



Beloved Hope

Tracie Peterson

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A Compelling Novel of Forgiveness and Hope from Leading Author Tracie Peterson

Hope Flanagan survived the massacre at the Whitman Mission, but at terrible personal cost. Safe now in Oregon City, she lives with her sisters, Grace and Mercy, and Grace's new husband, Alex. As she spends her days tending their flock of sheep, Hope's mind and soul are slowly healing. Yet, though she was once surrounded by suitors, she has no interest in giving her heart again after the man she loved died in her arms.

Hope's precarious new peace is shattered when those responsible for the massacre are captured and put on trial. She is asked to testify against them, but she's not sure she can bear to relive the events of those horrific days.

As Hope struggles to free herself from the pain of her past, Lance Kenner, an Army lieutenant, brings an unexpected ray of light into her life. But what will Lance think of her if he learns the truth behind her anguish? And what secrets lie in *his* past?

Beloved Hope Details

Date : Published July 4th 2017 by Bethany House Publishers

ISBN :

Author : Tracie Peterson

Format : Kindle Edition 338 pages

Genre : Christian Fiction, Historical, Historical Fiction, Romance, Christian Romance, Fiction, Christian Historical Fiction, Historical Romance, Christian, Adult Fiction

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From Reader Review Beloved Hope for online ebook

Shagun G. says

"Hopeness" Rating: 5.0

Book received through the Bethany house in exchange for an honest review.

Summary:

Hope Flanagan survived the massacre at the Whitman Mission, but at terrible personal cost. Safe now in Oregon City, she lives with her sisters, Grace and Mercy, and Grace's new husband, Alex. As she spends her days tending their flock of sheep, Hope's mind and soul are slowly healing. Yet, though she was once surrounded by suitors, she has no interest in giving her heart again after the man she loved died in her arms.

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My Review:

In the second book of the Heart of the Frontier series, we learn that Hope Flanagan has survived the Whitman Mission. Unfortunately, like all things in life it came at a great cost. She lost someone dear to her and paid a price that runs deeper than anyone can imagine. The aftermath of this event has Hope torn and sure that no man can be trusted again. Afraid of what happened to her, she decides to stay with her younger sister, Mercy, and with her older sister and her husband, Grace and Alex. To keep her mind off of that horrible event, she takes care of the sheep they have. In the middle of recovering from the past, Hope is asked to testify against the Cayuse, who were responsible for the massacre. She doesn't think she will be able to will herself to tell her side of the story but she doesn't want the attackers to be released either. Just like every historical fiction book, a person comes to the rescue and provides some sunshine and hope, of course, into her life. Lance Kenner, an Army lieutenant, is assigned to work at a jail where the attackers are being held until the trial is over. Lance is hoping to leave the army and go back home to New Orleans. When he meets Hope, things may just turn around for him as both of them help each other recover from their past... but they both have dark secrets that lie behind them. They must either let those events drag them down or help them become stronger. This book was quite surprising for me! Hope was a fascinating character to follow. Though she had her ups and downs throughout the book, by no means was she a weak character. Despite her past, she handled her emotions quite well. Lance tied the book up and played a big part in Hope's life. Lance supported Hope throughout the book and gave her the space she needed to recover. Hope's sisters were very dear and did whatever they could; to help their sister. Grace, Hope's older sister, always assisted her younger sister at any cost and at any time. Mercy, Hope's younger sister, was the wise one in the household. Though Hope didn't bother to listen all that closely to Mercy's advice, Mercy was always giving her insight in every situation. Even though Mercy was young, people didn't bother to listen to her. I didn't read the first book in the series but I was able to easily understand what was happening in the book. I really recommend people to give this book a go. The next book in this series follows Mercy. I cannot wait to read it and I would like to thank Ms. Peterson for writing such a fantastic book. Thank you once more to the Bethany

House for providing me a copy of this book!

Kathleen (Kat) Smith says

A man can't live without hope. Nor can a woman and in Beloved Hope by Tracie Peterson, Hope Flanagan comes face to face with her past she longed to forget that happened two years ago. The Whitman Massacre had led to the deaths of more than just Dr. Whitman and his wife, but also the only man Hope wanted to marry and loved with all her heart. Watching him being killed in front of her while she watched the life seep out of him was hard for her, but not before being taken captive by the Cayuse Indians who staged this. She was raped and left with an unborn child of the man who had taken more than just her innocence. She wanted nothing more out of life including her own. But after giving birth and placing that child into the hands of a couple who wanted a baby, Hope could not seem to find her way back to any normal sense of life. Even two years later, she built up such a wall around her, that all she wanted was to be left alone and far away from friends or even finding another man to love.

