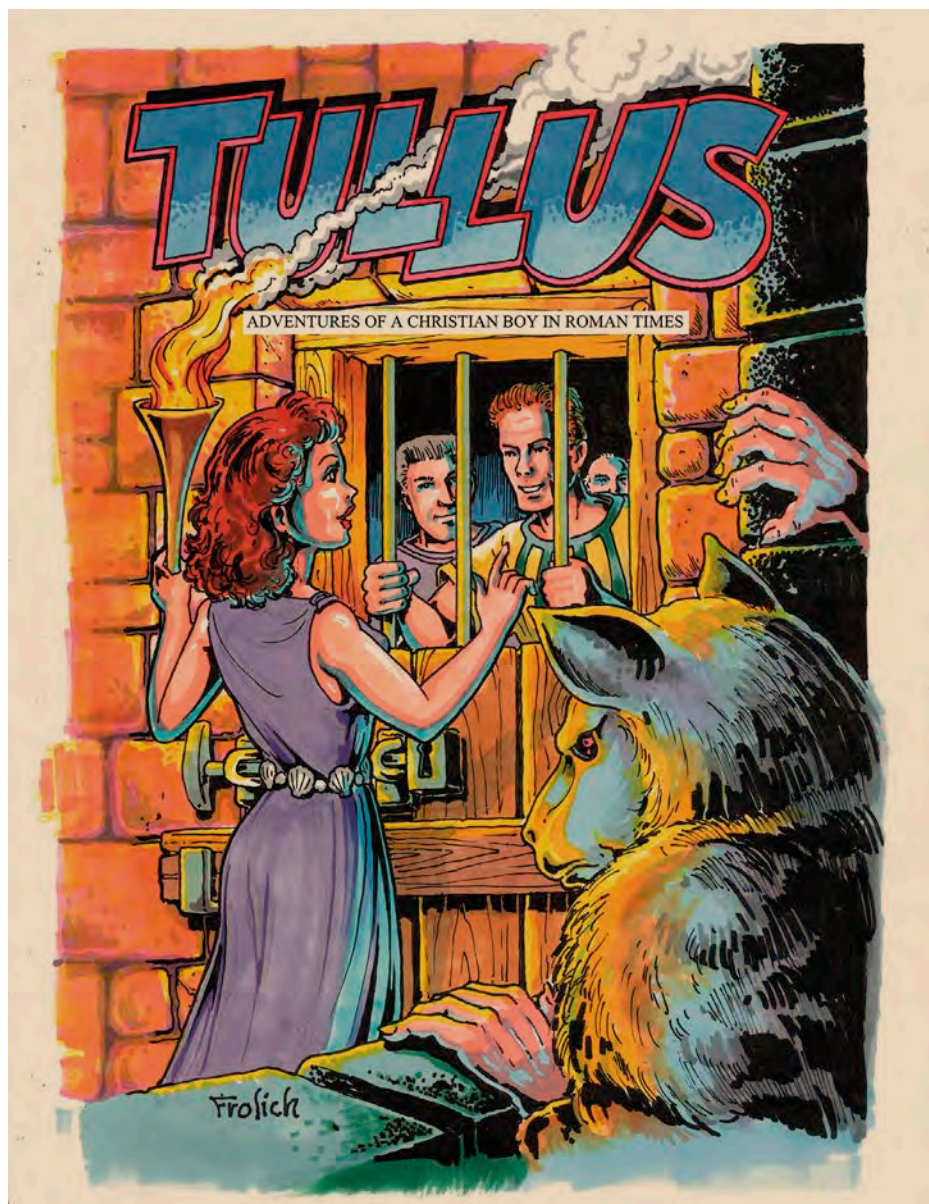
In all, 16 "episodes" of the game are planned. The first was an allegorical retelling of Abraham's story, the second reimagines the story of Jacob and Esau, and the third episode—planned to be released before this Christmas—will take players to a snowy world where they experience Joseph's story.

The strong biblical themes infused into *The Aetherlight* have attracted partnerships with the American Bible Society, World Vision and Tyndale House Publishers, and there's even a companion Bible.

"We want the biblical story to inspire and relate with young people all around the world," Cleary says. "We want them to realize it's not a book of segmented and broken stories, but a comprehensive narrative with Jesus at the center of the story." **FFE**

# REPRINTING A CLASSIC COMIC

A new reprint brings the adventures of a first-century Christian to a whole new generation of readers.





Folks of a certain age who grew up reading serialized comics in their Sunday School handouts may remember *Tullus*, an adventure series set during the early years of the Church. Published from the 1940s to the 1970s, the series featured a young Roman—and new believer—who traveled across the ancient world, visiting Asia Minor, Greece and Rome.

Now, one of these classic adventures is being reprinted by Manuscript Press, which has reprinted classic comic strips like *Tarzan* and *Flash Gordon*. *Tullus, Adventures of a Christian Boy in Roman Times* is a full-color 52-page comic book, available in print and digitally for the Kindle.

Publisher Rick Norwood shares his thoughts on making *Tullus* available to a new audience.

### **You're a professor of mathematics at East Tennessee State University. What inspired you to tackle founding Manuscript Press?**

I've always been a reader. My love of reading, and the discovery of manuscripts that had never been published—written by my favorite writers—and of old books and comics long out of print, led me to found Manuscript Press. I've always published books that I loved to read.

### **What inspired you to bring *Tullus* back into print?**

As a child, I read *Tullus*. It was part of a Sunday School paper that was handed out every Sunday. I loved it, and when I had to miss Sunday School (when the family went on vacation, for example) I always hated missing installments.

### **What was that Sunday School paper like?**

*Sunday Pix* was eight to twelve pages long. In addition to *Tullus*, every issue included "The Bible in Pictures," a smaller strip about a boy with a pet fox (Reddy the Fox), adaptations of classics, such as "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea" and "The Gold Bug," and other stories.

After my confirmation, when I was too old to go to Sunday School, I still wanted to read *Tullus*, so I subscribed and got issues through the mail. I was still reading *Tullus* when I started reading *Spider-man*.

This is the only Bible comic book I knew about as a child. It included a feature titled "The Bible in Pictures," which I read every week. That feature eventually led me to read the entire Bible, from cover to cover.

### ***Tullus* ran from 1943 to 1976. Was there any particular reason why you chose this story as the starting point?**

In the first issue, I publish one complete year (52 pages) of one *Tullus* story, which fortunately has a beginning and ending. I would love to continue to publish *Tullus*, but that depends on sales. Knowing that continuation was uncertain, I chose my favorite *Tullus* story.

The story then continues with further adventures of the characters. If I have the readership, I'll publish the following year, and at some point I would love to go back and publish the previous years. I'll publish bimonthly if I have the support.

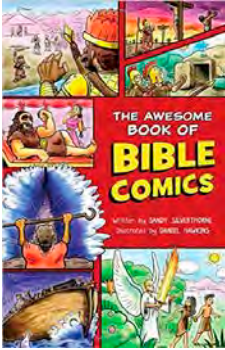
### Who are you hoping will read these Tullus reprints?

I hope everyone who loves a good comic book story, and everyone who loves a good Christian story, will read *Tullus*.

I would love to continue to publish *Tullus*, but that depends on sales. I need to sell at least one thousand copies to continue. I know there are that many people—in fact many more than that many people—who would love this comic book if they knew about it. **FFE**



# 3 MORE CHRISTIAN COMICS



## ***The Awesome Book of Bible Comics***

Bible stories can be seriously awesome!

*The Awesome Book of Bible Comics* illustrates many of the most popular stories from the Bible—and that's a pretty sweet deal, because you do not want to miss out on:

- how Noah escapes becoming fish food
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- the world's strongest man brings down the house
- a baby boy becomes the world's biggest superstar overnight
- Jesus is sentenced to death—but brings the world new life

These and several other stories about the heroes and villains of the Bible are filled with action and fun to read. See how God showed His love and faithfulness through each of these adventures.

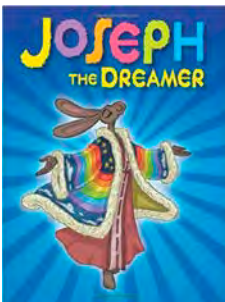
*Harvest House Publishers*

## ***Katie Luther***

Born into a destitute family of noble lineage, Katharina von Bora grew up in a convent and was relegated to life as a nun in pre-Reformation Germany. She settled into a life of study and service. Then, when Dr. Martin Luther's writings were spread throughout the land, some found their way into the hands of Katie and other nuns at the convent near Grimma. Luther's writings were the impetus for change. As much as Luther helped to reform the Church and spark sweeping change in Germany, he also helped to transform a humble nun into a strong, intelligent and inspiring leader in her own right.



*Concordia Publishing*



## ***Joseph the Dreamer***

Joseph is his father's favorite son, and he has amazing dreams unlike anyone else's. But when Joseph's jealous brothers decide enough is enough, Joseph finds himself a prisoner in a foreign land, where he must draw strength from within. **FFE**

*Kar-Ben Publishing*



# ***SUPER FICTION***

## ***FOR YOUR FALL***

*by Brock D. Eastman*





## Dive into an Action-Packed New Series All About Superheroes

Matt Mikalatos is best known for his nonfiction works *Night of the Living Dead Christian* (Tyndale Momentum) and *My Imaginary Jesus* (Tyndale Momentum), but he's also a gifted storyteller weaving well-developed characters into an engaging story. Here, Matt discusses Capeville (Pulp Hero Books), his new fiction series all about superheroes.

### What is Capeville about?

Capeville's about family, and tradition, about learning your true identity and doing the right thing. John comes to Capeville without any power, in a world where everyone around him is stronger and faster. But when he discovers something evil in the world, he has to decide whether to use what power he has to make a difference.

### Why create this series and focus on superheroes?

I've loved superheroes my whole life. But lately they've gotten pretty dark ... lots of grim, gritty superhero stories and not many that are fun, hopeful and about doing the right thing. I knew I probably wouldn't get a chance to do a comic with some of my favorite heroes, so I made up my own and wrote a novel that I thought my daughters might enjoy. And I was right! It was really fun!

### Matt, give us a little bit about each of the key characters we'll meet in Capeville.

John Ajax is the main character; he's 13 and just graduated 8th grade. He doesn't have any superpowers, which in the world of Capeville makes him unique ... all his friends have powers.



John's best friend is a guy named Pronto. He's the fourth fastest person on Earth ... his dad and brothers are the top three. Pronto says and does whatever occurs to him in the moment, and when you're as fast as Pronto, that's not a great idea.

Jupiter Girl is the oldest of the gang. She's 17 and is one of the most powerful people around. She can fly, has telepathy, shape-shifting and super strength.

Lightning Cat builds up an electrical charge whenever she moves, and she can't control it very well. She's an expert level gymnast, and she always speaks her mind.

Lastly is The Gecko. No one knows his real name. He's a full-time superhero, which is actually illegal in Capeville. He can stick to walls and, like Pronto, being a superhero is the family business: his dad and uncle were both "The Gecko" before him!

**While writing the first book in Capeville, were any scenes or characters cut from the book?**

I almost cut The Gecko from the book. I love him, but in some ways I felt like his role could be taken over by Pronto in rewrites. I told my kids I was thinking about this and they went crazy. They begged me not to get rid of The Gecko. So he got to stay in the book, I just changed his involvement to be more integral to the plot.

**How many books are planned for this series?**

At least five, though I'm thinking about spinoffs as well. I'm hard at work on book two right now, which is called *Capeville: The League of Daggers*.

***Brock:* Can you tell us about the next book in the series?**

*Matt:* In *Death of the Black Vulture* (book one), the main characters are just meeting



for the first time and becoming friends, but by the end of the book they've become more like a family. They decide they're in this thing together. Of course, in *League of Daggers* a villain comes along who wants to destroy that. The villain of the second book is a much greater, more serious threat than the one in the first book, so it's really going to push them to their limits... and not all of them will survive the encounter, I'm afraid.

**One thing I always appreciate about your writing is your ability to embed spiritual truths. Can you share the themes we can expect inside Capeville?**

The Capeville books are designed so you can hand them to anyone. I have atheist friends who have read and loved it. It's definitely an appropriate gift to anyone who loves superheroes regardless of their spiritual beliefs. Having said that, there's a character who is/will be a Christ figure as we move through the series, and there is a lot of talk about love, mercy, forgiveness, justice and so on.

