



Woman of Courage

Wanda E. Brunstetter

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Jilted by her fiancé, Amanda Pearson gives up on romance and turns to her Quaker faith for reassurance. She becomes determined to follow the Rev. and Mrs. Spalding into the western wilderness to minister to the Nez Percé Indians.

But a three-thousand-mile journey in 1837 is fraught with danger for anyone, and soon Amanda finds herself recovering from near death in a trapper's cabin. His Indian wife becomes Amanda's first convert--and friend. But the trapper and his intriguing half-Indian friend want nothing to do with Christians.

Buck McFadden has received nothing but pain from white men who claim Christ as their lord. He wants only to be left to his solitary life, but he can't seem to walk away from Amanda.

Amanda fears she'll never reach the mission in the Lapwai Valley. This journey has become life-changing for her--and those she meets--and the choices she must make are almost unbearable.

Woman of Courage Details

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Author : Wanda E. Brunstetter

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From Reader Review Woman of Courage for online ebook

Jalynn Patterson says

About the Book:

Take a three-thousand mile journey with Amanda Pearson as she leaves the disgrace of a broken engagement and enters the work of a Quaker mission in the western wilds. The trip is fraught with danger, and Amanda is near death before reaching her destination. Among those she meets are an Indian woman who becomes her first convert and a half-Indian trapper who seems to be her biggest critic. But love follows her into the wilderness and will determine the course of her future. You are sure to enjoy this historical romance adventure from New York Times bestselling author Wanda E. Brunstetter.

About the Author:

Wanda Brunstetter is an award-winning romance novelist who has led millions of readers to lose their heart in the Amish life. She is the author of over 60 books with more than 7 million copies sold. Many of her books have landed on the top bestseller lists, including the New York Times, USA Today, Publisher's Weekly, CBA, ECPA, and CBD. Wanda is considered one of the founders of the Amish fiction genre, and her work has been covered by national publications, including Time Magazine and USA Today.

My Review:

To gain some independence and perspective from her recent failed romance, Amanda Pearson decides to go on a mission trip with Quacker Reverend and his wife to minister to the Nez Perce Indians. Little did she know that she was in for a possible romance. Sharing the gospel is proving a bigger feat than Amanda expected and it just seems to get worse and worse.

Soon she meets Buck McFadden, who is half-Indian that doesn't trust the white man, because he has been treated so harshly by them in the past. He seems to really take an interest in her, which neither he nor Amanda expected to happen. Poor Amanda feels like she will never reach the mission with all the bad luck she has been having.

The tenacity of the early settlers and the life they had to lead to better themselves at times is astonishing. They beat the odds in order to help themselves and future generations. The harshness of the times and of the people that they had to endure was mystifying. Wanda's research of the history involved in the writing of this book really shows through. She has done an excellent job!

****Disclosure****This book was sent to me free of charge for my honest review from Book Fun.

Sarah says

“I am a woman of faith who is trusting in the Lord to give her courage.”

“Woman of Courage” has been on my reading list for a few years now, and I am glad that I was able to read this collector’s edition, which includes the sequel novella “Woman of Hope.” Expecting “Woman of Courage” to be a travel novel and an Oregon Trail-like experience, I was surprised to discover that it fell more into the genre of wilderness survival and mountain living. Traveling was still a part of the tale, but most of the narrative was focused on the characters’ experiences and interactions with each other rather than on the trek itself. Fraught with omnipresent danger, this story did not have any lulls or tedious sections and proved to be a quick read, even taking into consideration the appended novella. The situations seemed realistic and not contrived, and there were several twists that I did not expect, which I always appreciate. Amanda, the eponymous heroine, was a sweet character, and I would have liked to have more of her background; other than being unerringly Christian and using quaint language (“thee” and “thou”), there were no other indications that she was a Quaker. It would have been worthwhile to add more information about this particular religious group to the story, in my opinion. However, I did appreciate the author’s use of Native American and mixed-race characters.