Now that she has been asked to testify in the trial of the five Cayuse Indians responsible for the murders of those at the Whitman Mission, she knows she can never let the possibility of the one man who took more than just her life away, walk away if they found him not guilty. In fact there was fear of that in light of those in the US government who wanted to grant peace between the white men and the Indians, even if it meant letting them go free. Hope was going to make sure the last thing this Indian did was to walk free. Perhaps that is why she managed to sneak past the armed guards and found her way into the jail cell that held the man who had taken everything from her. Now she was going to ensure he never lived another day, when she pulled the gun from her pocket. She just needed to find a way to pull the trigger and then it would all be over.

Lieutenant Lance Kenner wasn't about to let Hope make a mistake and when he saw her holding the gun on one of his prisoners, he assured her that this man's life wasn't worth her time. He knew that her and most of the women in Oregon City were trying to come to terms with what had happened and Hope was so sure that no man would want her ever again. But Lance Kenner was not like the men she had met before. Being from New Orleans and having lost his own family, all he was looking for when he met Hope was simply a friend to help get him through this trial so he could be done with serving his time and get back to running the plantation his family had left him. But it seems that they both might just need the right friend in order to gain more than just their hope back, but also to learn to trust God and understand that forgiveness isn't about letting someone off the hook, it's about letting go of the hurt they have caused you that you continue to carry with you every single day.

I received Beloved Hope by Tracie Peterson compliments of Baker Publishing Group and Net Galley. This is the second novel in the Heart of the Frontier Series which picks up two years later after the Whitman Massacre that Treasured Grace covered in the first novel. I can't imagine how difficult it would be to face your accusers and I understood the feelings of hatred and anger that Hope must have felt. You would hope there would be a release of those feelings once the guilty have been punished but as most of us know, it doesn't happen like we would want to believe it would. Unless we choose to let go of those past feelings and let God handle it, we will continue to drag around that chain until it grows too heavy for us and life simply continues to pass us by. I give this a 4.5 out of 5 stars and can't wait for the third novel that must revolve around Mercy's life, the youngest of the Flanagan sisters.

Emmaline says

I love this sequel!

I am absolutely in love with this series so far. I love the prairie setting and the characters. I was happy to see that Tracie also included characters from Treasured Grace (and they were a pretty big part of it, in fact!).

To me this story is filled with journeys.

Hope's journey, Grace's continuing journey, Mercy's journey (I loved how we get a view of her before her story comes out!), Lance's journey, etc.

When I was done I had a moment of WOW. We went from anger, pain, misery, bitterness—to sweet, loving, trusting in God. This is so amazing. But let's get a little specific here...

Hope is a lovely character

In the first book we see her as somewhat fickle and flighty. With her string of suitors and her flirtatious mannerisms. But wow! Character development, people.

She's gone through a lot (read the other book for that) and it shows. I am glad I got to peek into her story as I identified more with her than Grace ? .

Re-visitaton of old characters

I love when people use their old characters. It's not so much reusing them as revisiting them. Alex, Grace, Mercy, and other characters return.

Intro to Mercy

Mercy is the sister who seeks education. You have Grace—the healer, Hope the romantic, and now Mercy the learner. I fully expect her to find someone when she goes for school but...for now she's single. ? She's also very young at the moment. (but prairie days were different)

One thing I like about her is how she doesn't just go with the flow and marry one of those random proposal guys. (there's a shortage of woman and plenty of men who need-want wives ? .) There are several jerks where they live btw so expect it.

She has dreams of her own, and yet she's willing to conform her dreams to God's will. Can't wait for Cherished Mercy.

And then there's Lance...

I wasn't expecting much of a link with the main dude and the first book, so I was surprised when one occurred. This story is told in about the same perspective style as Treasured Grace. It switches from Hope to Lance on a regular basis.

I love the development between Lance and Alex. I am not going to spoil anything that the synopsis wouldn't spoil so no more details. Just know I liked it. ?

One part is ermeeee...

