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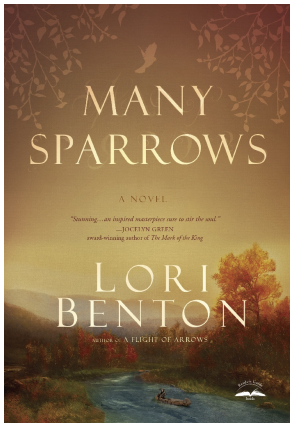


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PRESS RELEASE

In God's eyes, we are of equal and priceless value

Lori Benton's Many Sparrows reminds readers of God's power and perfect timing



Seattle: Understanding why some things happen the way they do is impossible, but as Christians, we must remember God is in control and His timing is perfect. His purposes are deeper and broader than we can imagine. These are lessons Clare Inglesby must learn in award-winning author Lori Benton's latest historical novel, *Many Sparrows* (WaterBrook/August 29, 2017/ISBN 978-1601429940/\$15.99).

Set in 1774 and based on historical facts, *Many Sparrows* depicts the harrowing account of a young mother who will stop at nothing to find and reclaim her son after he is taken by a native tribe. Clare Inglesby, a settler of the Ohio-Kentucky frontier, finds herself in a perilous situation when an accident forces her husband to leave her alone on a remote mountain trail with their four-year-old son, Jacob. Her precarious circumstances only intensify when Jacob is taken by the Shawnee under the cover of darkness. Clare awakens the next morning to find herself utterly alone and in labor.

Clare will face the greatest fight of her life as she struggles to reclaim her son from the Shawnee Indians now holding him captive. However, with the battle lines sharply drawn following a conflict between the Shawnee and new settlers, Jacob's life might not be the only one at stake.

Frontiersman and adopted Shawnee Jeremiah Ring comes to Clare's aid and promises to help her recover her son. However, his deep familial connection to the Shawnee makes his promise more complicated and the consequences more painful than either party could anticipate. Can Jeremiah convince Clare that recovering her son will require the very thing her anguished heart is unwilling to do — be still, wait and let God fight this battle for them?

Benton deftly handles the moral complexity of the two ways of life that clashed against each other as colonists encroached upon Native American territories on the Ohio-Kentucky border. "I was inspired to write it by my research into the 18th century and also by what God's been doing in my own heart in recent years," Benton shares. "I hope to convey [in *Many Sparrows*] a picture of what it means not to rely on our own understanding and strength, but wait on the Lord to work on our behalf."

According to Benton, the title of *Many Sparrows* has several meanings. "It's taken from Matthew 10:29-31, 'Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And not one of them shall fall on the ground without your Father. . . . Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows,'" she explains. "The title speaks to the theme of God's vigilance in our lives and His constant care for us, as well as the fact we are linked to one another. In God's eyes we are of equal and priceless value — far more than many sparrows, each and every one."

For more on *Many Sparrows*, visit www.waterbrookmultnomah.com.

Advance Praise

"Stunning. *Many Sparrows* is everything I want in a book: settings that spring to life, characters I love, rich historical context, heart-wrenching drama, timeless spiritual insights and prose that reads like poetry. Lori Benton handles the conflicted 18th century with sensitivity in this tender tale of hope and fear, faith and doubt, loss and new life. Truly, this is an inspired masterpiece sure to stir the soul."

~ Jocelyn Green, award-winning author of *The Mark of the King*

"Intense. Enlightening. Lustrous. *Many Sparrows* is a lesson in early American history wrapped up in a beautiful romance, one not only of the human heart but of God's heart for His creation. I cherished Clare and Jeremiah's quietly blossoming love and deeply felt their struggle to trust and reach that painful yet unburdening place of surrender. Many sighs. And many thanks to the author."

~ Tamara Leigh, USA Today best-selling author of *The Vexing* and *Lady Betrayed*

About the Author



Lori Benton was raised east of the Appalachian Mountains, surrounded by early American history going back 300 years. Her novels transport readers to the 18th century, where she brings the Colonial and early Federal periods of American history to life.

She is the author of *Burning Sky* (recipient of three Christy Awards), *The Pursuit of Tamsen Littlejohn*, *The Wood's Edge* (a Christy nominee) and *A Flight of Arrows*. Her latest release is *Many Sparrows*.

When Benton isn't writing, reading or researching, she enjoys exploring the Oregon wilderness with her husband.

Learn more about Benton and her books at <http://loribenton.blogspot.com>. She is also active on [Facebook \(@AuthorLoriBenton\)](#), [Twitter \(@LLB26\)](#) and [Instagram \(@lorilbenton\)](#).

Suggested interview questions

- Have you always enjoyed studying history? What drew you to writing specifically about 18th-century America?
- What inspired the storyline for *Many Sparrows*? How much of the book is based on historical fact?
- Can you tell us about the research that went into writing this book?
- What do you hope readers learn about God's timing and His plans for us while reading *Many Sparrows*?
- Why is it difficult to surrender situations to God and rely on Him to resolve the circumstances?
- Without giving away too much of the story, can you share where the title *Many Sparrows* comes from?
- There are many things we never learn in history class, and it seems as if students are taught less about history today than ever. What are some lessons from history during this time period that would be beneficial for us to know, especially from a cultural standpoint?
- It is well known that traveling west was a dangerous endeavor, and many lost their lives not only to the elements and illnesses, but to native tribes. What added dangers did a pregnant woman face?
- One of the more spiritual aspects of the story is the idea of repaying evil for evil. How can we set our minds on overcoming evil with good?
- What can we learn from the life-altering consequences of the characters in *Many Sparrows*?
- Can you give a little tease about your next work in progress?

To request a review copy of *Many Sparrows*, to schedule an interview with Lori Benton or for more information, please contact Audra Jennings, audra@litfusegroup.com.

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