



## Whence Came a Prince

*Liz Curtis Higgs*

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**Whence Came a Prince** Liz Curtis Higgs

The Scottish Lowlands, Summer 1790

Jamie McKie is determined to return to his ancestral home in Glen Trool and claim his inheritance—a harrowing journey that will test the depth of his courage and the strength of his sword. Haunted by a shameful past and wrestling with an uncertain future, Jamie must outwit his devious Uncle Lachlan and confront the two men he most fears: Evan, the brother whose inheritance he stole, and Alec, the father whom he blatantly deceived.

Jamie faces a perilous journey of the heart as well: Two sisters each stake a tender claim on his affections. Quiet, gentle Leana is the mother of his firstborn. Her spirited younger sister, Rose, is expecting his second child. Honor and duty prevail but not without heartache, as Jamie prepares to fight for all he holds dear.

## Whence Came a Prince Details

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Author : Liz Curtis Higgs

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## **From Reader Review Whence Came a Prince for online ebook**

### **Joleen says**

Two words...

560 pages! (OK that was a number and a word...whatever!) But seriously, 560 PAGES!! Only 54% into this book and it feels like it will never end.

Apparently the series is based on the story of Jacob and Esau. It's not truly a biblical retelling because it's not biblically accurate. The Leah and Rachel type characters (Leana and Rose) are actually reversed. But the story is very similar, albeit based in 18th century Scotland.

For anyone wanting to read the book, don't read on.

(view spoiler)

I've grown weary. I'm not sure I will wade through its thickness. You know...some long books are epic, captivating the reader from start to finish. This one is not epic, it's just... long and exhausting.

Yep, I've officially talked myself out of finishing this book.

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### **Kim says**

Amazingly, Liz Curtis Higgs brings the story of Rose, Leana and Jamie to a place you where can accept the character's decisions and be content with the outcome , even though it was an emotional ride along the way. This was a wonderful story told over the span of three books - all great reads!

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### **Kristen says**

I lost alot of sleep for these books! But it was totally worth it :) I could not stop reading, and when I absolutely had to, I couldn't stop thinking about getting back to reading. As with any good story, finishing is bittersweet. I'm sad there's no more(since I already read the next one), but I'm glad to know how it all worked out.

I don't think there was a time in the whole series when I didn't absolutely love Leana and most of the time wanted to cry for her. And did many many times.

I can't decide how to feel about Jamie. On the one hand, he honored his wedding vows to Rose and Leana's

request that he love her sister, but on the other hand he vowed to always love Leana. His love was supposed to be that all consuming love for only her. I get that he loved them both, but that kind of love doesn't just transfer to someone else. He could have really loved Rose and not had it be the same kind of love that he had for Leana. On the one hand I think it's noble that he's able to invest himself so much in his marriage as to do that. On the other, I feel like it cheapened what he and Leana had. Like with a little effort, he could love anyone that way and Leana would simply be able to be kept at arm's length, cared for, sure, but not loved the same way. I don't know, I guess it all works out in the end, but I'm sad that she ever had to wonder if he still cared about her and saw her as more than just his children's mother.

Rose, although she grew on me since the last one, I can't help being relieved when she's out of the picture. I was sad, of course, but it was more because Leana and Jamie were grieving than for the fact of her actually dying. I felt like her marriage to Jamie was as he first viewed it - betrayal. And completely wrong. The more comfortable everyone gets with the idea, the more twisted it seems. I know she starts to really change, she has genuine concern for her sister, but only if it doesn't negatively affect her life. When she finds out Leana's pregnant, instead of being happy for the little bit of happiness her sister might be able to have after everything that's been taken away from her, her only thought is for herself - how difficult it will be for her not to have Jamie all to herself. And I know she redeems herself quite a bit when she stands up for Leana to her father and begs Jamie to take her with them, but I can't get passed how easily she could just move in and take over not only her place as Jamie's wife, but also Ian's mother. How she didn't want to even acknowledge the fact that Leana was his mother, even after thinking about how awful it would be if the situation were reversed.

But I just loved the series. I'm sad there's not more to it, but I can't wait to read Higg's other series now.