When we get there...there's a part right after someone gets married where I think it went borderline too close. I didn't personally feel very comfortable at how close we got to 'too much'. Basically, it was there to

show how someone overcame their difficult past—but I think it could've been shown in other less suggestive ways.

note: I received a free copy of his book from Bethany House in exchange for my honest review.

Romancebooksandmore says

5 Stars

Hope Flannagan has gone through much in her young life she lived through a massacre at the fort she and her sisters were staying at, she lived through being held hostage, being violated and giving birth to her captor's child. Now she's facing the trial of her captor and others. Thinking of the child she gave up to family friends. She is scared and bitter but can she let it go ever?

Lance Kenner became a soldier after he lost his father and he struggles with his own past and the horrors he's been through losing one family member after another. Just as Lance is about to leave the army for civilian life he meets Hope but can either of them find love through the bitterness, and what happens when it is realized their lives are even closer tied than either ever expected.

I loved this book I read it almost all in one sitting. Yes some of it was hard to read all the heartache that both characters went through, it isn't a book for the faint of heart that is for sure but the characters are so rich, it's like being in the book with them. The love they share even through the pain has you rooting for all of them from the go. I love the sisters and I love Uncle Edward. The younger sister Mercy's storyline was so so but I understand why it was set up for her book next.

This is the second book in a set of three and I will pick up one and three in a heartbeat. I love Tracie's books and this one did not disappoint.

Connie says

This was Book 2 in the Heart of the Frontier series. Loved this book. Glad that rape and assault were focal points. Should not be hidden in the closet.

Looking forward to the release of Book 3. Most likely will have to wait for awhile.

?Tara Sheehan? says

This being the second in the series you definitely want to make sure to read the one prior so you can understand the full scope of the story, heartache, strength, loss and everything in between that Peterson is throwing at her readers upon the pages of this emotionally powerful piece of Christian Fiction.

Hope Flanagan is the kind of woman that if I lived back in those times (thank GOD I don't because me without WIFI and Starbucks is not pretty) would hope to befriend. She's that person who will help keep you strong, fight challenges with a quiet yet ferocious tenacity, and use her head to survive another day. She's the

epitome of strength on the frontier. At the same time as we see when this story picks up, Hope has faced some truly terrible and deep heartbreak that is enough to shatter any one. We find ourselves shedding tears as she goes through the grieving process, cheering her on as she begins to heal, and wanting to hug her to make sure she knows she's not alone.

I love how Peterson writes characters that feel as if they could be your real friends, you can't help but become emotionally invested in her stories. One of the other things I like about reading her books is that even though they are fiction she does a great job tending to details so you become transported back to a much harsher time period. You can practically feel the dust get kicked up on your legs from the unpaved roads, the sweat fall down your skin from the lack of A/C – then again I'm reading this in Texas during the summer so some of that could actually be from the environment around me lol.

Even when she begins to throw a bit of possible romance in, the storyline is done with respect to Hope's grieving process so it feels real instead of like okay one day she's sad but she met this hot guy so he has completely won her over and healed her heart just with a snap of his fingers. Thankfully you can count on Peterson to create a decent story instead of one you want to roll your eyes at.

Joyce says

This was the second book in this series about the massacre at the Whitman Mission and the people who survived. The main character is Hope and her sisters Grace and Mercy. Hope struggles to overcome the past and searches for healing and love with all that happened to her. This is a warm and tender tale set in the wilderness of Oregon. An enjoyable light read with history of that period.

Nathan Albright says

[Note: This book was provided free of charge by Bethany House. All thoughts and opinions are my own.]

Although I do not read many romance novels in the course of my voluminous devouring of volumes of material, from time to time romance novels do cross my path, and this is the second one by the author that has done so [1]. Given the generally high quality of romance novels that I read, I have to admit that this is the second time I have been disappointed by a Tracie Peterson novel. Simply because someone has written dozens of novels does not mean that their novelists are pleasant even to audiences that might be receptive to historical romances, in this case dealing with the Pacific Northwest in the area in and around Oregon City. This is, it should be noted, an area I know well, and this novel, like the preceding one, hit close to home. Perhaps it hit a little too close to home, as this novel features a sympathetic heroine in the PTSD-afflicted Hope, and her mysterious and decent and reluctant beau. Although the couple themselves worked out well, I just did not really enjoy this novel. The framing of the story and most of all, the heavy-handedness of it, kept me from getting in the story, as I kept on getting pulled out of it by my irritation with the author.