Despite very much enjoying this story, there were a few points with which I had issues, and I wavered between a four and a five-star rating. Some of the language and slang used in the narrative was not period-appropriate, and several of the characters were stereotypical, including Amanda. She was too perfect and therefore did not seem to grow or change throughout the course of the story, whereas Jim Breck’s attitudes and place in the story shifted too quickly. Yellow Bird and Buck McFadden were my favorite characters, as they were the most dynamic and realistic, given their pasts and what became of them. Because Amanda was a missionary, the Christian underpinning of the novel did come across as preachy, but not overbearingly so. Amanda’s story dovetailed well into that of Little Fawn’s in “Woman of Hope”, and this novella is what ultimately bumped up my rating. Little Fawn’s story was not as idealistic and yet it was still hopeful and inspiring. Amanda’s character was also more realistic, and all of the characters’ actions were credible. The story was well written for its short length, as well, and it did not seem like it was too abrupt. Being able to see how circumstances changed for the characters from “Woman of Courage” in the approximately seventeen-year time gap and being introduced to the next generation of characters was a fitting way to end the saga.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from Barbour Publishing and was under no obligation to post a review.

Trixi says

I’ve long been a fan of Wanda’s Amish fiction so I was definitely looking forward to a novel featuring a Quaker main character! I don’t know much about them and have only read a book or two highlighting them. I’d have to rate this as her best yet! I’ve also since learned “Woman of Courage” had already been written, but what I read is a Collector’s Edition so there is an added story at the end entitled “The Story of Little Fawn”. Both are a delightful historical read.

Amada Pearson’s heart is to bring the gospel to the Nez Pierce Indians. I especially enjoyed this particular historical fiction because I live in a close proximity to the modern day Lapwai Valley in Oregon. Amanda and her papa set out with their guide to travel from New York to the Western wilderness to help minister alongside the Rev. and Mrs. Spalding. However, the trail is strewn with heartache and many devastating losses. When Amanda finds herself injured in an unfamiliar cabin tended by a kind Indian woman, her life takes on a completely different turn. I admire how she clings to her strong faith to make it through the tough

days ahead. She also befriends the Indian woman named Mary “Yellow Bird” and learns much of what she needs to know about the Nez Pierce. It’s as if the Lord has placed her exactly where she needs to be at exactly the right time! She also meets Buck, who is a good friend of Mary’s husband Jim...who also wants nothing to do with the Gospel due to a cruel father. I loved seeing how the Lord changed his heart at the end and all the various things that happened in the story, there’s so much packed into it! Brunstetter knows how to spin a tale to keep you wanting more and invested in her characters & storyline. It only took me two days to read this because I didn’t want to put it down! I think anyone who is a fan of this writer, loves history, enjoys a strong faith thread, adventure, and a hard won happily-ever-after at the end will enjoy this one. I loved journeying alongside Amanda, Mary, and Buck as they travel to bring the good news to the Nez Pierce Indians.

*I received a complimentary copy of this book from Barbour Publishing and was under no obligation to post a review. *

Deanne Patterson says

This is not your typical Brunstetter Amish book, make no mistake by me saying this I don't mean I don't like them because I do enjoy them immensely! This is a bit different than her Amish books and her cookbooks. The main character, Amanda Pearson is a woman of deep faith taught to her by her preacher father. After a failed engagement this Quaker woman decides to spread God's word and become a missionary woman to the Indians. Before she gets there her and her traveling mates, her father and a trail guide go through many perilous things including fatalities that leaves Amanda on her own to navigate. Determined to continue on in the wilderness herself she becomes deathly ill before being rescued by an Indian woman married to a white man. They become friends despite not having the same religion and the Indian woman speaking just enough English to get by. I love how I felt as though I was there experiencing the wilderness from the travel, to the descriptions of the herbal medicines, to the clothing type and lodging descriptions. What a wonderfully inspirational writer Brunstetter is! I would love to see more historical books like this by this author!

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I was given a complimentary copy of this book from Barbour Publishing, Inc. through NetGalley. Thank you. All opinions expressed are my own.