**Matt, thanks for sharing about this exciting new superhero series! FFE**



**CAPEVILLE: THE DEATH OF THE BLACK VULTURE**

*Matt Mikalatos*

Pulp Hero Books



READ MORE ONLINE! <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/matt-mikalatos/books/capeville-the-death-of-the-black-vulture-volume-1>



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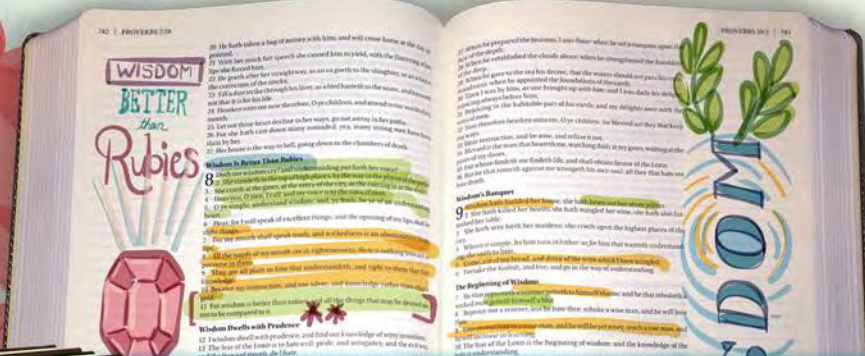
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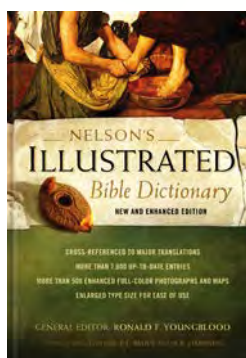
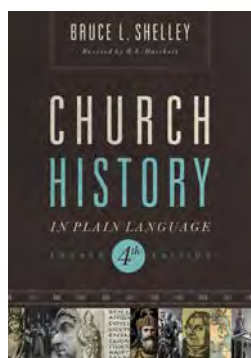


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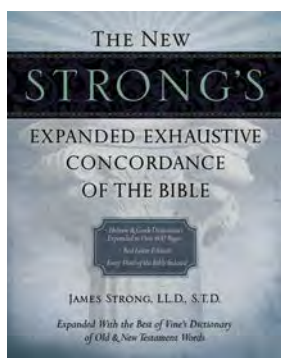
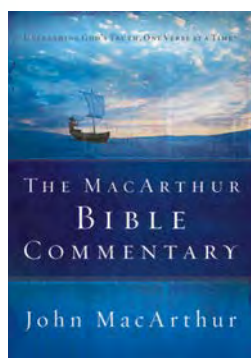
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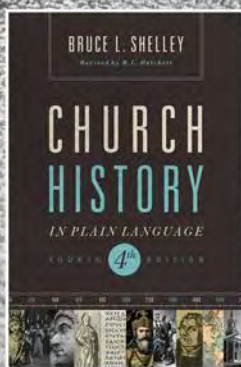
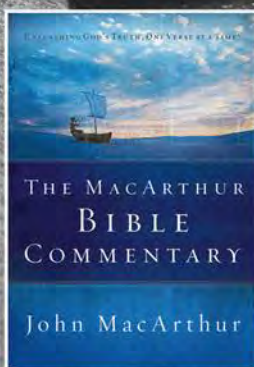
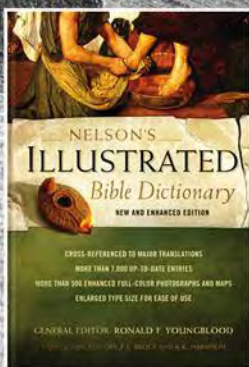
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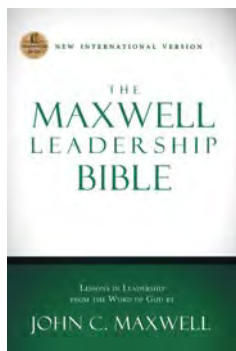
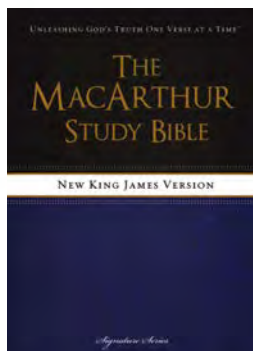
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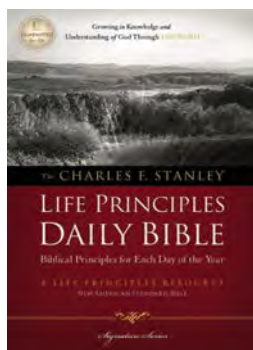
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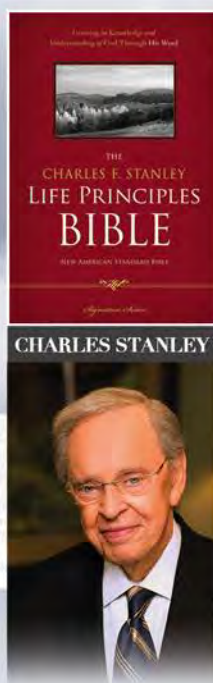
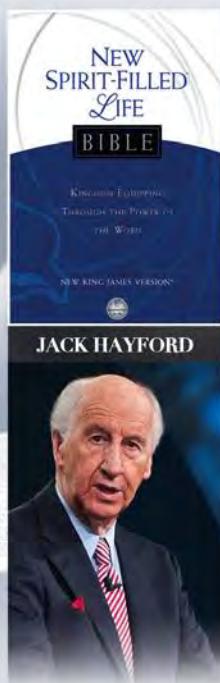
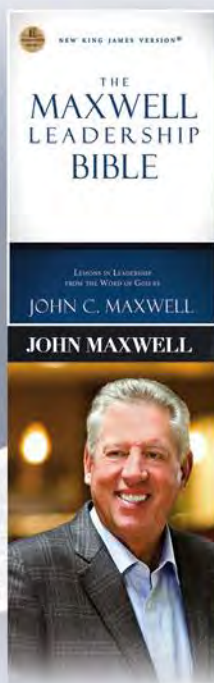


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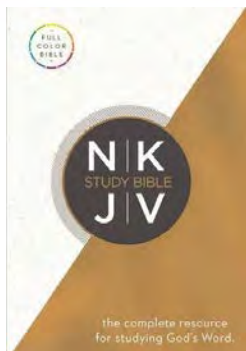


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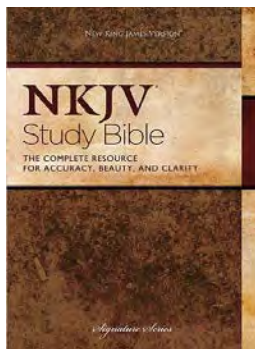
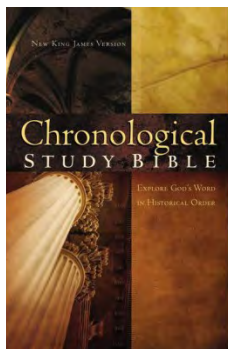




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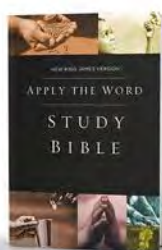
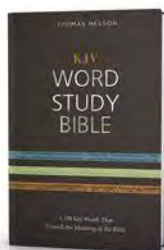
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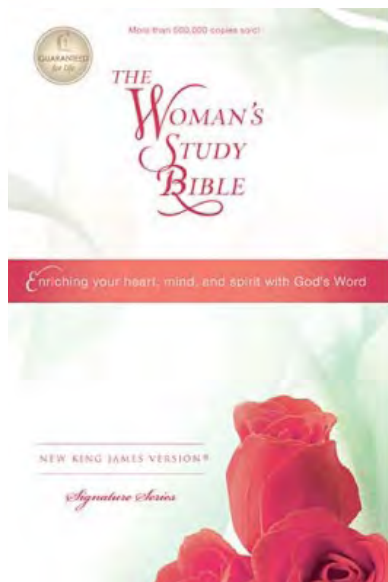
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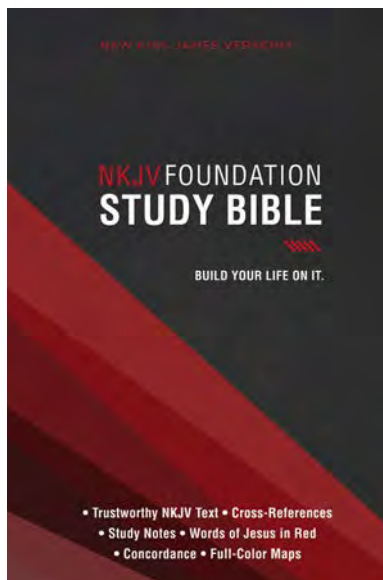
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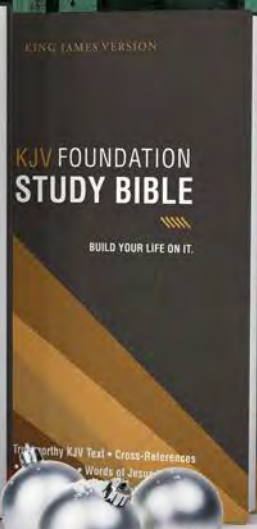
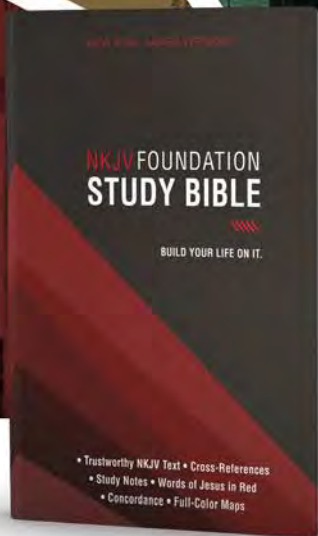
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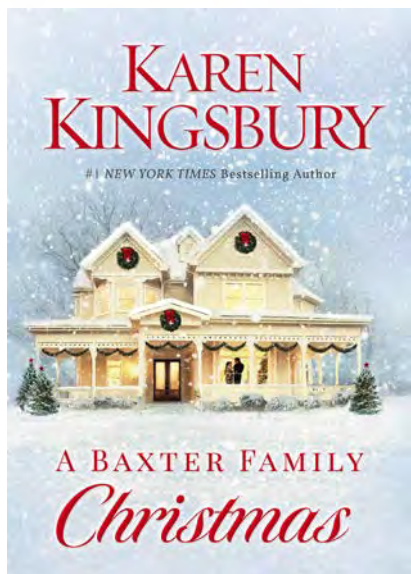
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### **A Baxter Family Christmas**

From No. 1 *New York Times* bestselling author Karen Kingsbury comes a life-changing story of love and hope featuring the Baxter family.

It's been two years since a terrible car accident that forever changed John Baxter's life. Prompted by grief, and missing his daughter, John has invited a stranger for Christmas Eve dinner—Kendra Bryant, the transplant recipient who now has his daughter Erin's heart. John's other children, Ashley and Luke, don't like the idea. They want to protect their 10-year-old niece, Amy—the only surviving member of the accident. But

John is determined and believes meeting this woman is something his deceased daughter would want.

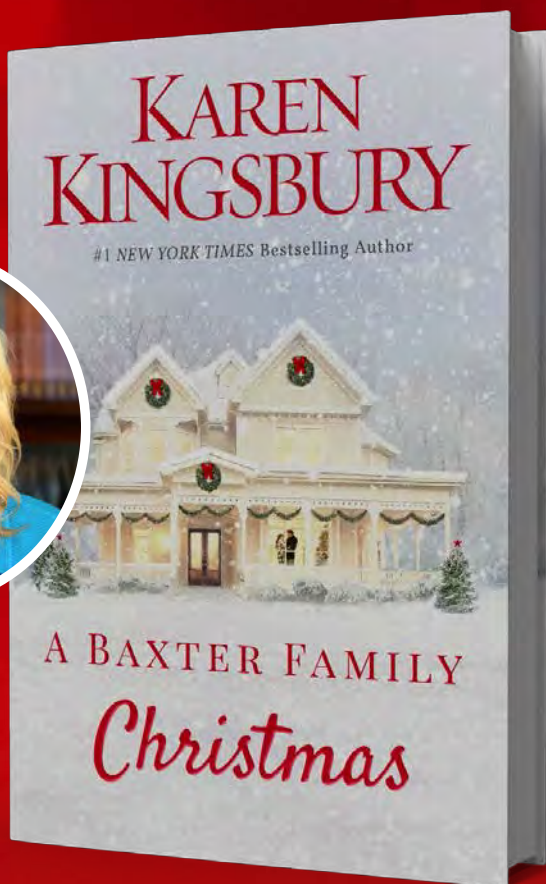
Meanwhile, Kendra Bryant has been struggling these past few years to find purpose in the tragedy that gave her a second chance. She believes the invitation to see the Baxters and witness their unwavering faith in God can instill peace and happiness back into her life.

Heartwarming and touching, filled with love and redemption, *A Baxter Family Christmas* brings together two families in the aftermath of loss and in the midst of an unfolding love story, all with the help of one very special child.

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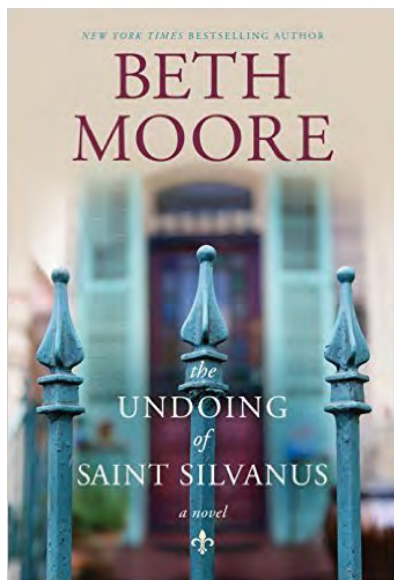
# The Baxters are Back!



Karen Kingsbury's most beloved characters  
return this holiday season.

