

Faith A Story Of Unlikely Heroes In A Grim World The Katana Chronicles Book 1

Saffron Cross
Freeing God's Children
Unlikely Angel
Faith On The March
Unfollowers
101 Amazing Stories of Hope and Faith
The Lucky Few
The Characters of Christmas
Job - Leader
Kit
If You Only Knew
Lessons on Faith
Beautifully Broken
Proud
Have a Little Faith
How's Your Faith?
Bad Faith
Soul Survivor
For All Who Hunger
Stories of the Supernatural
Not by Sight
Finding God in the Waves
Radical Reinvention
The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert
Faith Versus Fact
Unlikely Pilgrim
Into the Deep
Unlikely Converts
Columbine
The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry
Unlikely Heroes: Ordinary People with Extraordinary Faith
Consider the Women
Faith
Twelve Unlikely Heroes
The Book of Amazing Stories
Riley
Unlikely
Lovie
The Road Trip that Changed the World
Job - Bible Study Book
The Unlikely Disciple
The One Year Book of Amazing Stories

Saffron Cross

Faith is the first book in the exciting new series, The Katana Chronicles. Set in a sleepy New England town, Faith follows the adventures of Gerald and Rachael as they navigate the challenges of life in an oppressive world. It's 2030, and as the economy and society started to break down, Governments did everything they could to tape things back together. In a world

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where crime is rampant and law enforcement is corrupt and overwhelmed, everyone has to find a way to keep themselves safe. For most, that means hiding at home, being selective about their daytime-only trips to work, visit others, or go to the grocery store. But problems don't only come at night, and those out at night aren't only criminals. For Gerald, Rachael, and those they love, this is the world they live in. Life was difficult before all of the changes that took place, but now it's even harder. The promises of help came, but it's barely enough to survive. For some, survival is the only priority while others demand more. Those who spend their efforts carving out something to call their own in this landscape either do so through corruption or in defiance of it. Guns, currency, taxes, rationing, crime, media, and communication have all changed from the ways they were. Draconian laws, increased responsibility on citizens, and centralization of authority have complicated the lives of everyone in the country. Not everyone wishes things would go back to the way they were, though. Some have found opportunities in the new normal and they've worked hard to take advantage. Most of those do so at the expense of others, and the fewer their scruples, the more successful they can become. Not everyone is willing to let it happen, though. There are those who fight back, figuratively, and literally, refusing to let the world roll over them and those they care about. Gerald and Rachael are two of that kind, and this is a story of how they fight back.

Freeing God's Children

Emily Scott never planned on becoming a pastor. But when she started a church for misfits that met over dinner in Brooklyn, she discovered an unlikely calling--and an antidote to modern

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Loneliness. "I absolutely devoured this exquisitely written memoir."--Nadia Bolz-Weber, New York Times bestselling author of *Shameless* As founding pastor of St. Lydia's in Brooklyn, New York, where worship takes place over a meal, Emily M. D. Scott spent eight years ministering to a scrappy collective of people with different backgrounds, incomes, and levels of social skills. Each week they broke bread, sang hymns, made halting conversation with strangers, then did the dishes. But in a city where everyone lives on top of one another yet everyone is lonely, these gatherings filled a longing that most people--even Scott--didn't realize they felt. With tenderness and humor, Scott weaves stories and reflections from the life of her unlikely congregation. Recalling her journey as a single woman and a pastor looking for love and friendship in a city of millions, she discovers how small acts of connection hold more power than we realize in a time when our differences are being weaponized, and creates activism and justice work fueled by empathy and relationship. For *All Who Hunger* articulates the value of church as a place where people can hear not only that they are loved but that they are good. When members of Scott's congregation build relationships with their neighbors in one of the world's most unequal cities, they find courage and resources to begin working for a more just world. For *All Who Hunger* is a story about a God whose love has no limits and a faith that opens our eyes to the truth. There's a place for you at the table.