Carla Johnson-Hicks says

Amanda Pearson is a Quaker woman of deep faith taught to her by her preacher father. When her fiance breaks off their engagement, she and her father decide to leave New York. They sell their home and belongings and head west to become missionaries. Their goal is to bring God to the native people. The journey is perilous and both her father and guide die leaving her along to try and find the way to the fort. She becomes deathly ill and is rescued by an Indian Woman. It turns out that she is married to a white man and speaks enough English to communicate. Amanda and Mary (Yellow Feather) become friends and Mary becomes Amanda's first Christian.

This story is very well written. There are many adventures, trials and tribulations that Amanda goes through. We learn about various tribes and some of their customs. We find out about kidnappings, slavery and relationships between the tribes. Through flashbacks, we find out how Mary ended up married to a white man and what happened in her past. Amanda was very courageous and true to her faith and beliefs. She was

also a sweet and caring woman. I also felt sorry for her with all that she went through. It seemed like so many things went wrong, but with her prayers, the Lord was there protecting her and brought her through many situations. I do not want to tell you more about the actual story as it is very interesting to uncover as you read this tale. This was The Collector's Edition of the story and also contained a short story about "Little Fawn" and what happens to her as the story continues. It gave some closure to some aspects of the story. A very enjoyable Historical Fiction book with a Christian plotline. The publisher, Barbour Publishing, Incorporated, generously provided me with a copy of this book to read. The rating, ideas and opinions shared are my own.

Elizabeth says

Woman of Courage : Collector's Edition

By: Wanda E. Brunstetter

This was a very interesting story. It is not your Amish story by Brunstetter, but about a young Quaker woman and her father. This is a story about bravery, faith, and trust. A young Quaker woman after being jilted by her fiancé decides to go on a very long journey in the Oregon territory to bring the Indians to Christ. A historical romance set in 1837 Oregon Territory. She was a very brave young woman to travel and deal with the many obstacles along the way. The characters were so real. I felt so sorry for Amanda the things she had to go through. I could just see God working in this story. There were times that I had tears in my eyes.

I was given a complimentary copy of this book, but was not told that I had to give a positive review. All opinions are my own.

Jeanie says

Woman of Courage is a gripping novel that I wanted to read because of both the author and description. This Collector's Edition includes a short story, Woman of Hope, about Little Fawn. One of America's favorite storytellers shares a breathtaking historical drama from the period of Manifest Destiny while changing her focus from Amish to Quakers. The characters are unique, strong, hardworking people, and the descriptions of scenery across the country are so magnificent that I could almost see and smell it.

Amanda's fiancé Nathan Lane did a cruel thing. Within a short period of time, Quaker Amanda Pearson believed the Lord was calling her to be a missionary with the Reverend Spalding and his wife with the Nez Perce Indians in Oregon territory. Her father sold their house and his business so she wouldn't go alone. The trip would be long and arduous across the country, through the Rocky Mountains, then to Oregon. They finally made it to Wyoming territory and hired a guide to Oregon territory. Papa had not told her until it was too late that his heart was failing, and that he had a dream in which the Lord told him their future lay in the west. Dying from a heart attack, he made Amanda promise to continue west with or without him.

Ever alert for Indians, Amanda and her guide, Harvey, continue on horseback into the Rockies. Even as she continues to pray about everything, the worst occurs, and Amanda becomes so sick that she is unable to go further.

In the mountains, Jim Breck and the wife he traded for from the Blackfoot Indians, Mary, born Yellow Bird and stolen from her Nez Perce family, had a cabin where Jim trapped, hunted, and fished. Mary was pregnant, only weeks until her due date. Jim has a young friend Buck Red Hawk McFadden; they met when Buck was about 14 and Jim taught him about trapping and hunting. There is a red hawk he rescued when a hatchling and raised that always lives near him. When Buck finds Amanda on the trail, very sick and suffering a head wound, he takes her to Mary, who knows much about healing and herbs.