Whether you're meeting the Baxter family for the first time or finding them all over again...*A Baxter Family Christmas* will leave fingerprints on your heart forever. In Karen Kingsbury's signature heartwarming style, she presents a beautiful life-changing story of hope and redemption that brings together two families in the aftermath of loss and in the midst of an unfolding love story—all with the help of one very special child.





**Celebrate the power of story in Beth Moore's debut novel, *The Undoing of Saint Silvanus*.**

This book makes a great gift, offering something for everyone. Readers will meet the cast of saints and sinners who live in Saint Silvanus, where they bond together to expose the dark forces that took the life of a father and threaten to drive a final wedge between mother and daughter.

*Library Journal* gave her a starred review and said: "Making her fiction debut, best-selling inspirational author Moore delivers an absorbing, suspenseful read."

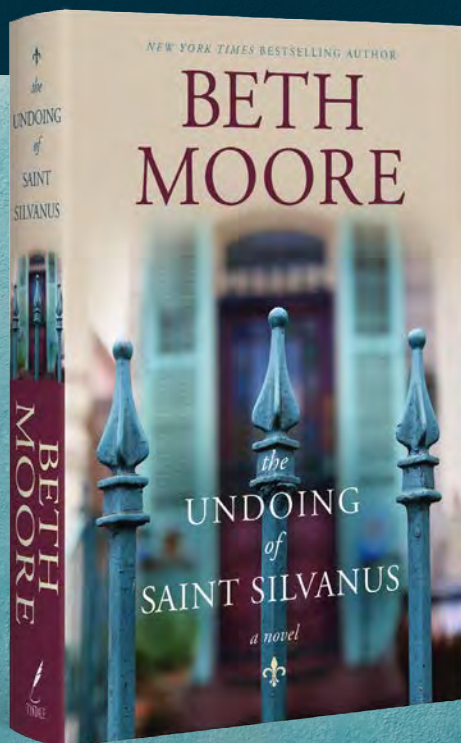
Booklist says this... "In her fiction debut, beloved Christian speaker and author Moore dives into uncharted territory with gusto. Simultaneously heartwarming and chilling, this tale has wide appeal with its mix of mystery, evangelism, history, suspense and love. Moore brings Southern culture to life, and thoughtfully poses questions of belonging, sin and self-worth. From its gritty start to its redemptive finish, Moore's ambitious first novel spotlights her gifts for humanizing the biblical experience and the search for faith."

Everyone can act now and register for a FREE webcast with Moore: Beth's Big Book Club Live from The Big Easy, happening on January 20th, 2017. This FREE live webstream event is a great way for a church, a book club, a book store, a library or a group of neighbors to talk about the book, learn from Beth, and invite those who may not be acquainted with the hope found in Christ. Register for the FREE January web stream.

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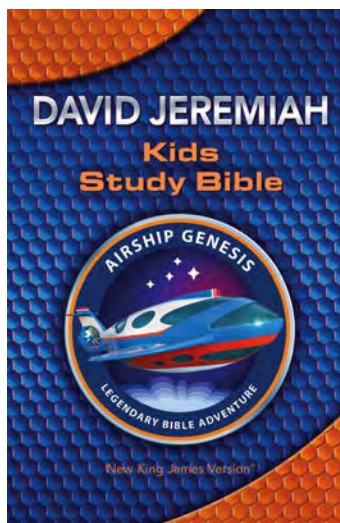
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## Airship Genesis Kids Study Bible

The *Airship Genesis Kids Study Bible* is an exciting adventure through God's Word in the trustworthy New King James Version®. Designed for children ages 7–11, it brings Bible stories to life and helps kids discover vital truths from Scripture, finding real-life applications for children living in today's world. Study features for this resource are based on the characteristics of the Airship Genesis brand from Dr. David Jeremiah. In the Airship Genesis: Legendary Bible Adventure, the Genesis Exploration Squad is commissioned to embark on a series of adventures that takes them throughout

the Bible. Each mission is a learning experience, both in biblical understanding as well as character building.

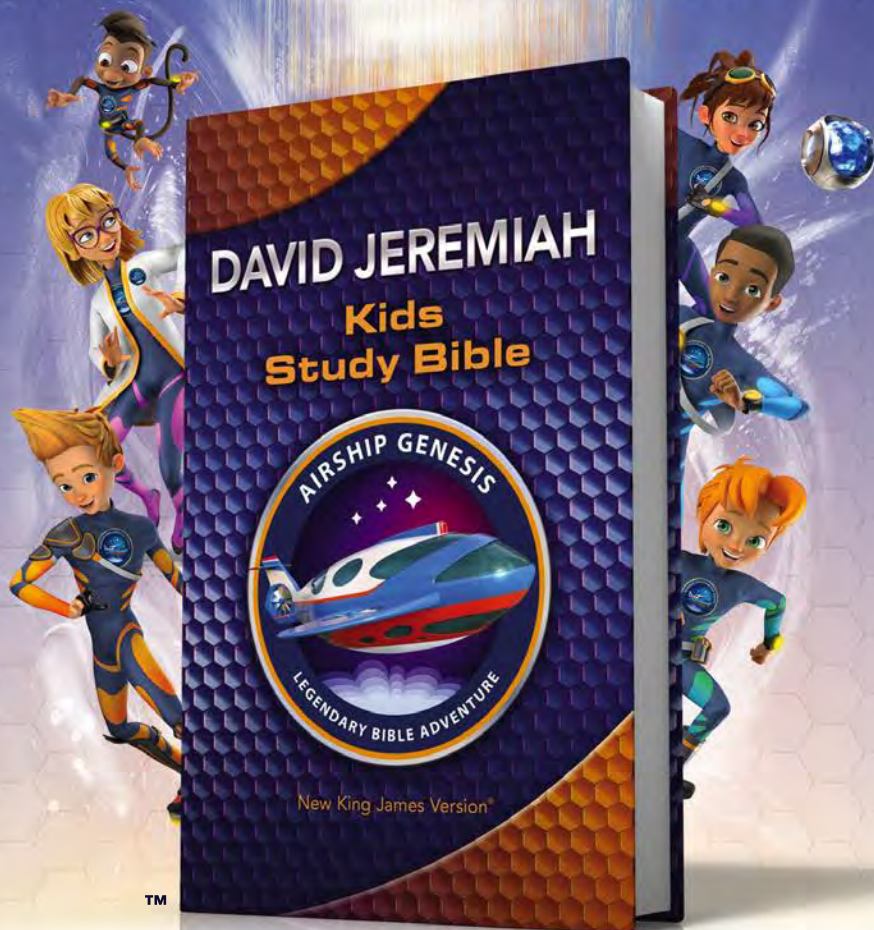
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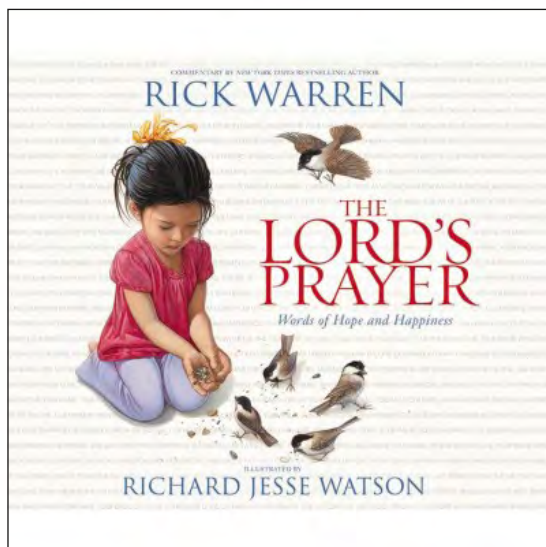
Embark upon the adventure of a lifetime with David Jeremiah's *NKJV Airship Genesis Kids Study Bible*—an exciting study Bible with hundreds of notes, articles, maps, and more! Join your child or grandchild as they read and learn about God's Word and engage through a monthly audio drama series available on [AirshipGenesis.com](http://AirshipGenesis.com)!

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***"Prayer is just talking to God. Even though we cannot see God, he is always near, and God loves to hear our prayers. We can talk to God anywhere, and we can talk to him about anything! Whenever we feel sad or scared or upset, we should talk to God and tell him how we feel. God always understands."***

—Rick Warren

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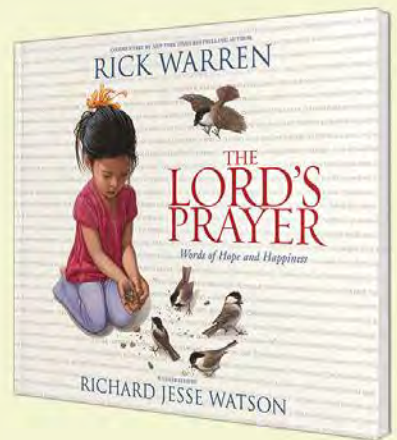




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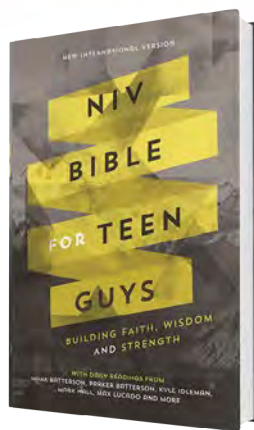


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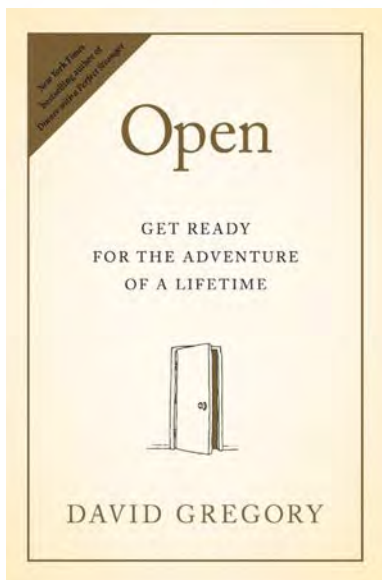
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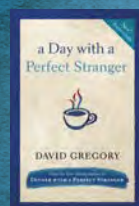
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The holder of master's degrees from the University of North Texas and Dallas Theological Seminary, David worked in business for ten years before devoting himself full-time to writing. He is a native of Texas.

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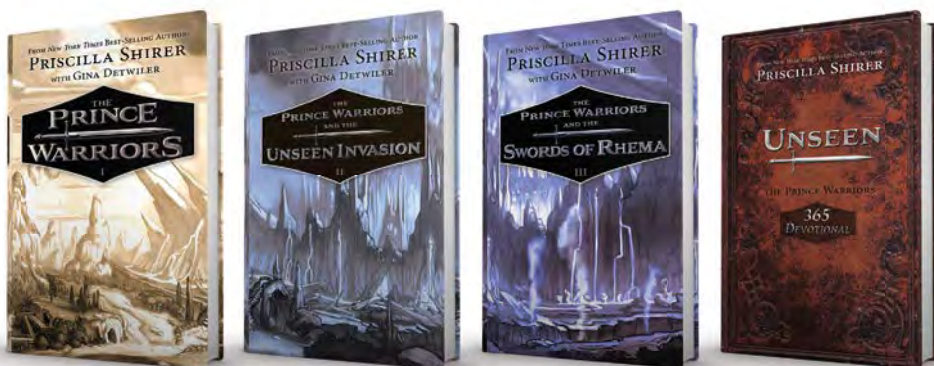


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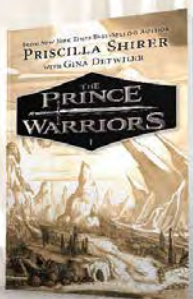
As brothers, Xavier and Evan are used to battling each other. But now they're discovering that there is a much bigger battle going on all around them. And it's their turn to fight. Based on Ephesians 6:10–18, *The Prince Warriors* is the first book in Priscilla Shirer's epic new children's series that brings to life the invisible struggle ensuing in the spiritual realm. Xavier, Evan and their friends have typical lives until they enter a mysterious land called Ahoratos. There they meet their guide, Ruwach, who offers wisdom and direction as the kids' initial adventure begins—an adventure filled with armor and danger and a very real enemy.

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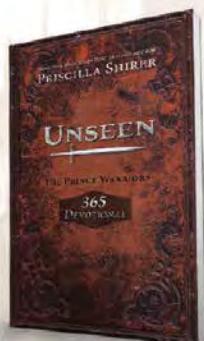
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## **Bibleman**

The new animated Bibleman franchise features multiple products including animated DVDs, comics, books, building block sets, mini-figures and Bibleman's sword. Children will learn biblical values as well as Scripture. The Bibleman brand began in 1995 from Pamplin Entertainment and was primarily a series comprised of live-action videos with other branded books and toys. B&H is partnering with P23 Entertainment Inc. to produce 26 episodes of Bibleman: The Animated Adventures. Learn more at [Bibleman.com](http://Bibleman.com).