Unlikely Angel

Two middle-aged men, fast friends, make eleven foreign trips--pilgrimages you might call them --to parts of the world rich in the history of Christianity. The trips combine adventure, strenuous

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physical activity, exhilaration, discovery, and friendship. Three of the journeys were to Western Europe; six were to Eastern Europe and the Balkans and two to the Middle East. The trips were spontaneous and unplanned, often requiring improvisation along the way. Told in a lighthearted and often amusing style, *An Unlikely Pilgrim* provides a vivid and colorful picture of parts of the world often out of the range of American tourists, but deep in both ancient and current geopolitical, historical, and cultural wealth.

Faith On The March

THE FIRST FEMALE MUSLIM AMERICAN TO MEDAL AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES NAMED ONE OF TIME'S 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE Growing up in New Jersey as the only African American Muslim at school, Ibtihaj Muhammad always had to find her own way. When she discovered fencing, a sport traditionally reserved for the wealthy, she had to defy expectations and make a place for herself in a sport she grew to love. From winning state championships to three-time All-America selections at Duke University, Ibtihaj was poised for success, but the fencing community wasn't ready to welcome her with open arms just yet. As the only woman of color and the only religious minority on Team USA's saber fencing squad, Ibtihaj had to chart her own path to success and Olympic glory. *Proud* is a moving coming-of-age story from one of the nation's most influential athletes and illustrates how she rose above it all.

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Unfollowers

Given unprecedented insider access, author Allen D. Hertzke charts the rise of the new faith-based movement for global human rights and tells the compelling story of the personalities and forces, clashes and compromises, strategies and protests that shape it. In doing so, Hertzke shows that by raising issues_such as global religious persecution, Sudanese atrocities, North Korean gulags, and sex trafficking_the movement is impacting foreign policy around the world.

101 Amazing Stories of Hope and Faith

In this 7-session study, discover the redemptive facet of Job's suffering. Learn to view pain as a way to strengthen your faith, point others to the gospel, and trust in the Lord. Because His providence will never take you to a place where His grace will not sustain you.

The Lucky Few

A timely and compelling new look at three key women in the biblical narrative Among the mostly male-dominated narratives in Scripture, the stories of women can be game-changing. In this book Debbie Blue looks closely at Hagar (mother of Islam), Esther (Jewish heroine), and Mary (Christian matriarch)—and finds in them unexpected and inviting new ways of navigating faith and life. As she sets out to explore these biblical characters who live and move in places

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and ways outside of the strict boundaries of tradition, Blue encounters many real life characters who challenge her expectations and renew her hope—a Muslim tattoo artist, a Saudi Arabian sculptor, a rabbi in a Darth Vader costume, Aztec dancers at a feast of Guadalupe, an Islamic feminist scholar, and more. Readers who embark with Blue on the sometimes unorthodox, subversive paths of these curious and lively figures will be led to envision more expansive and hopeful possibilities for faith, human connection, and love in our divided, violent world.

The Characters of Christmas

As you read *Healing Hidden Hurts*, the simplistic message of forgiveness becomes relevant. Your total healing and restoration is possible! Prior hurts and unjustified wounds that scarred you mentally and kept you bound in personal prisons are finally released to reveal the true inner beauty and wholeness that you were created for. Lasting inner peace is possible. Complete wholeness and healing can be yours as you learn these simple and easy steps to applying forgiveness. Don't hide or bandage your pain any longer. It's time for you to be as whole, free and healed as Jesus died to make you.

Job - Leader Kit

Expanded Edition

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If You Only Knew

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • LONGLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE • NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY THE WASHINGTON POST “[Rachel] Joyce’s beguiling debut is [a] modest-seeming story of ‘ordinary’ English lives that enthralls and moves you as it unfolds.”—People (four stars) Meet Harold Fry, recently retired. He lives in a small English village with his wife, Maureen, who seems irritated by almost everything he does. Little differentiates one day from the next. Then one morning a letter arrives, addressed to Harold in a shaky scrawl, from a woman he hasn’t heard from in twenty years. Queenie Hennessy is in hospice and is writing to say goodbye. But before Harold mails off a quick reply, a chance encounter convinces him that he absolutely must deliver his message to Queenie in person. In his yachting shoes and light coat, Harold Fry embarks on an urgent quest. Determined to walk six hundred miles to the hospice, Harold believes that as long as he walks, Queenie will live. A novel of charm, humor, and profound insight into the thoughts and feelings we all bury deep within our hearts, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* introduces Rachel Joyce as a wise—and utterly irresistible—storyteller. Praise for *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* “[A] gorgeously poignant novel of hope and transformation.”—O: The Oprah Magazine “A cause for celebration . . . [Joyce] has a lovely sense of the possibilities of redemption. In this bravely unpretentious and unsentimental take, she’s cleared space where miracles are still possible.”—Ron Charles, *The Washington Post* “*The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* is not just a book about lost love. It is about all the wonderful everyday things Harold discovers through the mere process of putting one foot in front of the other.”—Janet