At its heart, this is a novel about divine providence. It features three orphaned sisters, who are adapting to life in Oregon City in the 1850's. The novel is set after the previous one, when the resumption of peace has led to some of the Cayuse to be tried for the crimes of rape and murder in the sack of the Whitman mansion.

Hope, as a survivor of rape from one of the accused, is asked to try and finds herself unable to. Much of the novel deliberately keeps the hero and heroine apart, and forces characters to wrestle with honesty and moral courage before the inevitable ending. All of the barriers to happiness in this novel--Hope's PTSD, Grace's pregnancy and struggle with cholera, Alex's wounds from a bear attack, and so on--seem rather contrived, which is a fatal mistake in a novel that depends a great deal on the reader putting up with the most dramatic events being "off-screen," as it were. The dramatic events of the book are not shown, but told, and when they are told in such a heavy-handed way that serves the agenda of the author and not the pleasure of the reader, a great deal of the enjoyment of reading a novel is lost. If I wanted to read a narrow-minded examination on divine providence or theodicy, there are any number of books I could read, some of which I already have given my own personal struggles with the aftermath of trauma. I expect novels to be written with more grace and tact, and the author was not up to the task here.

During the novel, there are numerous occasions where characters are given the chance to avenge themselves on those who are tormenting them, and respond with a great deal of restraint. Unfortunately, even those readers who have a strong belief in divine providence will find the conflation between divine providence and authorial providence to be off-putting and irritating. At least I did. All of the action of this novel made it at least possible that there will be a third novel set in a couple of years after this one where Oregon is on the verge of statehood where Mercy, the annoying but bright third child, finds a suitable husband for herself after dealing graciously with a land-hungry and overly persistent would-be young lover here. Perhaps at least a bit of my frustration at this book is at the disconnect between the author's providence for her schizoid PTSD heroine and the distinct lack of providence in my own life. It is hard for me to cheer on the romantic bliss of someone who stands on ground very close to my own when I look at my own state. Novels should not be written to mock their readers, but rather to encourage, and this novel just does not satisfy this reader, even if it has many pieces that would make a good novel in more talented and compassionate hands.

[1] See, for example:

<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2017...>

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<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2015...>

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<https://edgeinducedcohesion.blog/2015...>

Patricia Lott says

I struggled with this book. I liked it so much more than the first in the series. more than likely this is due to the massacre and aftermath. However I love that Hope did not settle. I don't want to spoil things so I will

simply say that one needs to read A Treasured Grace prior to reading this one.

Becky says

First sentence: "You can't be serious," Hope Flanagan looked at the man who sat opposite her at her sister and brother-in-law's kitchen table. "You expect me to testify in the Cayuse trial."

Premise/plot: Beloved Hope is the second book in the Heart of the Frontier trilogy by Tracie Peterson. This historical fiction series is set in the Oregon Territory in 1850. In the first book, readers met three sisters: Grace, Hope, and Mercy. Hope and Mercy were at the Whitman Mission when the massacre occurred. (Grace, a doctor/healer, was not there.) Hope suffered greatly at the hands of her captors; she was raped and gave birth to a child whom she gave up for adoption. In the second book, Hope has been called upon to testify at the trial. In the weeks leading up to the trial, she meets a young soldier, Lance Kenner. Their meeting is quite dramatic. But over months the two settle down into a very comfortable friendship. But will they remain just friends?

My thoughts: I enjoyed this one. I am not sure I loved it as much as I loved the first book, but, Hope was a difficult heroine to get to know. She survived a traumatic event, has been haunted by it for several years. The book is definitely a solidly good read. I look forward to reading the third book about the third sister, Mercy.

Trisha Robertson (Joy of Reading) says

See Full Review at: www.joyofreadingweb.wordpress.com

After serving the Massacre at the Whitman Mission, Hope Flanagan has withdrawn from everyone but her immediate family. She prefers to spend time with the sheep and taking care of their wool. Hope has even withdrawn from God and struggles to understand how a loving God could have let something so awful happen to His children. Over time she begins to understand that it isn't so much that God let bad things happen, but the freedom of choice that we all have, and sin itself has a negative effect on everything on this earth.

Lance Kenner has one assignment to finish and then his tour with the Army will be over. He is to guard the Native American prisoners until after their court hearing. Lance has plans to return to his family Plantation in New Orleans. One afternoon after the court hearing Lance is surprised to find a women holding a gun on one of the prisoners. He finds himself drawn to Hope and convinces her that he needs a friend.