[WWW.BIBLEMAN.COM](http://WWW.BIBLEMAN.COM)



# BIBLEMAN

## THE ANIMATED ADVENTURES

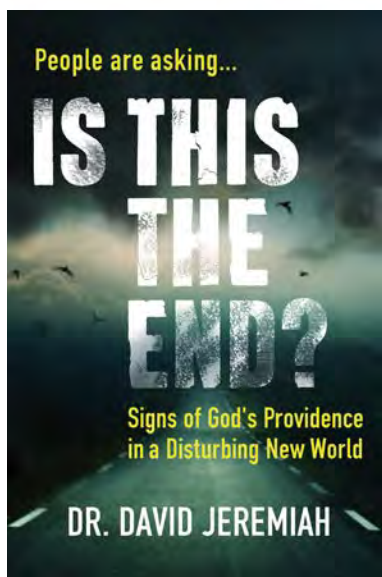


## BIBLEMAN IS BACK!

This time, he and the Bibleteam are not only fighting villains and evil, but also teaching kids Scripture and biblical principles in an all new animated series!



Look for Bibleman in stores NOW! Learn more at [Bibleman.com](http://Bibleman.com)



## Is This The End?

Could the headlines be any more jarring, the cultural changes more rapid, or the moral decay more pronounced? More and more people are asking, "Is this the end?"

Over the last few decades, Dr. David Jeremiah has become one of the world's most sought-after Christian leaders on topics that deal with biblical application and modern culture. And few would dispute that the pace at which things are currently changing is unprecedented.

"In my conversations with people of all ages, races, and professions, I find deepening anxiety and even fear that things cannot go

on as they are for long," writes Dr. Jeremiah. "It is clear to many people that ominous clouds are darkening our future, and events are coming to a head.

"Christians wonder whether the end times prophesied in the book of Revelation are upon us. Is the rising disorder we are experiencing a precursor of the approaching Rapture of the church and the final return of Christ? Secularists wonder whether the nation is on the verge of collapse into economic, racial and political anarchy; or whether a hostile nation such as Russia, China or Iran might unleash its atomic fury on our cities; or whether militant Islamic terrorists flooding through our porous borders might inflict enough damage to bring us to our knees."

The time has come to accept this new normal, Dr. Jeremiah says, and understand how God's hand is still at work on His eternal plan for mankind.

[WWW.ISTHISTHEEND.COM](http://WWW.ISTHISTHEEND.COM)





# CAN YOU AFFORD TO... IGNORE THE WARNINGS?

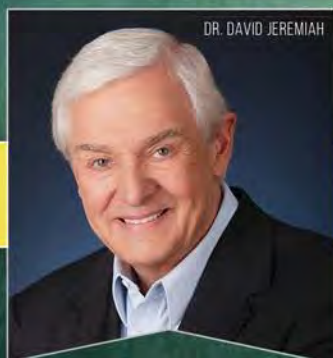
**NO, BUT ALL CAN BETTER UNDERSTAND GOD'S GREATER STORY**

AND THE ROLE WE EACH PLAY IN THIS CHANGING WORLD

FROM *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND

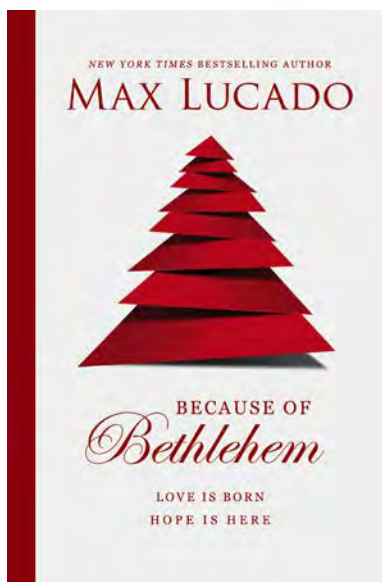
BIBLICAL SCHOLAR, **DR. DAVID JEREMIAH.**

**ISTHISTHEEND.COM**



**#GODISWITHUS**





### **Because of Bethlehem**

Max Lucado loves Christmas. Let the sleigh bells ring. Let the carolers sing. The more Santas the merrier. The more trees the better. He loves it because somewhere someone will ask the ultimate Christmas questions: What's the big deal about the baby in the manger? Who was He? What does His birth have to do with me? And the answers he's found are filled with hope, love . . . and even joy.

In his compelling new book *Because of Bethlehem: Love Is Born, Hope Is Here*, Lucado takes familiar elements of the year's most popular holiday and sheds brilliant light on how each aspect of the Christmas story reveals another expression of God's unbelievable, personal love.

Lucado looks into the Bethlehem story, with all its fumbles, awkwardness and longing, and details how the birth of Jesus is orchestrated to show us that God is with us in ways we could never imagine. "Christmas tells us that God knows what it is like to be a human," Lucado explains. "When I talk to him about deadlines or long lines or tough times, he understands. He's been there. He's been here. Because of Bethlehem, I have a friend in heaven."

According to Lucado: "Because of Bethlehem we are given the honor to interact with God, hear His thoughts and witness the magnificence of His Glory in both the good and bad parts of life. Jesus brought the Message to us in order that we would know truth and be truth in a dark world."

[WWW.THOMASNELSON.COM/BECAUSE-OF-BETHLEHEM](http://WWW.THOMASNELSON.COM/BECAUSE-OF-BETHLEHEM)

# *Christmas.*

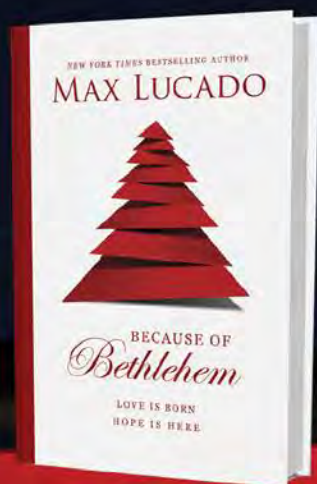
It brings sleigh bells ringing and carolers singing. And sometimes it brings heartache and hurt feelings. If you could use some true Christmas this Christmas, join Max Lucado as

he unpacks the enduring promises of Christmas and reveals a lifetime of hope

*because of one baby born in Bethlehem.*



## BECAUSE OF *Bethlehem*



**BUY IT TODAY**  
AT YOUR FAVORITE BOOKSTORE





## **The Beginner's Bible**

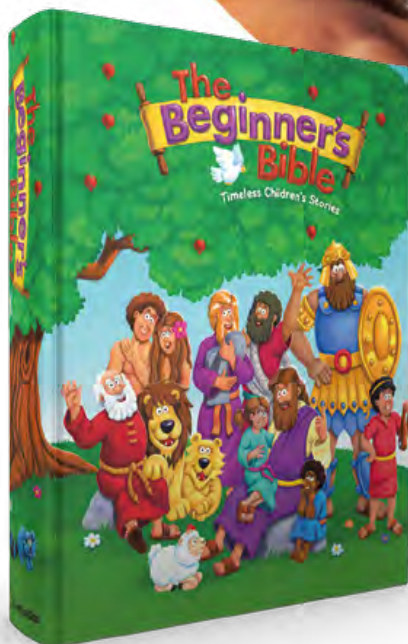
*The Beginner's Bible*® has been a favorite with young children and their parents since its release in 1989 with over 25 million products sold. Now it's redesigned with fresh new art that will excite children for many more years to come.

Full of faith and fun, *The Beginner's Bible* is a wonderful gift for any child. The easy-to-read text and bright, full-color illustrations on every page make it a perfect way to introduce young children to the stories and characters of the Bible. With new vibrant

three-dimensional art and compelling text, more than 90 Bible stories come to life. Kids ages 6 and under will enjoy the fun illustrations of Noah helping the elephant onto the ark, Jonah praying inside the fish, and more, as they discover *The Beginner's Bible* just like millions of children before. *The Beginner's Bible* was named the 2006 Retailers Choice Award winner in Children's Nonfiction. The Beginner's Bible family of products offers something for each child in your classroom, home or daycare. Join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter, and visit *The Beginner's Bible* website to learn more and take advantage of free resources!

[WWW.THEBEGINNERSBIBLE.COM](http://WWW.THEBEGINNERSBIBLE.COM)

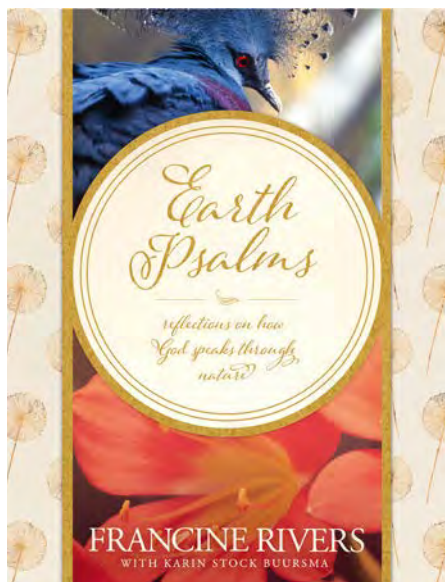




## A WHOLE NEW WAY FOR KIDS TO EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE!

For over 25 years, *The Beginner's Bible* has captured imaginations and guided young hearts to the Word of God. Now updated with all-new, vibrant, three-dimensional illustrations, this is one Bible experience your kids will turn to again and again. Available wherever books are sold.

The fun begins at [TheBeginnersBible.com](http://TheBeginnersBible.com).



## **Earth Psalms**

Reflections on How God Speaks through Nature

Millions of readers have been transformed and inspired by her bestselling novels *Redeeming Love* and *A Voice in the Wind*. Now, in this weekly devotional, beloved author Francine Rivers invites you to join her in seeking the Creator through the marvelous natural world we live in. Francine shares observations she's gathered over a lifetime of exploring—abroad and in her own backyard—and reflects on how they might apply to your daily life. What do the majestic

redwoods, the persistent woodpecker, or a glorious sunrise reveal about our artistic and generous God? How could that change your outlook or the way you handle adversity?

Stunning photography, Scripture excerpts, applications and prayers accompany Francine's reflections, inspiring you to be encouraged. Be challenged. Be comforted. God's power is immense; His attention to detail is precise; His love for you is vast and unfailing. The proof is all around you.

[WWW.EARTHPSALMSBOOK.COM](http://WWW.EARTHPSALMSBOOK.COM)



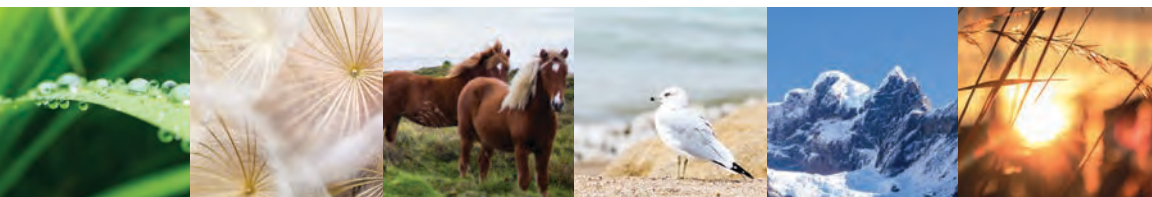
*New* DEVOTIONAL FROM *NEW YORK TIMES*  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR **FRANCINE RIVERS**

EVERYTHING GOD CREATED  
IS A WONDER TO BEHOLD!

In this weekly devotional, beloved author Francine Rivers invites you to join her in seeking the Creator through the marvelous natural world we live in. Stunning photography, Scripture excerpts, applications, and prayers will inspire, encourage, challenge, and comfort you.

*"Earth Psalms is a gorgeous book. It's the writing, insightful, fragrant and personal, that breathes this beauty to life and transports us in our imaginations to each scene."*

*New York Times* bestselling author Beth Moore



*New York Times* bestselling author FRANCINE RIVERS has continued to win both industry acclaim and reader loyalty around the globe. Her numerous bestsellers include *A Voice in the Wind*, *Redeeming Love*, and *Bridge to Haven*. Visit her website at [www.francinerivers.com](http://www.francinerivers.com).

KARIN STOCK BUURSMASMA has worked in the publishing industry for more than fifteen years, first at a publishing house and now as a freelance editor and writer.



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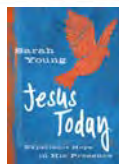


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Available at your favorite retailer or [earthpsalmsbook.com](http://earthpsalmsbook.com)



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### **A Very Merry Christmas Prayer**

Join the adorable woodland animals as they celebrate Christmas! The pages of this book will walk you through beloved holiday traditions. This book will make readers more thankful for Christmas, and most important, Jesus.

### **God Bless Our Christmas**

This sweet rhyming story will help your little ones focus on all the blessings of Christmas with family, including decorating cookies and trees, singing favorite carols, giving gifts, and celebrating Jesus!

### **One Small Donkey for Little Ones/One Small Donkey**

Bestselling author Dandi Daley Mackall tells the story of Jesus' birth from an unlikely perspective: a donkey carrying Mary to Bethlehem. The donkey is not the fastest or strongest animal, but he had an important job all the same.

### **Itsy Bitsy Christmas**

When two small mice find out that a king is coming to Bethlehem, they are so excited! They search high and low for him, but cannot find him anywhere. Just when they begin to believe that they really aren't important enough for a king to visit, they learn that Christ the King has indeed come for everyone!

### **Good Good Father**

This beautiful picture book by Grammy award-winning Christian music artist Chris Tomlin and Pat Barrett leaves children with a greater understanding of who God is and of who they are because they are loved by Him.

### **Jesus Today Teen Cover**

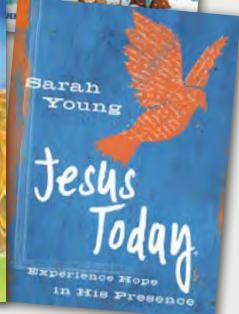
Filled with the familiar content you know and trust, this updated cover of *Jesus Today* makes an excellent gift for the teenagers and young adults in your life.