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### **Trisha says**

LOVED this book. It pretty much concludes the story of the 3 main characters, even though there is a 4th book in the series(that one focuses on the next generation). I was so reluctant to read these after the first few chapters of Thorn in My Heart. I know the Bible story of Jacob/Leah/Rachel-it's not a happy story, so I wasn't sure I wanted to read a fictional retelling, let alone one contained in 4 volumes! It wasn't until I hit the halfway point of the first book(Thorn in My Heart), that I knew there was no turning back. Sure, there are lots of differences from the Bible- how could there not be when the story is set in a different place and time? I felt like I was living and breathing with these characters. I certainly was crying and rejoicing with them! If you've read the Francine Rivers Mark of the Lion series, these are similarly challenging. These books had me questioning whether the qualities of patience, perseverance, kindness, love, mercy, service, and forgiveness are as evident in me as they should be.

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### **Lela says**

I started reading this book, and after the first 3 chapters (when I realized what it was about) I put it down. Its about an interesting subject, and I highly reccomend you don't read this book. Its very strange.

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### **Anne says**

After reading #2 in this series, I jumped over books which I shoud have read first, because I just could not

wait to see the final story of Leana, Jamie and Rose. This too will tug at your heartstrings, and cause you to wonder-"could I be so brave?" I do not think I could, and it has to have a tragedy happen in order to have a happy ending. These three books are all highly recommended. A must read for lovers of Scottish Historical fiction.

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### **Sheero says**

I loved this book! The portrayal of the characters gave me a new perspective on the Bible characters Jacob, Rachel and Leah...and I've always thought of Leah as the bad girl who interfered with Jacob and Rachel's romance, but, after reading this book, I understood the complexity of the situation much better.

I can't wait to read the other books in the series.

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### **Susan Kauffman says**

I did not even get very far in this book...it was awful..and way too long. One of the reasons that I wanted to read this series was to find out how she would modernize this story from the bible...and it was not done very well! I am a huge Liz Curtis Higgs fan so this book/series is a huge disappointment!!

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### **Suz Tuel says**

good series

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### **Royce says**

Getting sick of this family and their angst. This is how it goes... Boy meets girl, falls in love. Girl does not love boy back but girl's sister loves him, secretly. Boy proposes to indifferent girl. Girl accepts after her father insists. Girl stuck in a storm, cannot get back to marry boy so (besotted) sister marries him by PROXY. Unfortunately, spends the night with him by proxy too. Boy does not realize he has the wrong sister in his bed til morning. Sister gets back home to realize her sister married her fiance. She is miffed. Boy is told by father-in-law that he is stuck with the wife he slept with. Boy is unhappy but learns to love sister no.2. Has baby with her. Minister visits and tells them he is actually married to sister no.1 as her name is on the church record. So boy has to dump sister no. 2 who he loves by now, and get with the other sister. She is happy. Dumped sister is not. Now boy has to forget first wife. Struggles with this, as you would. Eventually boy falls in love with 2nd wife. She gets pregnant. Meanwhile, other sister discovers she is pregnant. Confused? You should be.

The churning emotions is enough to make you barf.

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### **SavageGrace says**

I could not help but shake my head and fists in frustration over these books. The fact that ANYONE would overlook how manipulative and simply heartless Rose was, was just so unbelievable! Rose was, simply put, a wholly unlikable character. I did not find her "love" to be true at all; she was obsessed with Leana (whom I keep calling as Leah...) and Jamie and set-out to make Leana as unhappy as possible and win Jamie, despite knowing he and Leana belonged together. Why, when she saw Jamie happy, she had to destroy that is beyond me; the fact she kept obsessing over him being happy with Leana and then, once destroying that happiness, obsessed over him not being happy and wanting to find a way to make him happy again... the girl just needed a strong reality check and a trip to the nearest asylum. I don't think this girl knew what love really was; part of love is doing what would make that person you love happy... and the fact Jamie found happiness with Leana should have made her happy and allowed her to find her own happiness - ELSEWHERE! - not destroy his happiness and then force love where there was none and a marriage he did not want!

And Jamie? Oh, Jamie... I did not find his love to Rose to be true. It was WAY too rushed and feeble to be very plausible. Wishful thinking? I have no idea. And taking their son away from Leana, forcing Leana to allow Rose to claim ownership over that son and making her become "Aunt Leana" was simply cruel and sickening. That should have been more proof of Rose's true personality and motives - but, again, everyone overlooked it and bent to her will. So frustrating!!

Leana... I liked her strength and character. BUT I just wish she had a backbone... and maybe smacked Rose a few times - especially when Rose was insistent on getting tips to seducing Jamie! Sick, twisted girl!

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## **Rebecca Kurtz says**

Shame on Christian authors who re-write the Bible...

So what's next from this author? Joseph goes to Egypt, has a passionate affair with Potipher's wife, and starves his family to death for sinning against him?