I enjoyed the plot line and found the characters to be believable and realistic. The sweet romance in the story is slow, which is fitting for a character who had gone through a traumatic event. I did find the story a little slow at times. It could be due to the fact that I had not read the first book in this series. I would suggest that anyone picking up this book, be sure to read Treasured Grace (the first book). I've read other books by Tracie Peterson and feel that other fans of her writing will also enjoy reading Beloved Hope.

(I received a complimentary digital copy of this book for review from publishers, publicists, and/or authors, including Netgalley. I am not required to write positive reviews. The opinions I have expressed are my own.)

Dianna says

The second book in the “Heart of the Frontier” series follows, Hope, the middle Flanagan sister. In the first book we saw how the attack on the mission she was in by a group of Indians affected her older sister, Grace.

Hope must heal in order to move forward in her life but she has to learn how. Enter, Lance, someone who also must learn to heal after having learned to hate for so long. How the stories and lives of the characters intertwine is remarkable. The power of forgiveness goes a long way not only in this fictional story based on some true events but also in reality.

I love how Ms. Peterson shows us the importance of forgiveness and how it really doesn't hurt the one you hold a grudge against but it actually hurts you. I really enjoy reading books by Tracie Peterson. And I really enjoy reading fictional books that also have a backdrop of real historical events.

Tracie has a way of intertwining the real with fiction in a way you don't really know where one stops and the other begins. It flows well with each other. I am anxiously awaiting the third book in the series which will follow, Mercy, the youngest of the Flanagan sisters.

Jessica Baker (A Baker's Perspective) says

This was such a powerful story. I couldn't imagine living with all that Hope endured. The truth is, she wasn't really living. She was full of sadness, hate and revenge-like feelings. To be honest, I'm glad the author chose to portray her in this manner, as I felt it made me connect with her character easier. Who's to say if we were in a similar situation that we wouldn't feel the same?

But then, there's that voice inside our head telling us to forgive, let go and move on. In this story, that voice belonged to sweet Mercy. I really enjoyed her character. She was so full of wisdom, certainly beyond her years in maturity. She quoted scripture so naturally and made no excuse for it. As much as Hope endured through the book, and was obviously the focus of the book, I really felt like Marcy was the star.

While this book touches on some difficult topics that some readers may struggle with, I will say that it was done very tasteful. It was not too descriptive or offensive at all. Truth be told, these occurrences provided the necessary background to see how difficult things really were, as well as allow for us as readers to see just how much the characters really grew.

This book provides hope, and reminds us of our need for forgiveness. It is a must read!! I received a complimentary copy of this book. I was not required to write a favorable review. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

Lisa (Bookworm Lisa) says

Wow! It is hard to find the words to express the emotions that I am feeling at the end of this book. Tracie Peterson has taken a difficult subject and left me with a feeling of peace. The first book in the series was

hard to read, the characters suffered at the hands of others. It was a book of understanding. This book is one of healing.

The book starts as Hope is asked to testify against the men responsible for the Whitman Massacre. The range of her emotions is understandable and reasonable. It is hard not to hate the man who repeatedly raped you and killed the man you love. Army Lieutenant Lance Kenner keeps her from making a mistake that would effect the rest of her life.

The romance starts slowly. They are friends. I loved that it wasn't rushed, part of that was Hope's need to heal and come to terms with her past. Lance is understanding, sympathetic, and very good for her.

Hope has an excellent support system. The bond between the sisters has grown stronger and they truly love each other. It would be nice if everyone who had gone through trauma had sisters like Grace and Mercy.

I feel as if Tracie Peterson was able to establish the feelings between the white man and the Native American in a fair way. Tensions were high in the Oregon Territory in the 1840's. The white man encroached on Indian territory and threatened their way of life. Both sides of the dispute are presented. This story is from the view point of a white settler victim, but some of the characters have Native American friends. I felt compassion for all of the people in the story.

This story has a strong Christian theme. Hope is learning to have a better relationship with God and to trust Him as she struggles with her fear and hatred. I love how this was presented. There is so much hope and forgiveness in this book. It is inspiring.

The book does have some violence and the mention of rape in the past.

Source: I receive a complimentary copy from the publisher. All thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.

Leigh says

Tracie knows how to stomp all over your heart and then make you feel good about it! I LOVE how she wrapped up Hope's story!