[WWW.STORE.FAITHGATEWAY.COM/KIDSCHRISTMAS](http://WWW.STORE.FAITHGATEWAY.COM/KIDSCHRISTMAS)



# Share the WONDER OF Christmas

Give the gift of Jesus this Christmas with books that nurture the faith of children while pointing them toward a relationship with God.



Save  
**30%**

Use code TOMMY30 • Valid through 12/24/16

LEARN MORE



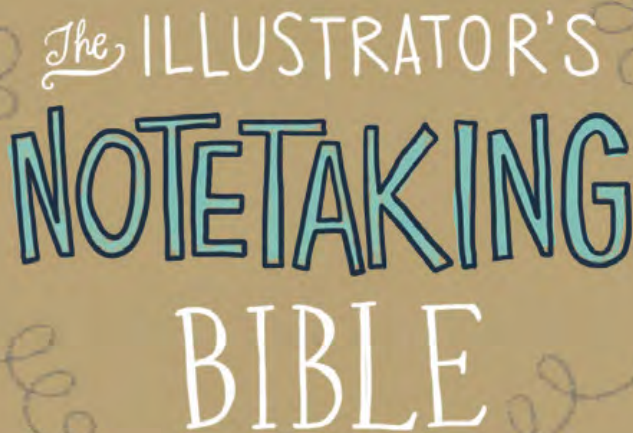
### **The Illustrator's Notetaking Bible**

Offering the perfect gift for that creative person in your life, *The Illustrator's Notetaking Bible* combines both the opportunity to journal your thoughts in the conveniently lined margins as well as over 600 images to engage the artist in everyone. With these unique illustrations included on every page spread, readers, illustrators and notetakers alike learn to engage the biblical text in a new way. Each image is in light grey outline and there are open margin spaces for creating new, personalized creations as well.

The exceptional design offers a wonderful balance for everyone from seasoned artists to the creatively challenged, allowing for guided creativity and meaningful personalization of the Bible reading experience. Featuring filigree, Scripture quotes and unique images, these line-drawn illustrations are waiting to be brought to life. Several cover options are available, but shown here is our British Tan, bonded leather over board edition that offers a classic feel as well as a durable construction that will last for generations to come.

[WWW.COLORYOURBIBLES.COM](http://WWW.COLORYOURBIBLES.COM)





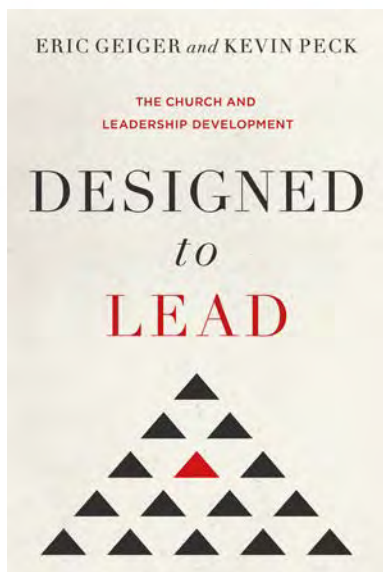
The front cover of the book 'The Illustrator's Notetaking Bible' is shown. The cover is divided into three horizontal sections. The top section is dark red with the HCSB logo. The middle section is blue with the HCSB logo and the title 'THE ILLUSTRATOR'S NOTETAKING BIBLE'. The bottom section is white with a green vine illustration and a hand holding a green pen. The spine of the book is visible on the left, showing the title 'NOTETAKING BIBLE' and the HCSB logo.



9 I will not  
or male  
10 for every  
the cattle  
11 I know e  
and the  
12 If I were  
for the w  
13 Do not eat  
or drink



COLORYOURBIBLES.COM



## **Designed to Lead**

Most churches merely exist.

Many churches do not develop leaders intentionally and consistently. When leaders emerge from some churches, it is often by accident.

Something is missing; something is off.

From the first recordings of history, God has made it clear that He has designed creation to be led by His covenant people. More than that, He has decided what His people are to do with that leadership. Whether you are called to lead in your home, in the marketplace, in God's church, or in your community, if you are called by God you are called to lead others to worship the glory of God in Jesus Christ.

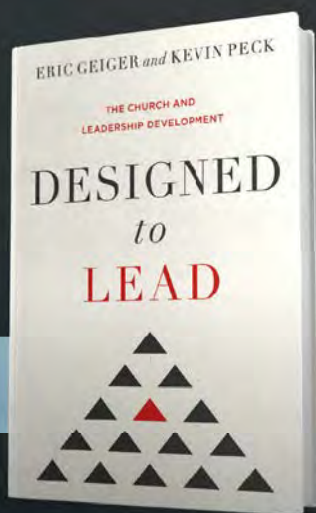
God has designed his people to lead.

[WWW.DESIGNEDTOLEAD.COM](http://WWW.DESIGNEDTOLEAD.COM)





# LEAD *by* DESIGN



## For you. For your ministry team.

Authors Eric Geiger (author of bestselling *Simple Church* and *Creature of the Word*) and Kevin Peck argue that churches that consistently produce leaders have a strong conviction to develop leaders, a healthy culture for leadership development, and helpful constructs to systematically and intentionally build leaders. All three are essential for leaders to be formed through the ministry of a local church.

Visit **DesignedtoLead.com**

to receive free leadership resources

RELEASING SEPTEMBER 1



Every WORD matters™  
BHPublishingGroup.com



### **She Reads Truth**

She wants to know what is true—not partly true, or sometimes true, or almost true. She wants to see Truth itself, face-to-face. But here, now, these things are all cloudy. Hope is tinged with hurt. Faith is shaded by doubt. Lesser, broken things masquerade as love. How does she find something permanent when the world around her is always changing, when not even she can stay the same? And if she finds it, how does she hold on?

*She Reads Truth* tells the stories of two women who discovered, through very different lives and circumstances, that only God and His Word remain unchanged as the world around them shifted and slipped away.

Infused with biblical application and Scripture, this book is not just about two characters in two stories, but about one Hero and one Story.

Every image points to the bigger picture—that God and His Word are true. Not because of anything we do, but because of who He is. Not once, not occasionally, but right now and all the time. Sometimes it takes everything moving to notice the thing that doesn't move. Sometimes it takes telling two very different stories to notice how the Truth was exactly the same in both of them.

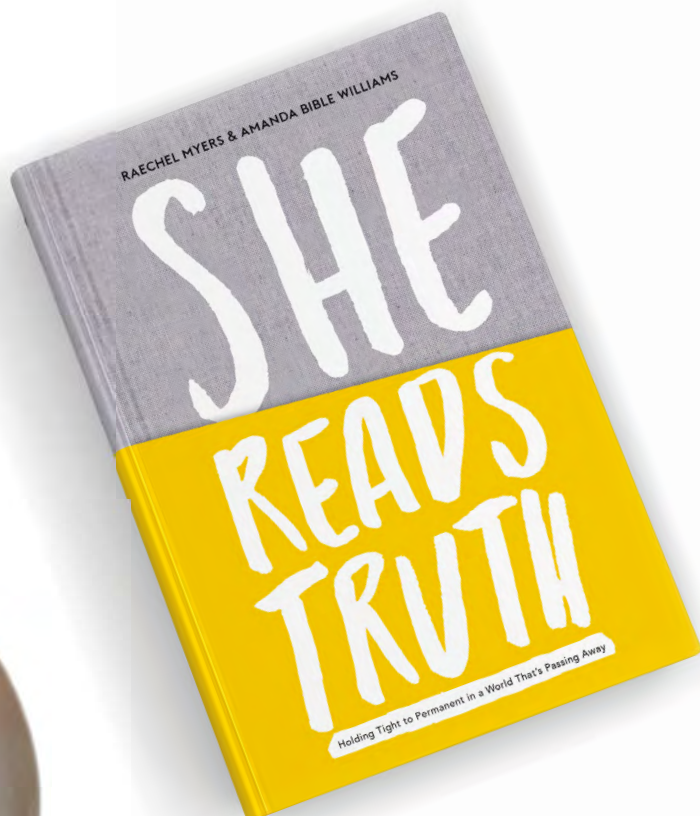
For anyone searching for a solid foundation to cling to, *She Reads Truth* is a rich and honest Bible-filled journey to finally find permanence in a world that's passing away.

[WWW.SHEREADSTRUTHBOOK.COM](http://WWW.SHEREADSTRUTHBOOK.COM)



SHE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT IS TRUE—  
NOT PARTLY TRUE, OR SOMETIMES TRUE, OR ALMOST TRUE.

SHE WANTS TRUTH ITSELF.



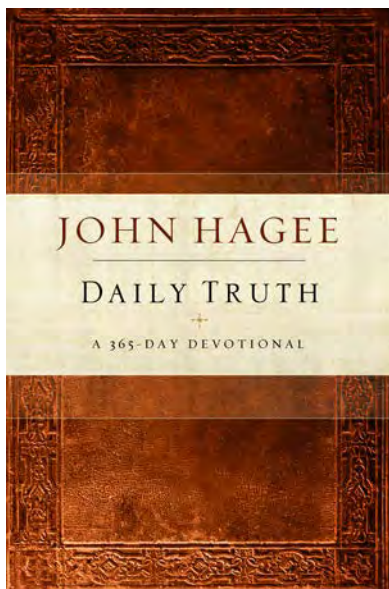
*She Reads Truth* tells the stories of two women who discovered that only God and His Word remain unchanged as the world around them shifted and slipped away.

Sometimes it takes everything moving to notice the thing that doesn't move. Sometimes it takes telling two very different stories to notice how the Truth was exactly the same in both of them.



Every WORD Matters™  
BHPublishingGroup.com

[SHEREADSTRUTHBOOK.COM](http://SHEREADSTRUTHBOOK.COM)



### Daily Truth

Our world is full of brokenness—in families, careers, marriages and finances. In the midst of the daily anxieties Pastor John Hagee reminds us to call out to God in prayer and claim His promises for provision and grace. Our year can be successful if we turn to God, seek His truth, and ask for help. In *Daily Truth* Pastor Hagee demonstrates God's past faithfulness in Scripture and challenges readers to trust in God's unfailing support in their daily lives. God has blessings in store for you; believe it!

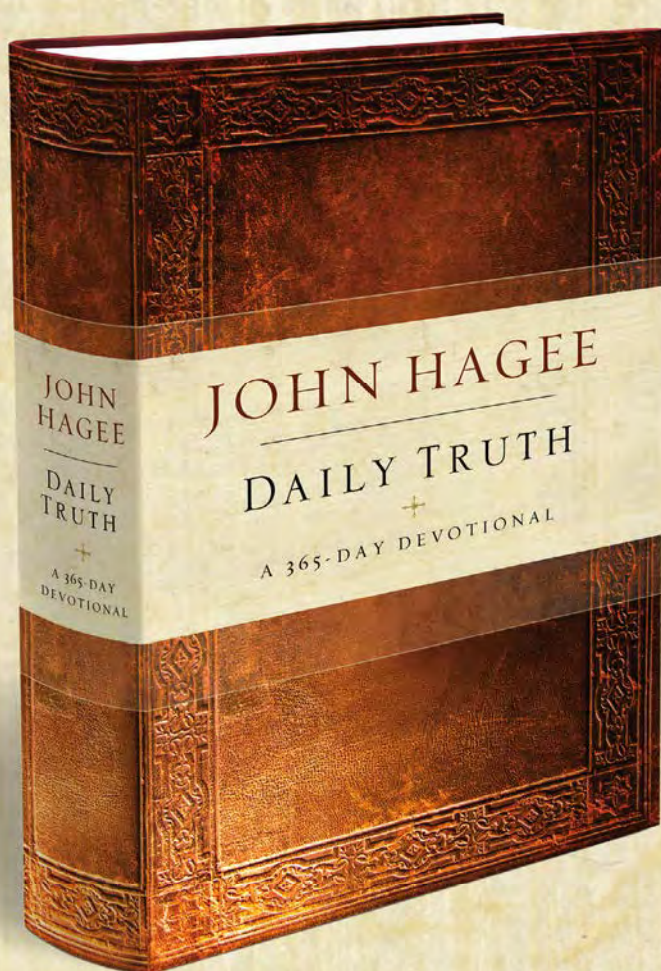
In this 365-day devotional, bestselling author and pastor John Hagee walks you through the Scripture with words of strength and hope for every day. As only he can, Pastor Hagee draws from his decades of Bible study and ministry to bring authoritative yet inspirational meditations that will center you in the truth of the Word of God. At the end of each week, you will be especially encouraged by a powerful and meaningful Pastor's Blessing.

This elegant, jacketed hardcover volume features a beautiful full-color interior and a ribbon marker, making it perfect for daily devotional reading.

