

LOVE'S
Rescue

BEAUTY IN THE DESERT BOOKS

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Rescue

A Story of Redemption

JOAN ELIZABETH DRIGGS



REDEMPTION
PRESS

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Dearest Charlotte, what a joy to watch God touch your heart as you read this story. You are always with me.

❧ *My heartfelt thanks to you, Kim, for your artistic touch on each page.*

❧ *A special dedication to my sister, Susan, a life also rescued, who flew sweetly into the arms of Jesus a little sooner than the rest of us.*



*“He reached down from on high and took hold of me;
He drew me out of deep waters. He rescued me from
my powerful enemy, from my foes who were too strong
for me.”*

—Psalm 18:16-17



BEAUTY IN THE DESERT BOOKS

Beauty in the Desert Books are love stories written from the heart of God to those in need of a loving Savior. Each book portrays a woman in the Bible who's life was forever changed by the hand of God. The lives of these women are beautiful examples of the relentless and loving pursuit of the Lord toward us. He is a Husband to the widow, a Father to the fatherless and a friend to the outcast. We all travel through desert places that can bring us to the end of ourselves. It is in those times, God has lessons to be learned and beauty to be found. Tucked away in the lining of every trial lies a beautiful hidden work, a divine purpose waiting silently to be revealed.

Our "Beauty in the Desert."



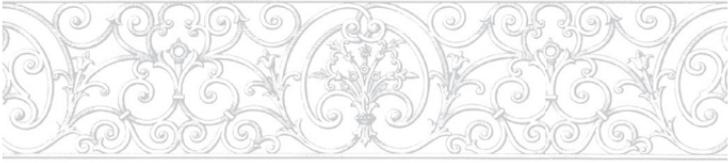
DEDICATION

Every woman, every little girl waits for her knight in shining armor to come to her rescue...

This book is dedicated to the one true Knight, Jesus Christ, who rides into the most desperate of hearts and performs a rescue that no other can.

To all the women who will know His rescue. . .

The Story



A cloud of dust settled around her, as the woman stood dazed and frightened in the midst of her accusers. She was trapped, with no hope of escape.

Her heart pounded wildly as towering figures brought forth the allegations against her. Merciless voices pierced through her, carrying the sting of despair, as they announced the horror of her fate.

The woman stood paralyzed before them. She could barely breathe. Humiliation grew hot against her face, as her life was exposed, making her the object of attention and ridicule. Surrounded by looks of disdain, the woman quickly turned away, bowed her head, and stared at the ground in shame.

She had been taken captive earlier that morning. The group of men had gathered themselves together. They forced their way into her house and burst through the door to her room, invading the privacy of the moment. With a harsh voice, one of the men ordered *her* to get up from the bed where she laid with the man. Another man picked up her garment and threw it against her, commanding her to dress. Her hands trembled, as she held the clothing against her. The cold stare in His eyes sent a deep chill running through her as she hurried to cover herself. Rough hands took hold of her as they brought her out of the house. Filled with terror, the woman struggled against them as the religious leaders led her through the streets of Jerusalem.



*K*eeping a secret was rare in this small town, and now her secret was out in the open, no longer hidden behind closed doors.

People rushed out of their homes as they heard the woman's cries. They glanced at each other with knowing looks in their eyes. They had witnessed this scene before. All were familiar with the law and knew the punishment that faced a woman caught in the act of adultery.

The leaders moved swiftly on their way to the temple, paying little attention to the curious onlookers. Their only interest was in keeping their plan: to present the woman and her sinful crime before Jesus. They had high expectations that *His* judgment over her would fail to meet their requirements and the requirements of Rome.



*J*esus sat among the people, teaching the crowd that had gathered around Him early that morning. Captivated by His passion and kindness, grown men and women became like little children in His presence. They listened with quiet wonder to the words of wisdom and love that poured forth from Jesus into their world of lack and suffering.

The parables He told spoke clearly of God's mercy and forgiveness. He taught them the importance of loving one another, the pressing need for a repentant heart, and the reward of eternal life. Jesus pointed them to the truth and to His soon-coming Kingdom. The people were moved by the great power in His words, which brought freedom to places within them, places once bound. They had never heard any man speak with the love and authority with which Jesus spoke. He laid hands on the sick and they recovered, blind eyes were opened, and the lame were made to walk again. Jesus brought healing to their pain and peace to their tormented minds. Many saw and believed He was their long-awaited Messiah.

Within moments, His teaching was interrupted. The chaotic group of religious leaders and Pharisees pressed into the temple court with the woman and forced her to stand before Jesus.

Their man-made trial had begun.