This special edition includes a short story about Little Fawn and the young man sweet on her, White Wolf. Little Fawn was adopted as an infant into a home with one white parent and one of mixed heritage, and she wants to be a missionary to other Indians. Her parents won't yet allow her to go, so she leaves in the night without a note. She, also, endures struggles, as does White Wolf when he tries to find her.

There is more than one woman of courage in these stories. It would be impossible to travel cross-country to serve as a missionary to a different culture without God-given courage through beautiful prayers of faith. Each of the characters is well defined; when one finishes the novel, it is hard to leave them behind.

I highly recommend this Collector's Edition Woman of Courage with Woman of Hope. Both are written with excellence. The stories sing with the joy of life lived for and with God. They are hard to put down. Dialog is realistic, and one of the underlying themes is why God allows bad things to happen to His people. With use of scripture and forgiveness, we see what they do when we don't understand. This is one of my favorite novels by this author; she has designed characters that one can genuinely appreciate.

From a grateful heart: I received a copy of this e-Arc from the publisher and NetGalley, and this is my honest review.

Pat says

This is not Wanda Brunstetter's normal Amish book. This is about Amanda Pearson, who is a Quaker. After being jilted by her fiance' Amanda tells her father that she wants to travel west to join a missionary couple. Her father doesn't want her to go alone, he sells his property and they head west. From there you have Indians, wild animals, bears, illness. Amanda is lost and rescued by a mountain man, who takes her to his friend's cabin. The wife is Indian and of the same tribe that Amanda is hoping to spread the word of God to. The Indian wife becomes her friend and first convert. When traveling toward the Indian Village of the Quaker's Missionary Camp, there are hardships. snake bites, rough mountain men that try to take advantage of the two women when they are trying to trade pelts. The mountain man that first rescued her (Buck McFadden) seems to always be there when she needs help.

This book is slow in a few places but the characterizations, the plot and Wanda's own unique style of writing will keep you going. I can't say too much without giving away this unique storyline by Wanda E. Brunstetter. I'm so used to her writing Amish fiction that I kept looking for Amish to show-up. Sorry Wanda, but that's all I've read by you previously.

I received this book through the publisher and www.bookfun.org to read, review and all they asked was to leave my honest opinion. I found the book to be enjoyable and different than I expected. I read the book in about 3 sittings. Hope you enjoy this book as much as I did. If you have ever read any of Wanda E. Brunstetter's books then you will find this to be a unique read.

Virginia says

This was my first book that I read by this author and I can tell you right now that I was very,very,very impressed! I really enjoyed reading this book. I think I've had interest in reading books that includes the Quaker lifestyle ever since reading Siri Mitchell's book called,"The Messenger" (which is a very good book by the way if anyone hasn't read it yet).

This book was very different for me. I loved the plot's twists and turns! This book certainly has its share! On certain parts of the book I was like "WHAT, THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!!" It was full of surprises!

The heroine was very courageous and just as sweet to read about. I loved how she kept falling into the Quaker dialect and some of the other characters were like, "Why can't you talk normally?" I also kinda felt sorry for the heroine at one point because it seemed like everything was happening to her all at once! I've never really seen a book where there were so many other cultures involved. Like in this story, it ranged from the Quakers to the Indians. Another thing that I like in books is when the author can do flash backs with the characters. It's so awesome to really see why a certain character is a certain way because of what happened in the past and then eventually seeing God coming and changing the scene altogether.

I loved reading this book and I was totally captured until I had finished the very last page! It was adventurous and engaging all at the same time. I'm totally going to see what other books this author has written and see if can I find more books like this. It was a very good read! (4 stars)

Molly Cafinated Reads Jaber says

Wanda Brunstetter never ceases to amaze me! She is a brilliant Amish fiction author, and captivates her readers with each story. This book is a Quaker story, not Amish but her brilliance shines through just the same way. Each page turn brought me closer to the heart of the story, and left me with amazing messages from God. If you want a story that will warm your heart and stay with you for a long time to come, grab this story now. Wanda Brunstetter will not disappoint with this fabulous 5 star read.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher and was under not obligation to post a review, positive or negative.