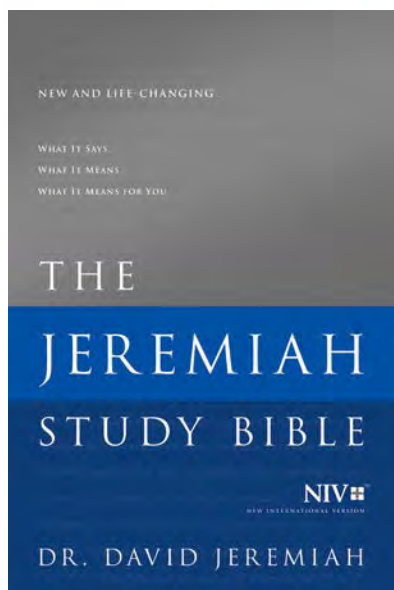
[WWW.WORTHYPUBLISHING.COM/BOOKS/DAILY-TRUTH](http://WWW.WORTHYPUBLISHING.COM/BOOKS/DAILY-TRUTH)



# Words of Strength and Hope for Each Day of the Year



“I am praying that God brings you to a new destiny,  
a new spiritual high—a new destination with your  
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”  
—PASTOR JOHN HAGEE



### **The Jeremiah Study Bible**

This extraordinary and popular Bible is the result of 40 years of study by one of the most widely viewed and respected Bible teachers in the world today. This legacy resource will be the standard for decades to come. Packed within the pages of *The Jeremiah Study Bible* are a lifetime of teaching and preaching insights God has given Dr. Jeremiah. He has often said that *The Jeremiah Study Bible* is the most important thing he has ever done because it brings everything back to what matters most in his life and ministry. “The Bible has the greatest potential of anything I know to permanently transform someone’s life.

I can’t think of anything better than extending its reach to even more people through *The Jeremiah Study Bible*.”

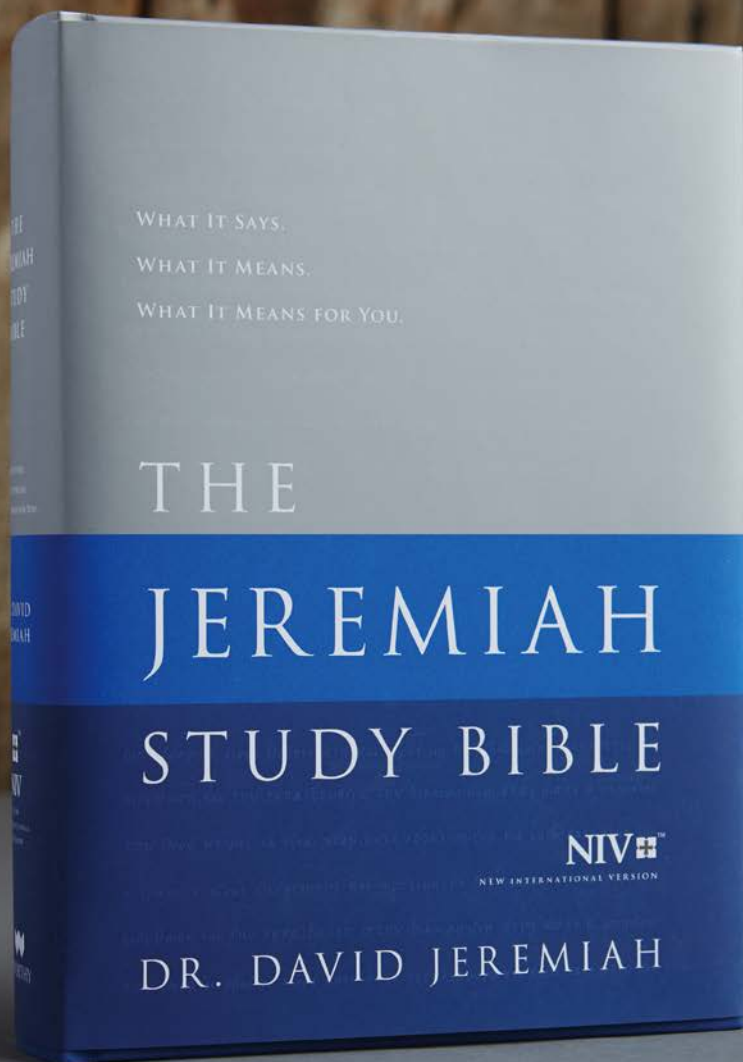
Almost 50 years after the vision was cast—and more than 450 million copies later—the New International Version is the most widely read Bible translation in contemporary English. The NIV delivers the very best combination of accuracy and readability. It’s true to God’s Word and true to the reader.

The NIV, combined with more than 8,000 notes and sidebars from years of Dr. Jeremiah’s teaching, helps you more clearly know what the Bible says, what it means, and what it means for you. It is available in jacketed hardcover, genuine leather, and LeatherLuxe bindings.

[WWW.JEREMIAHSTUDYBIBLE.COM](http://WWW.JEREMIAHSTUDYBIBLE.COM)

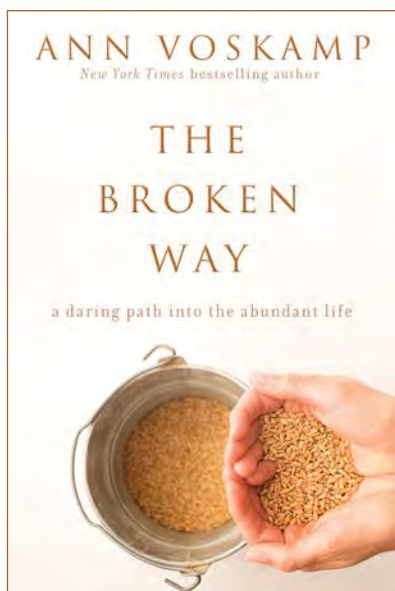


***The best-selling study Bible  
from David Jeremiah***



***Now available in NIV***

***Learn more: [JeremiahStudyBible.com](http://JeremiahStudyBible.com)***



### **The Broken Way**

*New York Times* bestselling author Ann Voskamp sits at the edge of her life and all of her own unspoken brokenness and asks: What if you really want to live abundantly before it's too late? What do you do if you really want to know abundant wholeness? This is the one begging question that's behind every single aspect of our lives—and one that *The Broken Way* rises up to explore in the most unexpected ways.

This one's for the lovers and the sufferers. For those whose hopes and dreams and love grew so large it broke their willing hearts. This one's for the busted ones who are ready to bust free, the ones ready to break molds, break chains, break

measuring sticks, and break all this bad brokenness with an unlikely good brokenness. You could be one of the Beloved who is broken—and still lets yourself be loved.

You could be one of them, one who believes freedom can be found not only beyond the fear and pain, but actually *within* it.

You could discover and trust this broken way—the way to not be afraid of broken things.

[WWW.THEBROKENWAY.COM](http://WWW.THEBROKENWAY.COM)



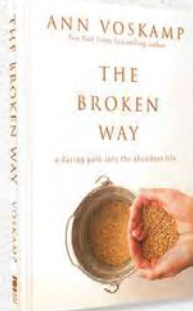


PAIN. HEARTACHE. BROKENNESS.  
**THEY'RE THE BEGINNING, NOT THE END.**

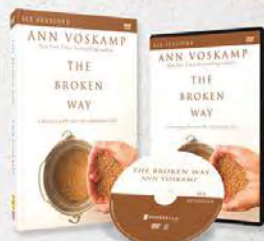
What do you do with the brokenness in your life?

What's the answer to suffering in the world?

What do you really do if you want to know  
abundant wholeness in your day to day?



Video Study Available  
November 29



Bestselling author Ann Voskamp takes those who carry their own unspoken broken on a journey into *The Broken Way* — a fresh, authentic way into more time, more meaning, more abundant wholeness — a literal way to shape one's days into the abundant life. Live a life that is fearless of brokenness. Book on sale October 25th. To find a retailer and more information, visit [TheBrokenWay.com](http://TheBrokenWay.com). **ZONDERVAN**.com

If you are interested in a traditional mystery novel this holiday season, look no further than Sandra Orchard's latest release: *Another Day, Another Dali* (Revell). This is her second book detailing the cases of FBI Special Agent Serena Jones. Sandra weaves together a fantastic story of intrigue, danger and art.



## What inspired this novel?

The initial inspiration for the mystery plot was a news article about the theft of a Matisse painting from a Venezuelan museum, because the theft went undetected for more than two years, thanks to the forgery that was hung in its place.

## Are any pieces of the plot pulled from real life?

If by real life, you mean mine, no. I try to avoid places where art thieves and mob types hang out. Although ... I did pay a visit to the restaurant in Forest Park and the Missouri Athletic Club. Of course, you understand that anything untoward that may or may not happen at those locations in my novel is purely fictional.

But ... in real life, a butler in California did steal his employer's painting and replace it with a forgery. Then again, you'll have to read *Another Day, Another Dali* to determine if I fell back on the old "the butler did it" trope.

I do, however, confess that Serena's zucchini adventure and the "little terror" scene (minus the

handsome guys showing up) are pages out of my own life.

## Your main character is the "plucky" Serena Jones. What makes her a likable protagonist?

I'd like to think it's the humorous way she downplays her fears and annoyances and occasional mess-ups. She delivers those witty zingers—we all wish we could come up with at those opportune moments. (Or maybe that's just me.) And ... she's a nice person—the kind of person who notices someone standing alone in a crowded room and takes the time to say hello. (The fact she may or may not suspect said person is casing the joint is beside the point.)

## Did you have to do a lot of research about art for this novel? If so, were any of your findings surprising?

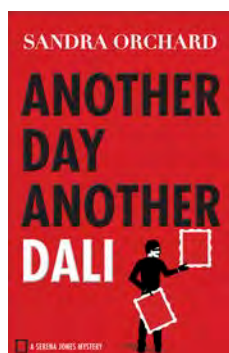
I'd already researched a lot about art and art theft for *A Fool and His Monet*, so for this one, my research centered on how to create good forgeries and how to detect them. The information was fascinating. One of my most surprising findings was the number



of paintings bought by renowned museums and later exposed as forgeries and the belief among experts that many more still hang on museum walls, with curators reluctant to conduct tests that might prove a priceless investment is actually a fake.

### **What's on the horizon for you? More Serena Jones books?**

*Over Maya Dead Body* is the third and final book in the series and it



**ANOTHER DAY,  
ANOTHER DALI**  
SERENA JONES  
MYSTERY #2  
*Sandra Orchard*  
Revell

releases in June 2017. As you might guess from the title, the mystery involves antiquities. In a change from the first two novels, I opted to set the story in beautiful Martha's Vineyard, home to many wealthy collectors. The location made it extra fun to research, because of course I had to pay the island a visit ... or two!

### **Do you have any big plans for the holidays?**

After the crazy summer we had with two grandsons in hospitals in two different cities and then my daughter's wedding this fall, my plan for the holidays is simply to enjoy having all my family home. Gathering everyone together for a big meal has been a weekly occurrence for years and we are ecstatic to be able to resume it!

READ MORE ONLINE: <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/sandra-orchard/books/another-day-another-dali-serena-jones-mysteries-2>

## **IN OTHER NEWS**

### **FINDING THE COMMON GROUND BETWEEN SCIENCE AND FAITH**

A scientist's claim that he's found the secrets of the universe's origin encoded in DNA sparks a race against time to uncover the truth in a new fast-paced thriller of science and faith, power and murder, loss and redemption.

In his debut novel, *The Soul of the Matter* (Howard Books), author Bruce Buff weaves suspense and faith into a story so real, readers may find it difficult to discern where fiction ends and reality begins. Dan Lawson, a former government cyber-intelligence analyst, hears from a renowned geneticist who claims he's found evidence of a creator and needs help to protect his findings. When an experiment goes terribly awry, Lawson is sent on a hunt for answers—including whether the human soul can survive science's conquest of nature.

## SUSPENSE

## NEW RELEASES

CLICK ON A BOOK COVER FOR MORE INFORMATION



### HOLLY IN DECEMBER

FLOWERS CAN BE FATAL

Clare Revell

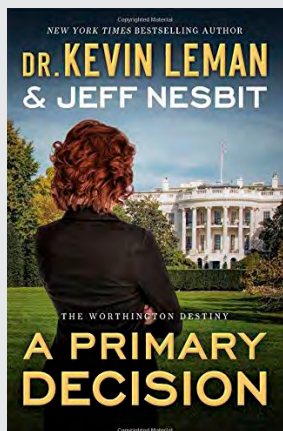
White Rose Publishing



### THE SILENT SONGBIRD

Melanie Dickerson

Thomas Nelson



### A PRIMARY DECISION

THE WORTHINGTON DESTINY

Dr. Kevin Leman & Jess Nesbit  
Revell



### TANGLED WEBS

MEN OF VALOR

Irene Hannon  
Revell

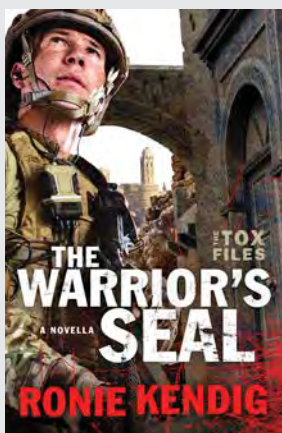
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# SUSPENSE

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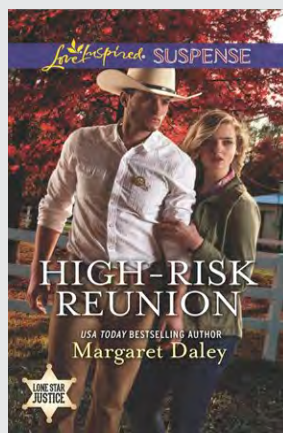


### THE WARRIOR'S SEAL

A TOX FILES NOVELLA

*Ronie Kendig*

Bethany House

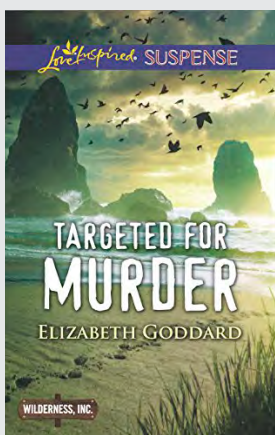


### HIGH-RISK REUNION

LONE STAR JUSTICE

*Margaret Daley*

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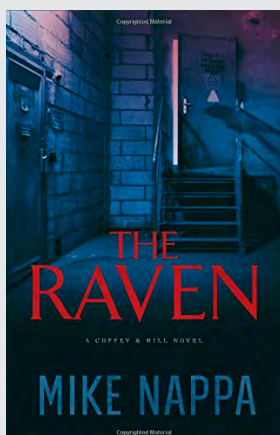


### TARGETED FOR MURDER

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Imagine a world where everyone is separated based on their talents, gifts and temperaments. It is a societal structure unheard of, yet this is the world in which readers find themselves with Patrick W. Carr's new Darkwater Saga (Bethany House). It is a blend of epic fantasy and suspense which truly delivers the quality Patrick's fans have come to expect. Patrick sat down with us recently to discuss the latest installment in the series, *The Shattered Vigil* (Bethany House).