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Maslin, The New York Times Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more.

Lessons on Faith

"'Science Mike' draws on his personal experience to tell the unlikely story of how science led him back to faith. Among other revelations, we learn what brain scans reveal about what happens when we pray, how fundamentalism affects the psyche, and how God is revealed not only in scripture, but in the night sky, in subatomic particles, and in us"--Dust jacket flap.

Beautifully Broken

When Jesus said, "Suffer the children," faith healing is not what he had in mind

Proud

You may have thought you knew the lives of famous people—such as Martin Luther King Jr., Howard Hughes, Mother Teresa, Muhammad Ali, Ronald Reagan, Susana Wesley, and many more. But, in *The Book of Amazing Stories*, you'll know so much more about Ronnie's faithful church-going single mom and William's early days as a humble shoemaker's apprentice. You'll marvel at how God used the lives of these ordinary people to change the course of human

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history. Life makes the strangest sharp turns and, sometimes, U-turns. Robert Petterson—popular speaker, storyteller, and author—has been a student for his entire life of what God is teaching us through those real-life U-turns. In this book, he compiles 90 amazing stories that teach lessons you won't easily forget. Each devotional ends with a compelling thought about life and God. Be amazed. Be encouraged. Learn the lessons God is teaching through people's lives.

Have a Little Faith

"Join former NBC newsman and Meet the Press moderator David Gregory as he probes various religious traditions to better understand his own faith and answer life's most important questions: who do we want to be and what do we believe? While David was covering the White House, he had the unusual experience of being asked by President George W. Bush "How's your faith?" David's answer was just emerging. Raised by a Catholic mother and a Jewish dad, he had a strong sense of Jewish cultural and ethnic identity, but no real belief--until his marriage to a Protestant woman of strong faith inspired him to explore his spirituality for himself and his growing family. David's journey has taken him inside Christian mega-churches and into the heart of Orthodox Judaism. He's gone deep into Bible study and asked tough questions of America's most thoughtful religious leaders, including evangelical preacher Joel Osteen and Cardinal Timothy Dolan, the Catholic Archbishop of New York. It has brought him back to his childhood, where belief in God might have helped him through his mother's struggle with alcoholism, and through a difficult period of public scrutiny and his departure from NBC

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News, which saw his faith tested like never before. David approaches his faith with the curiosity and dedication you would expect from a journalist accustomed to holding politicians and Presidents accountable. But he also comes as a seeker, one just discovering why spiritual journeys are always worthwhile"--

How's Your Faith?

In *Unfollowers*, Derek Cooper and Ed Cyzewski ask: What can today's followers of Jesus learn from the dropouts, detractors, and doubters in the gospels? The "unfollowers" map out common obstacles for Christians today, offer a fresh perspective on the disciples of Jesus, and reveal the alluring counterfeit paths that tempt followers of Jesus today. FREE Sermon Notes and Small Group Study Guide downloads available.

Bad Faith

In April 2005, Ashley Smith made headlines around the globe when she miraculously talked her way out of the hands of alleged courthouse killer Brian Nichols after he took her hostage for seven hours in her suburban Atlanta apartment. In this moving, inspirational memoir, the 26-year-old widowed mother of a six-year-old girl shares for the first time the little-known details of her traumatic ordeal, and expands on how her faith and the bestselling book *The Purpose-Driven « Life* helped her survive and bring the killer's murderous rampage to a

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peaceful end. Just as she told her 6'1", 210-pound captor that his ultimate "purpose" in life was to end up spending the rest of his life in prison, preaching the teachings of Jesus Christ to his fellow inmates, Smith believes her own purpose is to spread that message of love to the rest of us. Juxtaposing the minute-by-minute tale of her experience with the never-before-told tragedies and triumphs of her own life, Unlikely Angel is a gripping tale of downfall and redemption, involving addiction, violence, death, loss, faith, and love. It is a story that will leave no reader untouched.

