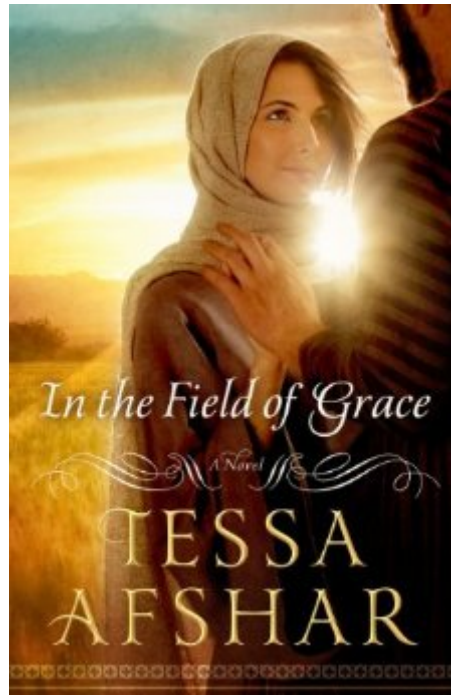


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# In The Field Of Grace



## Synopsis

Destitute, grief-stricken, and unwanted by the people of God, Ruth arrives in Israel with nothing to recommend her but Naomi's love. Her loftiest hope is to provide enough food to save Naomi and herself from starvation. But God has other plans for her life. While everyone considers Ruth an outcast, she is astounded to find one of the most honored men of Judah showing her favor. Long since a widower and determined to stay that way, Boaz is irresistibly drawn to the foreign woman with the haunted eyes. He tells himself he is only being kind to his cousin Naomi's chosen daughter when he goes out of his way to protect her from harm, but his heart knows better. Based on the biblical account of Ruth, *In the Field of Grace* is the story of a love that ultimately changes the course of Israel's destiny and the future of the whole world.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

*In the Field of Grace* drew me in with the very first sentence. This is a beautiful retelling of the story of Ruth and Boaz. I truly love reading historical fiction because it gives the reader a refreshing perspective of a story heard many times. This was no exception. This book was fantastic from cover to cover! I was already pretty excited about it after reading the summary and boy, it did not

disappoint! I love that it was told from both Ruthâ™s and Boazâ™s perspectives. Afshar did a great job in lining up with scripture throughout the entire story; as much as one can when writing Biblical Historical Fiction. I felt love, anger, desperation, and so much more as I went through this story with each character. I could not put this book down and would have finished it much quicker than the three days it took me if I had had the time. Ruth is such an amazing example to us in how to release everything in our lives to God, and this novel does excellently in making you truly understand this point. I also loved that each chapter started with a Bible verse that framed your mind perfectly for what you were about to read. I definitely give this book 5 out of 5 stars and recommend it to anyone who would like to read a refreshing take on the story of Ruth. I re-read the book of Ruth after I finished reading and it was so wonderful because I had a renewed excitement for reading a story that I had read at least a dozen times! I have a renewed fascination and love of the Book of Ruth. It is a story of love and trusting God with absolutely everything in our lives.\*I received a free copy of this book through NetGalley in exchange for my fair and honest review.

Marvelous!!!! Reading this book now. All I can say is...Tessa has done it again! She has a way of bringing biblical stories to life like no other. This is an amazing story of redemption and grace. God often takes us to the bottom in order to shape us and teach us to bring us closer to Him! My favorite quote so far: "If God spared us from the piercing shaft of every sorrow," she said, "we could never fulfill His best plans for our lives. Sometimes the sweetest things in life rise up out of the worst things in life."

It is amazing to me how this author always paints the most interesting, historically-accurate picture with such beautiful word-imagery. Throughout the intrigue that keeps me spellbound in this book, I discover that thread of grace... grace that I desperately need in my own modern, daily life... and grace that Ruth needed to receive so that her life's purpose could be fulfilled. And through this entire, lovely, real account of this ancient story, I see how my own Kinsmen Redeemer came to me. I'm still in such awe of the way Miss Afshar weaves the fabric of the story line, keeps me reading well into the night, and gives me pause for the wonderful "aha" moments in her novels which relate always, somehow, directly to me. In the midst of all of that depth, this novel contains some sorrow, a great deal of charm, driving interest and witty dialogue. I love looking into ancient lives and visiting their customs, remedies, fears, joys and yes, even vernacular. It's a big plus when the baseline of the story is historically accurate, too. The lives of these characters have depth and thoughtful purpose... now that I have finished the book, I am sure to miss them. The story is based on the

Biblical account of Ruth. I had always, always wondered what the significance was of Ruth going to the threshing floor. I never understood why it was such a risk for Ruth or why it made her a Biblical heroine. Now I know! Mystery solved! This is a delightful and insightful read! I highly recommend it!

Tessa Afshar is one of my favorite authors! I've read *Pearl in the Sand*, *Harvest of Rubies*, and *Harvest of Gold* and absolutely loved them all. Needless to say, I was eagerly awaiting *In the Field of Grace*, and I was not disappointed!! I've read lots of Biblical novels - many of them about women - but I can't remember reading a full-length novel about Ruth. Afshar begins the novel with Ruth living in Moab, meeting her future mother-in-law Naomi, marrying Mahlon, and subsequently becoming a widow. I thought that the story would have started further along but I was pleasantly surprised that the author included this "back story" before Ruth and Naomi travel back to Judah. The author also includes her interpretation of Boaz's back story, which is obviously made up since it's not included in the Bible. But she didn't really diverge / contradict what we know from the Bible so I didn't have a problem with Boaz's story since it is a novel. (I didn't agree with Afshar's state of the dead sections but those were thankfully limited). I liked how the author dealt with Ruth's transition to life in Judah; being treated differently because she was a foreigner and a Moabitess to boot; and how the trials she faced polished her character and increased her faith. This book was thoroughly researched historically (i.e. the concept of a goel kinsman redeemer) and includes plenty of romance! It was very well-written, and I would recommend it to anyone who likes Biblical novels.

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