**The saga actually starts with a novella titled *By Divine Right*. Is that the best place for readers to start?**

Absolutely the best place for readers to start. It's a free eBook download. They'll find it all over the place.

**So the story proceeds from the e-novella into the first book, and then *The Shattered Vigil* is the second book, right?**

Yeah, so the book after *By Divine Right* is called *The Shock of Night*, which came out last year, or almost a year ago, and then we're going to go into *The Shattered Vigil*.

**Is this a trilogy, or is there a longer plan?**

It is actually going to be both if it comes ... the way that I planned. It's planned to be a trilogy with a novella introduction, but there's definitely room for more books in the series if the readership and the public want it.

**Since *The Shattered Vigil* is the newest book, tell us about that. What is it about?**

Well, what's happened within *The Shattered Vigil* is that they're discovering just how dangerous the dark water has become because it's begun to leave its boundaries, so the evil that had been contained within it for hundreds—if not thousands—of years, has gotten loose. Now they're discovering exactly what it is they're up against, and the odds are not looking good. The reason it's called *The Shattered Vigil* is because the group, which is called The Vigil, has been broken (toward the end of the first book). The political and church systems are actually trying to take them into protective custody to make sure that they survive, but that would actually be the worst thing for the survival of the Northern continent as a whole.



**Which do you find more interesting to write—the characters or the things that happen?**

For me, they end up being one and the same. I tend to write character-driven fantasy, so I spend a lot of time trying to flesh out my characters and make them fully realized before I ever start fleshing out the details of the plot. It's kind of a mix. I'm halfway between what I would call plot-driven fantasy and character-driven fantasy.

**As the story unfolds, it reveals more about the characters and what they're about?**

Exactly. What I do is I take a character who's fully fleshed

out and then I have something happen to him. Then, based on that character, [I think] how are they going to react? That leads me to the next plot point within the story.

**How has your faith impacted the way that you approach storytelling?**

In every story, no matter how dark or how desperate it gets, there is always a hope of redemption and there is always a redemptive process within the story. Within *The Shattered Vigil*, I've got a war veteran who encounters an orphan girl whose mind is so broken she can't speak. She has to communicate by making drawings of what she's seen. One of the things that happens is that there is a bond that grows between these two individuals that's really touching and they end up saving each other. Redemption is always one of the major themes that I try to work into my writing whenever I can.

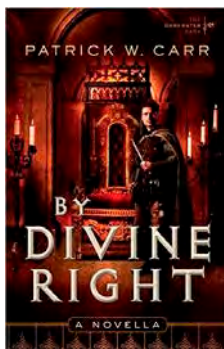


**THE SHATTERED VIGIL**  
DARKWATER SAGA #2  
Patrick W. Carr  
Bethany House

READ MORE ONLINE!: <http://www.familyfiction.com/authors/patrick-w-carr/books/the-shattered-vigil-darkwater-saga-2>

**You can start the Darkwater Saga today with Patrick Carr's series prequel *By Divine Right*. Download it for FREE now!**

**CLICK HERE**



**BY DIVINE RIGHT**  
THE DARKWATER SAGA  
E-NOVELLA  
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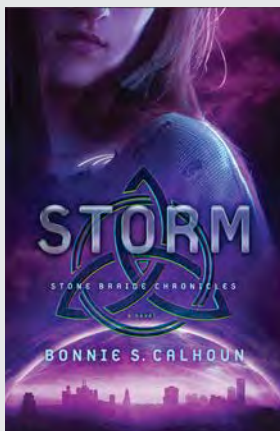


### THE SHATTERED VIGIL

DARKWATER SAGA #2

*Patrick W. Carr*

Bethany House



### STORM: A NOVEL

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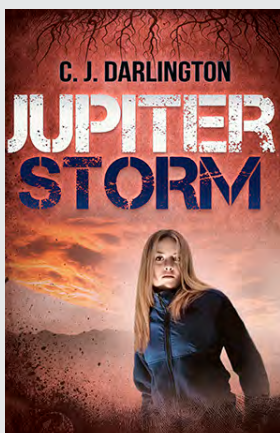


### CHAINS OF GWYNDORR

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*Joan Campbell*

Enclave Publishing



### JUPITER STORM

JUPITER WINDS #2

*C.J. Darlington*

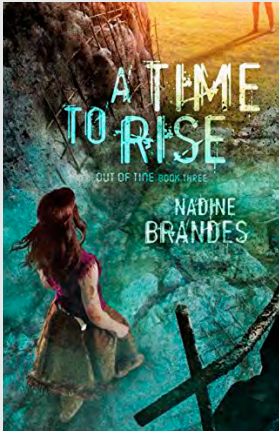
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Long time *FamilyFiction* contributor and author C.J. Darlington has just released another novel in her exciting Jupiter Winds series. She answered our top questions about the series and the latest installment, *Jupiter Storm* (Mountainview Books).



**Is *Jupiter Storm* a novel for teens or adults?**

What's been terrific about the Jupiter Winds series is that teens and adults have been reading the books. It's a pretty cool thing to hear that a mom as well as her teen daughter enjoyed the series. Talk about humbling. So while the main sister characters in *Jupiter Storm* are teens, there are several adult supporting characters too, including their parents. I really wanted to write a story that had a strong family dynamic, and the book's themes of good and evil are universal, I think.

**Speaking of themes, did you have one in mind when you wrote the book?**

Whenever I write a novel I have a general idea of where I'm going, but usually not the whole plot, and almost always the theme is something that organically just happens as I write. My big question at the start of *Jupiter Storm* was what would it take to redeem a traitor? I knew that much. Through each book

in the series I also have a Scripture that becomes the central theme. *Jupiter Storm's* came from John 1:5 ... the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

**Does the story really take place on Jupiter?**

Yes! At least most of it does. My fictional Jupiter has an orange sky that is constantly in motion, swirling and writhing. There are places that have what my characters call rainbow dirt, with all sorts of minerals mixing together and sparkling. There are weird, twisting yellow trees, and animals you thought were extinct on Earth make the planet their home.

**You do realize Jupiter is a gas giant that is uninhabitable, right?**

That is what we've been told. But what if everything we thought we knew about the planet was wrong? What if we were told lies to cover up the fact that it really is habitable and people are there right now?



WHAT IF EVERYTHING WE THOUGHT WE  
KNEW ABOUT JUPITER WAS WRONG?”

Seriously, I’m reaching back to the golden age of science fiction with this series and turning everything scientific about Jupiter on its head. I purposely did that. I could have created a fictional planet, but why not Jupiter? It gives us some fun things to play with. And extinct animals. Did I mention there are extinct animals?

**Why did you decide to write a speculative series like this after writing contemporary novels?**

I’ve been a fan of speculative novels and movies for years. I began the first book, *Jupiter Winds*, because I had wanted to write a YA novel for quite some time, and it seemed like a neat idea to delve deep into my imagination for something really

“out there.” I was surprised how all the ideas spilled out of my brain when I wrote the rough draft. But what really shocked me was how much respect I gained for other, more established fantasy and science fiction writers. World-building isn’t for the faint of heart!

**If Jupiter were habitable, would you want to go?**

Depends on if it was a one-way ticket or not! I’m not nearly as adventurous as my characters Grey Alexander and her sister Orinda (Rin for short). They are truly courageous in the face of adversity. They are taking the move from Earth to Jupiter pretty well in *Jupiter Storm*. I’m not sure I would be nearly as resilient.

**Will there be a third book?**

I do have a few ideas in mind for another Jupiter Winds story. A trilogy has a nice ring to it, and I certainly haven’t ruled it out.



**JUPITER STORM**  
JUPITER WINDS #2  
C.J. Darlington  
Mountainview Books

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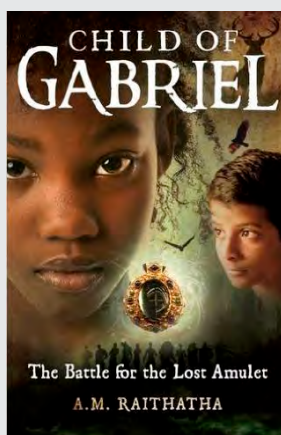
THIRTEEN

*Trisha Priebe & Jerry B. Jenkins*  
Shiloh Run Press



### THE STORM SIREN TRILOGY: STORM SIREN, SIREN'S FURY, SIREN'S SONG

*Mary Weber*  
Thomas Nelson



### THE BATTLE FOR THE LOST AMULET

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## YOUNG ADULT

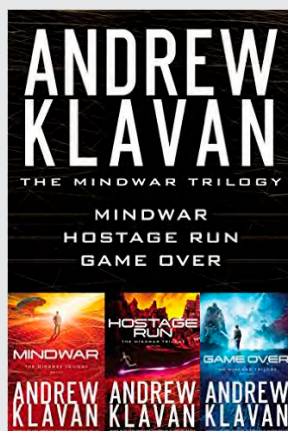
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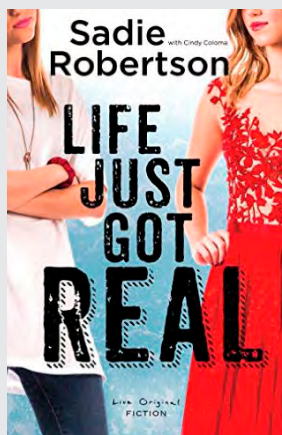
### THE MINDWAR TRILOGY

*Andrew Klavan*  
Thomas Nelson



### COURAGEOUS

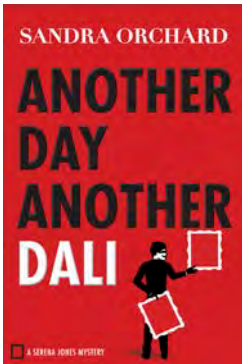
VALIANT HEARTS #3  
*Dina Sleiman*  
Bethany House



### LIFE JUST GOT REAL

LIVE ORIGINAL  
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**START READING NOW*****Another Day, Another Dali*  
by Sandra Orchard**

Published with Permission  
from Sandra Orchard & Revell

I tore my gaze from the porch that wrapped around the drug dealer's house and cringed at the number on my phone's call display.

*Mom said there'd be days like this.*

Tanner, still decked out in his SWAT gear, peered over my shoulder as the phone vibrated insistently in my hand. "Good thing you're a field-hardened FBI agent, so you don't let little old ladies scare the pants off you."

I sent him a silencing glare. Ignoring his grin, I turned away from the rest of the team traipsing in and out of the building, and clicked Connect. "Hi, Nana," I said, injecting fake cheerfulness into my voice. "What's up?"

"I need you to come see me."

"You nee—are you okay?" My heart stuttered. If anything happened to Nana ...

"Of course I'm okay. Stop stammering, girl."

Tanner, still hovering close enough to hear her strident tones, snickered.

I placed a muffling hand over the phone.

"Excuse me, *sir*," I said sweetly. "Don't you have a forgery to Bubble-Wrap?"

"Forgery?" His stunned look was so comical I forgave myself for rushing to a verdict before my usual careful perusal. Not that I was in any serious doubt about this particular painting.

"Really?" he said, broad shoulders slumping. When I arrived on scene, he boasted they'd turned up art so hot it was still smoking.

"Yup. Fake." I, too, felt a pang of genuine regret that the "Renoir" hanging in the drug dealer's den wasn't the one on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted list.

But I'd left Nana hanging.

Straightening my shoulders, I put the phone back to my ear. "Sorry, Nana. Um, I have to be at the youth drop-in center by seven to teach the art class, so..." I glanced at my watch and cast about for a workable solution, but there just wasn't enough time. "I'm afraid—"

"Never mind," she interrupted. "Obviously, you're at work." *Where you shouldn't be taking personal calls*, her tone implied. "Call me when you get home."

