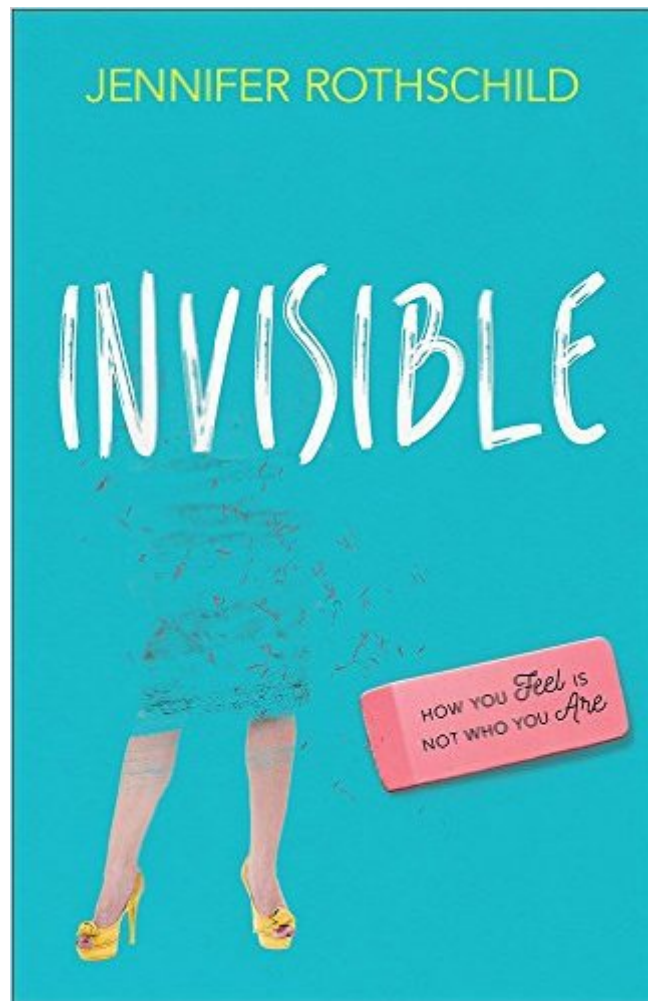


The book was found

Invisible: How You Feel Is Not Who You Are



Synopsis

Author Jennifer Rothschild has a story for you. It's about an unlikely couple, an unusual courtship, a beautiful wedding, and an illicit affair. Despite this situation, the marriage did not fail. It flourished. Here is the story of Hosea's love for Gomer—a woman who might have disappeared into her transgressions if not for the love of her husband. It's a beautiful illustration of the story of God and Israel. Believe it or not, it's your story too. God chose you and loves you. If you wander off, He will find you. If you are afraid, He will reassure you. If you are broken, He will restore you. If you are ashamed, He will cover you. If you give up on Him, He will not give up on you. No matter where you are, God sees who you are and loves you faithfully. Through the story of Hosea and Gomer, God tenderly reaches out to you and whispers, "My daughter, my name and nature are love. My name makes you lovely. Because I am worthy, I make you worthy. I am here to remind you of who you are. You are never invisible to me."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book uses the story of Gomer in the Biblical book of Hosea to share just how much God loves each of us. It begins with the idea that we all have characteristics that are similar to Gomer— "we are all deeply loved and we have been redeemed, but we still have tendencies to wander and let other things draw our focus away from the Lord. If you are familiar with Gomer's story, it might rile you to be compared to her as she was a woman of ill repute. When Hosea, a prominent priest, married her (because God told him to), I imagine it was quite a scandal. However, as the book points

out, God's love for us is also scandalous – "we are so unworthy, yet He loves us unconditionally! The book continues with Gomer's story and the truths that relate to our own lives: God loves me, and His love makes me lovely. I am loved because God is love. I am not the be-tolerated; I am the beloved! After a while, Gomer actually leaves Hosea and returns to her previous lifestyle. It's pretty unbelievable to think that she leaves the safety and security of Hosea's love, but this quote reminds me that we're all prone to think that the grass is greener on the other side. When we're stuck in the rut of sameness, we fail to notice that we already have everything we need. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and the lessons it shares, although I found the flow of reading slow due to the use of unusual or new words. For example, the author used the word "œidolotrinket" when discussing various things we turn into idols in our lives. Honestly, this is a catchy phrase, but to me it was overused throughout several chapters that would have read much smoother if these things would have just been called idols.

The books of the Old Testament can be somewhat challenging because we don't always understand the language or nuances that are present within the Hebrew culture. The book of Hosea is one of those Old Testament books. In her book, *Invisible*, Jennifer Rothschild tells the story of Gomer and Hosea as you've never heard before – and with a contemporary spin. She makes practical application for the reader as she places the events of the biblical book of Hosea within a modern day story, perhaps even at your church, to easily see yourself and your own wandering heart. She makes Gomer relatable, by adding a dimension to our understanding of what drives her. And, squirmingly, what drives our hearts as well. She understands that the Bible teaches much through the names of people in its stories. God does not waste any ink as He teaches us through these names. From a clearer understanding of the meanings, much can be understood about the events of Gomer's life and the shaping of the "œidentity" that the world gave her prior to what we read in the pages of the book of Hosea. Jennifer ushers you into the story by her own candid admission of looking for satisfaction and acceptance, looking for an identity within this world's kingdom rather than the Kingdom of God, her loving Father. She states that we seek acceptance from other lovers to discover and validate who we are. We err because we do not internalize God's love for us. God's love is what makes us lovely and valuable. We don't accept that God has accepted us. We don't put the incredible value in this that it is worth. And because of this we wander, seeking to find what is already ours.

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