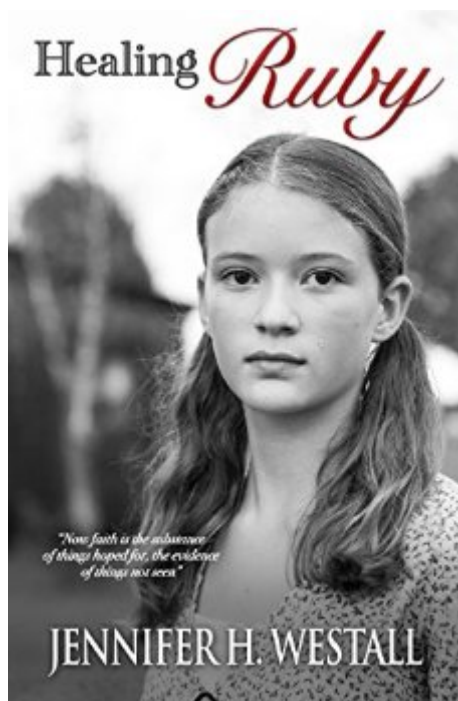


The book was found

Healing Ruby



Synopsis

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen..." Ruby Graves, a young girl in Depression-era Alabama, faces the hardships of poverty and loss with as much faith as she can muster. At only thirteen she's already lost a younger brother, and now faces losing both her father and the boy who's stealing her heart as well. Armed with her beloved Scriptures, she prays daily for their healing, only to have her tender faith shattered. Through her pain, she's able to connect with her long-lost Uncle Asa, whose mere presence at his brother's funeral brings murmurs of a scandalous past involving her parents and a prominent local pastor. When Ruby discovers that one of Asa's many secrets is an ability to heal, and that she may be next in line for the gift, she vows to find the faith that has eluded her so far--a faith that could mean never losing loved ones again. But according to her father, faith and doubt can't reside in the same heart, and doubt is Ruby's constant companion. As she struggles to find the true meaning of faith, she's opposed at every turn by the pastor who would see her family destroyed and a community that can't see deeper than the color of one's skin. Through her search for a faith that could move mountains and a true understanding of her gift, can Ruby trust in a God that may require the ultimate sacrifice?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

HEALING RUBY is a beautifully written story about a young girl growing up in the 1930's and struggling with her personal faith and values. Even though 13 year old Ruby Graves was growing up in Depression-era Alabama, she took everything in stride. Realizing her family could use extra money she goes to a neighbor with the idea of working to take care of their ill son. This young man just happens to have tuberculosis and no one else in the community will run the risk of catching the disease. She secretly takes care of him as her parents had already forbade her to take on this "job". Ruby always tried to do the "right thing". She also befriended a young mother with a bi-racial son. Again she does the right thing since she grew up in a house with God's presence and knows her scriptures and often they come to mind in her daily activities. Even though Ruby was young she was not afraid to stand up for what she believed in. Sometimes she knew there would be a price to pay. She didn't always follow the rules, but it was due to her compassion for others that she did the selfless and right thing. Ruby experienced tragedy after tragedy and she questioned her own faith. There was the faith that God would provide for them through the families poverty that also made Ruby question her faith. But "faith and doubt can't reside in the same heart", not according to her father and doubt was Ruby's constant companion. As she struggled to find the true meaning of faith, she was opposed at every turn, by Brother Cass, a pastor who wanted to see her family destroyed and a community that wouldn't see deeper than the color of one's skin.

Wow. How to begin? To read Healing Ruby is an Experience with a capital E. You don't just read this and go about life the same. Ruby is a one-of-a-kind character, and her story will shake you up so you'll never think the same about faith again. I have been going through some soul-crushing health issues this year, and this book brought me to tears twice. Even if I'm not sure I agree doctrinally in "faith healing," the principles were sound. God loves me, has forgiven me, and we are called to have faith and believe Him wholeheartedly. I was convicted and moved and inspired. As a sucker for sickbed love stories, I was enthralled with the first half of the book. It hit every happy nerve in my brain, and even though all the medical issues and blood were intense, I adored the story. The second half of the book takes a very different turn, almost feeling like a separate story. We see Ruby go through some hero complex reactions to the hardships in her life, make some foolish independent decisions as well as start some scary, but valuable new ministries. As hard as it was to watch her push aside her family and friends in her passionate one-track mind, it was realistic too.

She's a strong-willed, A-type teenager with an obsession to find her calling. Some of us have been there! Again, the book hit me personally in the feels. I've met Rubys. I've loved Rubys. We all know people like her - or we are her ourselves! The audio version of this book was magical. Not only is Jennifer's writing like a full-immersion into history where you can practically touch, hear, smell, see, and taste the world around you, but the voice actress was so talented I was astonished.

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