Soul Survivor

In this 7-session study, discover the redemptive facet of Job's suffering. Learn to view pain as a way to strengthen your faith, point others to the gospel, and trust in the Lord. Because His providence will never take you to a place where His grace will not sustain you.

For All Who Hunger

This is a compilation of articles and sermons given in the 1890's by Jones and Waggoner on Righteousness by Faith. A popular best seller for years, this is one of the finest books on victorious Christian living available. It gives the "how-to" of overcoming, and explains many hard-to-understand passages in the Book of Galatians. Find out firsthand what the 1888 message really is!

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Stories of the Supernatural

Rely on the unstoppable power of the gospel, not your own words Most Christians have people in their lives who they're sure will never come to faith. Whether they're too committed to their sinful ways, too angry at God, or too quick to shut down any mention of the saving grace of Jesus, these long shots don't seem worth approaching. But some of the most unlikely converts have the strongest faith stories, and they can be a source of incredible encouragement for Christians who are trying to evangelize those around them. Randy Newman knows firsthand the discomfort that comes with sharing the gospel. He's been tongue-tied and timid too. But the truth is, we don't need to sound like the brilliant, charismatic, legendary evangelists. In this book, Randy shares surprising conversion stories straight from those who took the long way around to Christianity. He considers current cultural trends that make evangelism more difficult today. Then with his characteristic upbeat style, he offers practical ways, and even exact wording, to proclaim the gospel and includes a plan of action. In the end, *Unlikely Converts* encourages us to remember that while the Great Commission requires us to share the good news, it does not require perfection, only confidence in the message.

Not by Sight

Riley Unlikely is the inspiring story of Riley Banks, who first traveled to Kenya at age 13, and has been back every year since bringing backpacks of school supplies and hygiene kits for

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young girls, developing relationships and friendships, and is currently, as a young millennial, raising money to build a complete learning complex in Kibwezi, Kenya for those who have nothing. At age sixteen Riley learned that, because of a rare medical condition, she would never be able to have her own children. Devastating news to most young women, especially those who love children and have always dreamed of having their own family. But Riley's response was: Kenya has given me a thousand children. Riley's stories of her trips to Kenya, her struggles to figure out how to best serve and care for these people she has fallen in love with, and her own unexpected health issues are funny, compelling and gripping. Readers will find that God writes surprising stories in the lives of those who follow Him. Hard to put down, Riley Unlikely will inspire you to pursue your dreams and make a difference in your own world—and around the world.

Finding God in the Waves

Is it possible for broken, ill-equipped, faltering, or average people to merit God's highest commendation? For him to say they lived "by faith"? Yes, it is. In *Unlikely Heroes: Ordinary People with Extraordinary Faith*, Daniel R. Lockwood presents a cast of Old Testament characters from Hebrews 11—seriously flawed people with stories that teach us about genuine, biblical faith. Biblical insights, historical significance, and engaging storytelling carry readers across generations of faith into the adventure that is ours today, with guidance for traveling wisely and courageously. So strap on your dusty sandals, shoulder your trail-worn knapsack, pick up your reliable walking stick, and get ready to travel in the footsteps of some remarkably

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unremarkable individuals. You will meet people whom God himself calls faithful and discover they are people like us!