Oh wait, we can't have a Joseph, because Joseph's character is miscarried in her series. In the Bible, God blesses and speaks to Rachel's (Rose's) children, not Leah's. It seems to me that in God's eyes, Rachel was Jacob's intended. Yet in this novel, Leah is God's intended and Jacob's true love. What? This is one of those "what if" novels: What if Jacob grew to love Leah more than life itself and only acted with duty towards Rachel.

In the Bible, Jacob's love for Rachel and her sons is so beautiful and unwavering. Yes, I sympathize with the Biblical Leah, but since Jacob never had any love for her, God blessed her with many sons. In this story, the Rachel character (Rose) watches her deceptive sister steal her husband, endures losing her beloved's love when he's provided heirs by another, is despised when the church rectifies the deception, then dies in a miscarriage barren. God is not that unloving.

I detested this book. I didn't want to finish it. I balled my eyes out at the injustice. It took me days to pick it up again, but I refuse to write a review without finishing a book. I gritted my teeth the whole time.

Let's see, what did this book teach me about God's love? Oh yes, Rose repents for her sins and is punished with death to get her out of the way for the deceivers to live a happily ever after. We all knew Rose (Rachel) was going to die in childbirth since Rachel did, but God blessed Rachel with Joseph and then later died

giving birth to Benjamin. In this novel, Rose dies during her miscarriage because she stole from her father and cursed him in her heart. Exactly what did Jamie do that didn't warrant his death? Hmm. Yes, quite a favorite of God since he got many years to mature and draw close to God unlike the 15-year-old Rose.

I couldn't believe that the author would have God speak to Rose right before her death saying "I am with thee to deliver thee." So her deliverance was death. When I cry out for deliverance, I'm not asking for death. Is the author suicidal perhaps?

I don't know whether to be scared or excited to read the next book. I hate the Biblical story of Leah's daughter Dinah. Leah's sons are so evil - yeah, I think that says something about their mother. Since this author doesn't believe in staying true to Biblical accounts, I think I'll give it a try because Lord knows the true tale ends in the most appalling manner.

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### **Carolyn C. says**

I have completed reading all three books in this series of historical novels which take place in the Scottish Lowlands late 1700's.

Book 1 - "Thorn in My Heart" (I should have gotten a clue when I read the title!!) I found myself thrown into an emotional upheaval...what was this author doing to my mind and emotions?? Twist, twist, twist...rip, rip, rip...angst, angst, angst!! I hate feeling manipulated!! I gave the book 3 stars...but then, of course I HAD to find out what would happen next...on to Book 2...plus I LOVE the cover art!!

Book 2 - "Fair is the Rose" I should have quit after book #1 while I had 1/2 a brain left and before I had become emotionally ruined by the characters. But no - please continue on with the angst, ripping and twisting...I'm starting to enjoy it - YIKES!! Can't stop now...must carry on!! Gave this book 4 stars.

Book 3 - "Whence Came a Prince" Well...brain is gone...emotionally spent - what can I say?? Love, love, LOVED third and last book in the series!! Kudos to the author for working me through this tangled web she wove(?). I have never felt so mentally and emotionally manipulated by someone I've never even met!! But then, at the end of the day...I loved every minute of this book and have to say it was a satisfying ending to a great series:) 5 stars for this one \*\*oh yeah:)\*\*

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### **Cynthia says**

The third book's plot is equally annoying. In the third book, Jamie is tormented by his love for Leanna but his duty towards Rose. Oh poor Jamie--yeah right. But in a short two months, he is in love with Rose! Talk about flip flopping.

Jamie decides to leave his miserly uncle with both Rose and Leanna--and get this-- both are pregnant with his child. Leanna again the unselfish one, helps Rose throughout her pregnancy. Just before reaching Jamie's home estate of Glentool, Rose suffers an early childbirth and both the baby and mother die. Jamie is heartbroken. But remember, he recovers quickly. With 2 months barely passed, he decides he loves Leanna and asks her to marry him.

I was so annoyed at this book, I wanted to throw it out the window.

I don't understand, what the attraction is with this book. Other readers gave it 4 or even 5 stars. The author is a Christian author and in the plot were references to Christianity and forgiveness and God's love. But I just couldn't get past Jamie flip flopping between Leanna and Rose, how two sisters can do that to one another, and Leanna's continued unselfishness.

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**joy \*the clean-reader extraordinaire\* says**

70% fabulous

10% skim-time stuffing

20% somebody take me to scotland NOW

pg with adult themes and events

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