"Okay," I said to dead air.

Annoyed at myself for the guilty feeling I couldn't stop from churning my stomach, I turned to study the front of the house once more. Something was niggling at my brain.

"Um ... Tanner," I said, hesitating.

"Yeah?"

"There's something..." I squinted against the dropping September sun, mentally reviewing the interior.

He grinned. "Stop stammering, girl. Spit it out."

"Ha, ha." *Wait...* "Oh, that's got to be it!" I stuffed my phone in my pocket and headed back inside.

Tanner followed me. "What's it?"

I stopped at the door to the den and glanced at the window three feet from the side wall.

"Serena? What's going on?" Tanner pressed, trailing me to the next doorway, this one into a bedroom.

"The window is three feet from the wall, just like in the other room."

"So?"

"Where's the attic hatch?"

"Mason checked the attic."

"Humor me."

"Don't I always?" Tanner said. "I'm a funny guy."

"Uh-huh." He actually had the quickest wit of any guy I knew, even if he did run to cheesy puns sometimes.

Not that I'd admit that to him.

"Over here." He steered me toward a stepladder set up near the back door. "But there's nothing up there except insulation and mice."

"Mice, huh? Are you trying to scare me out of looking?" I started climbing, and Tanner moved in to hold the ladder steady.

I pushed open the hatch and stuck my head into the attic.

"See?" Tanner said.



"Yes, I do." I stepped down a couple of ladder rungs and flashed him a grin. "A false wall six to eight feet in from the back of the house."

Tanner squeezed past me and beamed his flashlight around the vacant space. "Unbelievable. Mason should've caught that."

"The wall's covered in cobwebs and dust. It wouldn't have registered unless you were looking for it."

Tanner muttered something I couldn't make out, but having been on the receiving end of his displeasure during my FBI training—granted, always earned—I didn't envy poor Mason.

Tanner hoisted himself into the attic, then balance-beamed his way across a joist to the wall and examined every inch of it. "I don't see any way to access what's behind it." He shone the light over the attic's insulation-covered floor and then the shoe impressions he'd left in the dust on the joist. "It doesn't look like anyone else has been up here recently. There must be another ceiling access panel." He climbed back down, eyeing me with interest. "How'd you know to look for a secret room?"

I shrugged evasively.

Tanner followed me back to the room where the fake Renoir had been found and swept his flashlight beam over every inch of the ceiling. "There's no other way up there that I can see."

I maneuvered around the agent photographing evidence. The wall between this room and the next was decorated in wood panels and elaborate moldings that looked uncomfortably familiar. I ran my fingers along the moldings.

Tanner studied me. "What are you doing?"

"Looking for a secret panel."

"Uh-huh. And you seem to know exactly what you're doing here, Nancy Drew, because ... ?"

I expelled a breath. "There was one at my grandfather's house, okay?"

"Your grandfather? The one who was murdered?"

"Yes." I blew away a strand of long, blond hair that had escaped my ponytail. "Maybe you could be helpful instead of giving me the third degree?"

"Sorry." Tanner beamed his flashlight at the section of paneling I was running my hands over.

My breath caught as my fingertips made contact with the pressure sensor I'd been seeking. "Tanner, I've found—"

"Wait!"

Primed to open it, I tossed a frown over my shoulder. "Are you really

going to pull the SWAT-clears-every-room-first rule on this one?"

"No, I thought I'd rock-paper-scissors you for the privilege." He motioned me to get out of his way.

My finger still on the sensor, I sidestepped two feet so he'd have a clear view as I pulled back the panel. "You ready? I'll slide it open and you can call the all-clear." I slid it three-quarters of an inch and froze. "Uh-oh."

Tanner cursed. "Please tell me you're messing with me."

I gulped. "You don't hear that ticking?"

He crouched down and shone his flashlight through the gap I'd opened. "Blast, Serena, don't move a muscle."

Yeah, got that.

"Blast!"

"Tanner, could you *stop* using that *word*?"

"Everybody out!" He shoed away the agents conducting the search. "We've got a bomb, people. Move it. Send Douglas in here. And call in the rest of the bomb squad. Now!" Tanner returned to my side. "You okay?"

Sweat slid down my temple and into my eye. My arm was trembling from the strain of trying to hold the panel still. "Do I look like I'm okay?" I said through gritted teeth.

Tanner squatted at my side once more and squinted at the gap. "The panel's been spring-loaded." He angled his flashlight in another direction. "And we're looking at enough C-4 to level the house if you make a wrong move." An expletive slipped out. "Tell me more about the setup at your grandfather's house."

I squeezed my eyes closed, then opened them again and looked Tanner in the eye without moving my head. "There was a secret staircase behind a panel exactly like this one. He figured it was built to aid the Underground Railroad."

"You mean like the caves under the cobblestone streets at Laclede's Landing?"

"Kind of, but his led to the attic, not a tunnel." I closed off the memories before they could—

"Hey," Tanner said softly, giving me the little half smile that crinkled the laugh lines around his eyes. "It's okay. We're going to get you out of here."

"I know." He'd never let me down.

I concentrated on his six feet four inches of solid muscle reassuringly standing between me and the opening, and an idea made its way to my brain. "If you can find something the same width as my two fingers, I think there's enough back pressure on the panel to hold it in place."

Tanner shook his head. "If you're wrong, we'd have less than two seconds to clear that window."

I squinted at the small slider.

"It's eight feet away. And painted shut. Not an option, Jones."

"What about tacky putty? That'll stay put."

Tanner looked at the gap and nodded. "That could work." He shoved a couple of squares of chewing gum into his mouth.

"No, it can't," Special Agent Spencer Douglas of the St. Louis Division's bomb squad said, entering the room. "The spring pressure could make the panel squish it like a raisin. Give me a chance to see what we've got before you try any heroics."

I gulped. Okay, this was worse than I thought. Much worse.

"How are you going to access the bomb if she can't move?" Tanner demanded.

"Check the next room for another access panel," I said. I cleared my throat, embarrassed by the quaver in my voice.

"Did your grandfather's place have a second one?" Tanner asked.

"Yes."

Tanner shot Douglas a look. "Be careful. It could be booby-trapped too."

Douglas motioned Tanner out of the way, then fished a tiny camera through the crack and slanted the viewer so we could see it with him. "There's a staircase."

"Our access to the secret attic room," Tanner said, sounding pleased. "Just like Serena called it."

"Hello? Bomb, people!" I reminded them.

Douglas turned the camera toward the stack of C-4. "Looks like we might have a way in from the other side that's not booby-trapped. You two"—he motioned to Mason and a bomb squad member—"check the next room for another panel."

As the sound of heavy furniture being moved vibrated across the floor, Douglas moved the camera around the bomb. "The detonator appears simple enough to disarm."

He glanced up at Tanner and me. "I don't get it. The drugs were left in plain view. The money was stuffed in the wall safe. So why plant a bomb?"

"There's got to be something we're not seeing. What could be so important that they'd blow up everything to protect it?" Anticipation welled in my chest despite the scant quarter-inch of wood between me and an armload of plastic explosives.

Douglas pulled back the camera. "They're in. Time to get out, Tanner."



"Not. Leaving. My. Wingman," Tanner ground out. His eyes radiated sincerity, holding mine with fierce intensity.

My heart did a ridiculous flip. "Don't be an idiot," I said as Douglas shook his head and left the room to supervise the bomb's defusing. "There's no point both of us risking our lives."

Tanner's serious look morphed into mirth, making me miss whatever Douglas had barked on the other side of the wall.

"I can't believe you didn't catch that reference, Miss Movie Buff," Tanner said, grinning.

"Huh?"

"*Top Gun*." He leaned in close to me, taking distract-Serena-from-the-bomb to dangerously stupid levels, and smiled. "Tom Cruise, right?"

I blinked.

Oh for crying out loud. *Really?* "You think *now* is an appropriate time for this?" My voice squeaked a little, to my mortification.

Okay, so I had a habit of connecting people to their Hollywood look-alikes. And I'd never told Tanner who I thought his doppelganger was. But was this really the time?

Tanner's calm was unnatural. "I can't go to my grave not knowing what movie star you think I look like."

"I—" *Wait a minute.*

Something was fishy here. I mentally reviewed what Douglas had said ... and that I'd missed some of it. "Did he just give you the all clear?" I demanded.

Tanner's eyes widened into a picture of innocence, and my arm twitched as I quelled the urge to punch him.

"Hey, careful." His hand shot out to steady mine, and my heart tripped over another beat. "Your mother would kill me if I let you get blown to smithereens." He grinned. "And now that your Aunt Martha is buddy-buddy with that Malgucci mob guy," he went on, "your mom wouldn't even have to get her hands dirty. She could probably get Malgucci's *family* to do me in for free."

This time I did smack him.

Douglas pushed the panel open from the other side and held up the stack of C-4. "You're batting two for two, Tanner. Your Renoir was a forgery, and so's your bomb."

"I guess they hoped it would be enough to scare off any nosy parkers," Tanner said, and he must've felt me tremble because he wrapped an arm around me and gave me a brotherly jostle. "Hey, pull yourself together."

He radioed in the rest of his SWAT team. “We have a secret room to explore.”

The instant the musty smell from inside the wall reached my nostrils, memories assaulted me. Okay, I clearly hadn’t been thinking straight when I’d been ready to traipse into the narrow, windowless, suffocatingly stuffy stairwell that led to the attic’s hidden room.

Now that I’d come to my senses, I stepped back to let the SWAT team do their thing. I slipped outside to grab a breath of fresh air and escape the memories.

In the driveway, the drug dealer’s 1960s Corvette had been ruthlessly disassembled by agents who’d slapped the search warrant in his hand within minutes of his return from a Kansas car show. They’d recovered thirty kilos of cocaine hidden inside the body.

A good haul, but they’d been hoping for a lot more—drugs and cash.

Itching to know if they’d found anything in the attic, I headed back inside.

Tanner whistled from the secret passage’s opening. “Look what we found.” He held up a painting of a ballerina. “A Degas and enough cash to put you in Agent Dunn’s good books for a long time.”

I chuckled. Special Agent Dunn was with the drug task force and in charge of today’s search. “Good, never know when I might need a favor.”

Tanner set the painting down beside the forged Renoir I’d propped against the wall. “What are you doing?”

I accessed the FBI’s database of stolen art on my smartphone. “Combing through descriptions of missing Degases.”

Tanner peered at the forged Renoir. “How could you tell this was fake? I didn’t see you use a black light on it or anything.”

“We used to use black light to look for the fluorescing given off by new signatures added to old paintings. It makes them look like they float off the page.”

“Yeah, I knew it was something like that.”

I bit back a smile. “But nowadays, a good forger would use non-fluorescing paint or a masking varnish to counter the effect.”

“Okay, so how did you figure out it was fake?”

“The cracks. As canvas ages, the paint cracks.”

Tanner frowned at the forgery. “It has cracks.”

“Sure, but a naturally aged piece has random cracks. See these?” I pointed to the predominantly vertical cracks on the forgery. “Forgers, trying to duplicate the cracks, bake the finished piece, then roll it in

various directions. But the deepest cracks inevitably show up in the first direction the canvas is rolled."

Tanner peered more closely. "Huh."

A member of the evidence recovery team handed me Bubble-Wrap for the paintings, then slapped Tanner on the back with a chuckle. "He thought we'd scored a major coup."

"You find anything on the Degas?" Tanner asked, ignoring the friendly goading.

"Not yet." I quickly wrapped and labeled the paintings for transport. "I'll have to follow up on it tomorrow. I need to get to the drop-in center."

Tanner scooped up the leftover wrapping materials and followed me outside.

Yvonne, an agent working the search warrant and fellow movie buff, flagged me down. "I got that movie you wanted to borrow in my car." She hurried off.

"You should watch *Top Gun*," Tanner said.

"*Ha!* For the record, you look nothing like Tom Cruise. You have black hair and have got to be four inches taller than him."

"But good-looking, right?"

I rolled my eyes.

"What? You don't think Cruise is good-looking?"

I restrained a grin.

Yvonne returned with the movie before I'd finished loading the paintings.

Tanner took the DVD from her. "*How to Steal a Million*," he read aloud and chuckled. "The bureau not paying you enough?"

I plucked it from his hands. "I'll take that. Thank you, Yvonne!"

She waved, already heading back inside. "Anytime. Enjoy."

"A romantic comedy heist, huh?" Tanner went on. "At least it's not in black and white like the one you subjected me to when I was sick. I could probably endure it if we watched it over pizza."

"No need. I hadn't planned on subjecting you to it. Nate *wants* to watch it with me."

"Nate? Your *building superintendent* Nate?"

"That's right."

"He likes old movies?"

"Yes."

"That explains a lot," Tanner muttered under his breath.

"You have a problem with Nate?" If either of them should have a



problem with the other, it should be Nate with Tanner, considering Tanner had mistaken him for a prowler and practically dangled him off the landing outside my door at gunpoint.

Tanner raised his hands and backed away. “No, no problem. You can watch movies with whoever you like.”

My heart reenacted the crazy flip it had pulled when Tanner refused to leave my side during the bomb scare.

*And men wish women came with a manual.*