Radical Reinvention

As someone who clocked more time in mosh pits and at pro – choice rallies than kneeling in a pew, Kaya Oakes was not necessarily the kind of Catholic girl the Vatican was after. But even while she immersed herself in the punk rock scene and proudly called herself an atheist, something kept pulling her back to the religion of her Irish roots. After running away from the Church for thirty years, Kaya decides to return. Her marriage is under stress, her job is no longer satisfying, and with multiple deaths in her family, a darkness looms large. In spite of her frustration with Catholic conservatism, nothing brings her peace like Mass. After years of searching to no avail for a better religious fit, she realizes that the only way to find harmony—in her faith and her personal life—is to confront the Church she'd left behind. Rebellious and hypercritical, Kaya relearns the catechisms and achieves the sacraments, all while trying to reconcile her liberal beliefs with contemporary Church philosophy. Along the way she meets a group of feisty feminist nuns, a "pray – and – bitch" circle, an all – too handsome Italian priest, and a motley crew of misfits doing their best to find their voices in an outdated institution. This is a story of transformation, not only of Kaya's from ex – Catholic to amateur theologian, but ultimately of the cultural and ethical pushes for change that are rocking the world's largest religion to its core.

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The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert

What kind of people does God use to accomplish His work? Far from the children's tales depicted in picture books and nursery rhymes, the men and women highlighted in the Bible were unnervingly real. They faltered. They struggled. And at times, they fell short. Yet God worked through them in surprising and incredible ways to accomplish His purposes. Scripture does not hide their weaknesses, caricature their strengths, or spin their stories as a display of human nobility. Instead, it describes these heroes of the faith with unflinching honesty and delivers an unexpected ending: "God is not ashamed to be called their God" (Hebrews 11:16). In *Twelve Unlikely Heroes*, pastor and best-selling author John MacArthur uses his deep knowledge of the Bible and history to take us back to see these three-dimensional men and women in their own times and cultures. In doing so, it becomes clear how their dramatic stories apply to us today. People who might at first seem foreign quickly become familiar and unforgettable—particularly as they reveal the true Hero behind every witness, the power counterbalancing every weakness, "the Author and Finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:1).

Faith Versus Fact

Ten years in the works, a masterpiece of reportage, this is the definitive account of the Columbine massacre, its aftermath, and its significance, from the acclaimed journalist who followed the story from the outset. "The tragedies keep coming. As we reel from the latest

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horror . . ." So begins a new epilogue, illustrating how Columbine became the template for nearly two decades of "spectacle murders." It is a false script, seized upon by a generation of new killers. In the wake of Newtown, Aurora, and Virginia Tech, the imperative to understand the crime that sparked this plague grows more urgent every year. What really happened April 20, 1999? The horror left an indelible stamp on the American psyche, but most of what we "know" is wrong. It wasn't about jocks, Goths, or the Trench Coat Mafia. Dave Cullen was one of the first reporters on scene, and spent ten years on this book—widely recognized as the definitive account. With a keen investigative eye and psychological acumen, he draws on mountains of evidence, insight from the world's leading forensic psychologists, and the killers' own words and drawings—several reproduced in a new appendix. Cullen paints raw portraits of two polar opposite killers. They contrast starkly with the flashes of resilience and redemption among the survivors. Expanded with a New Epilogue

Unlikely Pilgrim

Learn Something New This Christmas We hate to admit it, but after years, sometimes even decades, of reading the same Luke 2 story of Christmas, we get a little bored—we lose some of the awe we ought to have when discussing the greatest miracle in history. That's why *The Characters of Christmas* was written, to help you take a fresh look at the Christmas story by getting to know the minor characters that played a part in Jesus' birth, such as Zechariah and Elizabeth, the Shepherds, and Herod. As you slow down, engage your imagination, and enter into the stories of these women and men, you'll see the most important character—Jesus

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Christ—with new eyes. And with discussion questions and a Christmas song suggestion at the end of each chapter, it's perfect for engaging your whole family. Break free from the familiar, and discover something you never knew about the story you've always heard.

Into the Deep

Restore your faith in love and family with one Army wife's courageous story of how she helped her husband recuperate from losing both of his legs while serving in Afghanistan. Paige received the phone call that every military wife prays will never come. Her husband, Army Sergeant Josh Wetzel, stepped on an improvised explosive device while patrolling in Afghanistan. The blast resulted in the immediate loss of his legs. His survival was uncertain, and in the days to come, this traumatic incident began an unbelievable journey of faith for them as a couple. Paige's vulnerability as she struggles physically, emotionally, and spiritually, will remind you of the power of commitment and love in the face of adversity. You will discover the bravery and grit of a woman who stood behind the battle lines but faced a battle of her own to save her marriage and her family. As a military wife, Paige had to come to terms with the priorities of the military: God, Country, and then Family.