Susan says

Loved this story. A wonderful historical novel. The characters were amazing and the description of the journey West was phenomenal. The narrator really brought the story to life. I hope this is going to be a series.

Emock says

Skip this and read Jody Hedlunds "the doctors lady" (about narcissa Whitman) or Lori Benton's "the wood's edge." The concept of "Woman of Courage" is compelling but everything underwhelms and fails to deliver. The diction is obnoxious starting with the thees and thous and continuing with the native Americans broken speech whenever they are supposedly speaking English. I get the author was attempting to be historically accurate, but it is unnecessary to alter the characters' speech to do so and results in a choppy story with poor pacing. The plot line was unbelievable and too convenient with several occurrences that seem over the top. The spiritual conversions of the characters lack authenticity and feel way too random and disconnected from where the character has led us. Perhaps the most disappointing thing of all is the character development and relationships. There is zero chemistry and believability between the romantic leads.... None of the characters seem dimensional either. Overall, I can hardly believe I finished this thing and am More than a little

disappointed that I chose to spend my time doing so. Skip this one for sure and read something that comes off the page instead.

Mary Jackson _TheMaryReader says

This is one I have read before but it has been added to, it continues the story of Little Fawn and I loved it. So even if you have read it before you will want to read the Collectors edition copy with the story added to it.

Cathy Cermele says

I have been a fan of this author for several years so I'm always happy to have the opportunity to read anything she writes. Yes, I'm more familiar with her Amish fiction books and cookbooks but this book is the quintessential story of Quaker missionaries traveling across country to share the word of God with the Nez Perce Indians.

It's definitely not an easy undertaking with danger facing the travelers along the way. Amanda Pearson faces unimaginable hardships with the death of her beloved father and then the death of her trail guide. Amanda made a promise to her father that she would carry on with the mission work so she traveled across the wilderness on her own. My goodness ,she had a rough time as she falls ill and is mercifully taken care of by an Indian woman named Mary. Of course there is a language barrier between Amanda and Mary which was authentic and made the story interesting to me.

There were several characters that I liked but my favorite is Amanda because no matter what happened to her she remained steadfast in her faith and most importantly she was determined to keep the promise she made to her father. I admired her for never wanting to settle for less than she expected in a mate even if it meant remaining single and raising a little girl she rescued from an almost certain death. I loved that she knew she would not really be on her own with the child because of her strong faith.

I loved how the characters come full circle at the end of this well written historical novel and would like to read more of this genre from Ms. Brunstetter.

I received a complimentary copy from the publisher and was under no obligation to write a review. All opinions are my own.

Lori says

This book definitely deserves 5 stars.

Wanda made feel like I was there. I love that about her writing.

This book will keep you turning the pages from the start.

This isn't your typical Wanda book which makes it pretty awesome in my book. I do love her Amish books but I think that this her best yet.

I know I know I'm just rambling but I really loved this story!!!!

There really is a woman of courage or actually 2 in this wonderful book!!

I am going to have to say Mary Jim's wife just amazed me throughout the story. It had to have been hard switching from one culture to another and then to have an ornery husband on top of it all. Yes, love can hurt but it also can heal.

This story gives us hope, forgiveness and offers a real true love

The 2nd woman of courage is Amanda. I loved her ability to move in light of all that has happened to her she found the ability to go on. Henceforth; the verse I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me. My most favorite verse in the whole Bible.

I loved how she prayed and encourage others in what she believed faithfully. That had to be hard for her. I felt the Lord working through her. We need more like her.

I also enjoyed Little Fawns story. She reminds me of me a lot! Now that I'm older Im still learning to let God be in control not myself. My mom always said that patience is a virtue. I'm still not so good at it and it gets me into trouble sometimes. (Not bad trouble)

God does things in His timing not ours.

This is why Little Fawn is my favorite character