Unlikely Converts

Into the Deep traces one woman's spiritual odyssey from birthright evangelicalism through

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postmodern feminism and, ultimately, into the Roman Catholic Church. As a college student, Abigail Favale experienced a feminist awakening that reshaped her life and faith. A decade later, on the verge of atheism, she found herself entering the oldest male-helmed institution on the planet--the last place she expected to be. With humor and insight, the author describes her gradual exodus from Christian orthodoxy and surprising swerve into Catholicism. She writes candidly about grappling with wounds from her past, Catholic sexual morality, the male priesthood, and an interfaith marriage. Her vivid prose brings to life the wrenching tumult of conversion--a conversion that began after she entered the Church and began to pry open its mysteries. There, she discovered the startling beauty of a sacramental cosmos, a vision of reality that upended her notions of gender, sexuality, identity, and authority. *Into the Deep* is a thoroughly twenty-first-century conversion, a compelling account of recovering an ancient faith after a decade of doubt.

Columbine

Can't find no satisfaction? There's no shortage of prescriptions for restlessness out there: Seek adventure. Live your life. Don't hold back. Sound familiar? *The Road Trip that Changed the World* is a book challenging the contemporary conviction that personal freedom and self-fulfillment are the highest good. Like the characters in a Jack Kerouac novel, we've dirtied the dream of white picket fences with exhaust fumes. The new dream is the open road—and freedom. Yet we still desire the solace of faith. We like the concept of the sacred, but unwittingly subscribe to secularized, westernized spirituality. We're convinced that there is a

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deeper plot to this thing called life, yet watered-down, therapeutic forms of religion are all we choose to swallow, and our personal story trumps any larger narrative. This is the non-committal culture of the road. Though driving on freely, we have forgotten where we're headed. Jesus said His road is narrow. He wasn't some aimless nomad. He had more than just a half tank of gas—He had passion, objectives, and a destination. Do you?

The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

The best-selling author of *Why Evolution Is True* discusses the negative role of religion in education, politics, medicine and social policy, explaining how religion cannot provide verifiable or responsible answers to world problems.

Unlikely Heroes: Ordinary People with Extraordinary Faith

These are the faces that call me “mom,” the three children who made me a mother. When I started my journey into parenthood I never thought it would look like this. I never planned on having three adopted children, and I certainly never imagined that two of them would have Down syndrome. But like most of the things God does, once we stepped into the craziness and confusion of the unknown and unplanned, we quickly realized that we were indeed among the lucky few. When my husband and I decided to grow our family ten years ago, we were surprised to find that getting pregnant was not as easy as we had thought it would be. And as

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we navigated the ups and downs of infertility, God led us down the path of adoption. Of course, we would adopt! Not what we had originally planned, but certainly a wonderful option. But just as we began to get a comfortable grasp on growing our family through adoption, God introduced us to Macyn Hope, a very sick little girl with Down syndrome who desperately needed a family. As we continued to follow God's calling, first with Macyn, and later with Truly and then August, we found ourselves further and further from the comfortable paths we thought our lives would take, and instead moving down some very scary, and often painful roads. Even though at times His plan seemed terrifying and even downright foolish, little could we have known how much goodness, blessing, and joy would flow out of loving these three little people He's put into our lives. No, it's not been easy: not the open-heart surgeries or the challenges of raising two children with Down syndrome or the complexities of dealing with birth-families or the struggles we've had with the public education system. But through it all, every new and uncomfortable situation has only proven to be another chance to see how very good God's plan is for our lives and how downright lucky we are to be able to live it out. It's only the lucky few that recognize that the most beautiful things in this life are often found in the differences. What some would see as misfortune, I've learned to see as nothing more than pure luck.

Consider the Women

You wouldn't believe it, but . . . James Earl Jones, the voice of Darth Vader, grew up mute. Michael Jordan was cut from his high school basketball team. Albert Einstein was bullied

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mercilessly in school. Beethoven's mom almost aborted him. Life takes the strangest sharp turns—and sometimes, U-turns. Robert Petterson—popular speaker, storyteller, and author—has been a student for his entire life of what God is teaching us through those real-life U-turns. In this short book, he compiles amazing stories that teach lessons you won't easily forget. Each entry is written in the rest-of-the-story style popularized by Paul Harvey. Marvel at how God has used the lives of these ordinary people to change the course of human history. (Adapted from The One Year Book of Amazing Stories)

Faith

ECPA 2020 Christian Book Award Finalist! You wouldn't believe it, but . . . James Earl Jones, the voice of Darth Vader, grew up mute. Michael Jordan was cut from his high school basketball team. Albert Einstein was bullied mercilessly in school. Beethoven's mom almost aborted him. Life takes the strangest sharp turns—and sometimes, U-turns. Robert Petterson—popular speaker, storyteller, and author—has been a student for his entire life of what God is teaching us through those real-life U-turns. In this book, he compiles 365 amazing stories that teach lessons you won't easily forget. Each entry is written in the rest-of-the-story style popularized by Paul Harvey. With The One Year Book of Amazing Stories, you'll marvel at how God has used the lives of these ordinary people to change the course of human history.

Twelve Unlikely Heroes

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From 1950 until 2001, Lovie Beard Shelton practiced midwifery in eastern North Carolina homes, delivering some 4,000 babies to black, white, Mennonite, and hippie women; to those too poor to afford a hospital birth; and to a few rich enough to have any kind of delivery they pleased. Her life, which was about giving life, was conspicuously marked by loss, including the untimely death of her husband and the murder of her son. Lovie is a provocative chronicle of Shelton's life and work, which spanned enormous changes in midwifery and in the ways women give birth. In this artful exploration of documentary fieldwork, Lisa Yarger confronts the choices involved in producing an authentic portrait of a woman who is at once loner and self-styled folk hero. Fully embracing the difficulties of telling a true story, Yarger is able to get at the story of telling the story. As Lovie describes her calling, we meet a woman who sees herself working in partnership with God and who must wrestle with the question of what happens when a woman who has devoted her life to service, to doing God's work, ages out of usefulness. When I'm no longer a midwife, who am I? Facing retirement and a host of health issues, Lovie attempts to fit together the jagged pieces of her life as she prepares for one final home birth.

The Book of Amazing Stories

A Christian minister and a Hindu monk fall in love and get married. How does this interfaith relationship work? Saffron Cross is the intriguing memoir of the relationship between Dana, a Baptist minister, and Fred, a devout Hindu and former monk. The two meet on eHarmony and begin a fascinating, sometimes daunting but ultimately inspiring journey of interfaith

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relationship and marriage. Dana's compelling vignettes, laced with self-deprecating humor and refreshing honesty, give you a glimpse into the challenges and benefits of bringing together two vastly different spiritual paths into one household. Saffron Cross includes chapters on Dana and Fred's honeymoon at an ashram in India, their individual spiritual journeys, Sabbath keeping, vegetarianism, grief, community, and more. You will sense what an adventure their East-meets-West partnership has been, and you'll also see how much Fred's commitment to his faith has enhanced Dana's Christian growth. At a time when we are inundated with messages of intolerance and hate, Saffron Cross offers a welcome and inspiring story of empathy, love, and understanding.

Riley Unlikely

Trusting Jesus is hard. It requires following the unseen into an unknown, and believing Jesus's words over and against the threats we see or the fears we feel. Through the imaginative retelling of 35 Bible stories, Not by Sight gives us glimpses of what it means to walk by faith and counsel for how to trust God's promises more than our perceptions and to find rest in the faithfulness of God.

Lovie

What if our beliefs were not what divided us, but what pulled us together In Have a Little Faith,

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Mitch Albom offers a beautifully written story of a remarkable eight-year journey between two worlds--two men, two faiths, two communities--that will inspire readers everywhere. Albom's first nonfiction book since Tuesdays with Morrie, *Have a Little Faith* begins with an unusual request: an eighty-two-year-old rabbi from Albom's old hometown asks him to deliver his eulogy. Feeling unworthy, Albom insists on understanding the man better, which throws him back into a world of faith he'd left years ago. Meanwhile, closer to his current home, Albom becomes involved with a Detroit pastor--a reformed drug dealer and convict--who preaches to the poor and homeless in a decaying church with a hole in its roof. Moving between their worlds, Christian and Jewish, African-American and white, impoverished and well-to-do, Albom observes how these very different men employ faith similarly in fighting for survival: the older, suburban rabbi embracing it as death approaches; the younger, inner-city pastor relying on it to keep himself and his church afloat. As America struggles with hard times and people turn more to their beliefs, Albom and the two men of God explore issues that perplex modern man: how to endure when difficult things happen; what heaven is; intermarriage; forgiveness; doubting God; and the importance of faith in trying times. Although the texts, prayers, and histories are different, Albom begins to recognize a striking unity between the two worlds--and indeed, between beliefs everywhere. In the end, as the rabbi nears death and a harsh winter threatens the pastor's wobbly church, Albom sadly fulfills the rabbi's last request and writes the eulogy. And he finally understands what both men had been teaching all along: the profound comfort of believing in something bigger than yourself. *Have a Little Faith* is a book about a life's purpose; about losing belief and finding it again; about the divine spark inside us all. It is one man's journey, but it is everyone's story. Ten percent of the profits from this book will go to charity,

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including The Hole In The Roof Foundation, which helps refurbish places of worship that aid the homeless.

The Road Trip that Changed the World

What if you knew all the moments of my past that I am not proud of? What if you really knew me, the messy parts that I've hoped to forget and worked hard to conceal? For so long, my greatest fear was what you might think of me if you only knew the whole story. It's exhausting, this guarding of our stories and struggles. Fear of being found out had caused me to hide—but I wasn't just covering my flaws, I was unintentionally blocking the beauty of God's grace. My journey to real freedom began when I quit running from my mess and started trusting Jesus to make something beautiful of it. This book is that story. It's stepping out of shame and insecurity into gospel freedom. It's letting God turn our failures and frailties into testimonies of His faithfulness. I've discovered that when we quit hiding, God gets the glory and we are able to fully embrace not only our relationship with Him, but also with one another. Transparency brings freedom, and in every moment, we'll find that God can absolutely be trusted.

Job - Bible Study Book

"How did Yancey manage to survive spiritually despite early encounters with a racist, legalistic church that he now views as almost cultic? In this, his most soul-searching book yet, he probes

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that very question. He tells the story of his own struggle to reclaim belief, interwoven with inspiring portraits of notable people from all walks of life, whom he calls his spiritual directors. Soul Survivor is his tribute to thirteen remarkable individuals, mentors who transformed his life and work"--Publisher website (November 2006).

The Unlikely Disciple

The hilarious and heartwarming, respectful and thought-provoking memoir of a college student's semester at Liberty University, the "Bible Boot Camp" for young evangelicals, that will inspire believers and nonbelievers alike. No drinking. No smoking. No cursing. No dancing. No R-rated movies. Kevin Roose wasn't used to rules like these. As a sophomore at Brown University, he spent his days fitting right in with Brown's free-spirited, ultra-liberal student body. But when Roose leaves his Ivy League confines to spend a semester at Liberty University, a conservative Baptist school in Lynchburg, Virginia, obedience is no longer optional. Liberty is the late Reverend Jerry Falwell's "Bible Boot Camp" for young evangelicals, his training ground for the next generation of America's Religious Right. Liberty's ten thousand undergraduates take courses like Evangelism 101 and follow a forty-six-page code of conduct that regulates every aspect of their social lives. Hoping to connect with his evangelical peers, Roose decides to enroll at Liberty as a new transfer student, chronicling his adventures in this daring report from the front lines of America's culture war. His journey takes him from an evangelical hip-hop concert to a spring break mission trip to Daytona Beach (where he learns to preach the gospel to partying coeds). He meets pastors' kids, closet doubters, Christian rebels, and conducts

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what would be the last print interview of Rev. Falwell's life.

The One Year Book of Amazing Stories

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