

sue monk kidd when the heart waits

****The Profound Journey of Sue Monk Kidd's *When the Heart Waits*****

sue monk kidd when the heart waits is more than just the title of a deeply reflective book—it represents a spiritual invitation to embrace the waiting periods in life with grace and openness. In a world that often prizes urgency and instant gratification, Sue Monk Kidd's memoir and spiritual exploration gently guides readers into understanding the transformative power of patience, surrender, and inner growth. Through her eloquent storytelling and profound insights, Kidd offers a roadmap for anyone navigating the complex terrains of waiting, longing, and self-discovery.

Understanding the Essence of *When the Heart Waits*

At its core, **When the Heart Waits** is a meditation on the concept of “waiting” not as a passive state, but as an active, vital process in spiritual maturation. Sue Monk Kidd, known for her evocative writing and spiritual depth, shares her personal journey through a period of creative and emotional dormancy that ultimately led to awakening and renewal.

What Does Waiting Really Mean?

In everyday language, waiting often carries a negative connotation—impatience, frustration, or boredom. However, Kidd challenges this perception by suggesting that waiting is an essential spiritual discipline. It is a time when the soul is invited to “be still” and listen, allowing deeper truths to surface. This redefinition encourages readers to view their own periods of waiting as opportunities for inner work and transformation.

Sue Monk Kidd's Personal Narrative

The book is not just a theoretical treatise but a memoir filled with candid reflections on Kidd's own struggles with creative block, grief, and a profound sense of emptiness. Her honest portrayal of vulnerability resonates with readers who have experienced similar feelings of stagnation or loss. Through her journey, Kidd demonstrates how waiting can lead to a richer, more authentic self-understanding.

The Spiritual and Psychological Layers of Waiting

Sue Monk Kidd's **When the Heart Waits** delves deeply into the spiritual and psychological dimensions of waiting, making it relevant for readers searching for meaning beyond the surface.

The Role of Surrender

One of the key lessons Kidd emphasizes is the importance of surrendering control during times of waiting. This surrender is not about giving up but about relinquishing the need to force outcomes. Instead, it invites a trust in the unfolding of life's mysteries—a surrender that can open the heart to new possibilities and insights.

The Intersection of Waiting and Creativity

For creative individuals, the book holds particular significance. Kidd herself is a writer who faced a profound creative impasse. She reveals how waiting can be a fertile ground for creativity if approached with patience and openness. Instead of rushing to produce, waiting allows ideas to mature and take shape in unexpected ways.

Psychological Growth Through Patience

Waiting also cultivates psychological virtues such as resilience, humility, and hope. Kidd discusses how embracing waiting nurtures a deeper connection with oneself, fostering self-compassion and acceptance during difficult times.

Practical Insights from **When the Heart Waits**

While rich in spiritual reflection, Sue Monk Kidd's work also offers practical wisdom for navigating waiting periods in everyday life.

Embracing the Unknown

One of the primary challenges of waiting is coping with uncertainty. Kidd encourages readers to lean into the unknown rather than resist it. Accepting uncertainty can reduce anxiety and open the door to new experiences and growth.

Cultivating Mindfulness and Presence

Mindfulness practices align beautifully with the themes of **When the Heart Waits**. Kidd's invitation to be present with the heart's longings encourages readers to develop daily habits of awareness—whether through meditation, journaling, or quiet reflection—that can transform waiting into a sacred space.

Finding Community and Support

Waiting can sometimes feel isolating. Kidd reminds us of the importance of community in these moments. Sharing experiences with trusted friends, mentors, or spiritual guides can provide comfort and perspective, making the waiting journey less daunting.

Why **When the Heart Waits Resonates Today**

In an age dominated by rapid technological advances and an “always-on” culture, Sue Monk Kidd’s message in **When the Heart Waits** feels especially urgent and necessary. The book serves as a counterbalance to the constant pressure to achieve and perform, inviting a more compassionate and patient approach to life.

The Universal Nature of Waiting

Everyone encounters waiting—whether it’s waiting for healing, love, creative inspiration, or clarity about life’s next step. Kidd’s exploration touches a universal chord, making the book accessible and meaningful to a wide audience.

Healing from Grief and Loss

Many readers find solace in Kidd’s honest discussion of grief and the ways waiting intersects with mourning. Her reflections offer a framework for understanding how grief is not a problem to be fixed but a process to be honored.

Encouragement for Spiritual Seekers

For those walking a spiritual path, **When the Heart Waits** offers encouragement to embrace the “dark night of the soul” and to trust in the unseen work of spiritual transformation.

Integrating the Teachings of Sue Monk Kidd into Daily Life

To truly benefit from the wisdom of **When the Heart Waits**, it helps to integrate its teachings into everyday routines and mindsets.

Tips for Cultivating a Heart That Waits

- **Practice Patience Daily:** Remind yourself that waiting is a natural and necessary part of growth.
- **Journal Your Journey:** Writing about your feelings during waiting periods can clarify and deepen your understanding.
- **Create Sacred Rituals:** Whether lighting a candle, reading a passage, or taking a mindful walk, rituals can honor the space of waiting.
- **Seek Inspirational Reading:** Complement Kidd's work with other spiritual authors who explore patience and surrender.
- **Connect with Nature:** Nature's rhythms—seasons, tides, and cycles—can teach powerful lessons about waiting and renewal.

Avoiding Common Pitfalls

It's easy to fall into despair or frustration during long waits. Kidd's insights remind us to avoid:

- **Rushing the Process:** Trying to force outcomes often leads to greater pain.
- **Isolation:** Withdrawing from community can deepen feelings of loneliness.
- **Neglecting Self-Care:** Waiting can be draining; nurturing your body and mind is essential.

The Lasting Impact of *When the Heart Waits*

Sue Monk Kidd's *When the Heart Waits* has touched countless readers by offering a hopeful and transformative perspective on the human experience of waiting. It's a book that invites us to slow down, listen deeply, and trust the mysterious unfolding of life.

By embracing the heart's waiting, Kidd shows us how to move from impatience to presence, from fear to faith. Her words remain a beacon for anyone seeking to find meaning and peace in the spaces between what was and what will be.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the central theme of Sue Monk Kidd's 'When the Heart Waits'?

The central theme of 'When the Heart Waits' is the spiritual journey of patience and surrender, exploring how waiting can lead to deeper self-awareness and transformation.

How does Sue Monk Kidd describe the concept of 'waiting' in her book?

Sue Monk Kidd describes 'waiting' as an active, spiritual practice rather than passive stagnation, emphasizing its role in personal growth and healing.

What personal experiences does Sue Monk Kidd share in 'When the Heart Waits'?

She shares her own struggles with impatience, spiritual dryness, and a profound sense of discontent that led her to embrace the transformative power of waiting.

How does 'When the Heart Waits' relate to spirituality and faith?

The book intertwines spirituality and faith by exploring how periods of waiting and uncertainty can deepen one's relationship with God and foster spiritual maturity.

What practical advice does Sue Monk Kidd offer to readers experiencing periods of waiting?

Kidd encourages readers to embrace waiting as a time for self-reflection, cultivating patience, and opening oneself to new possibilities and inner healing.

Why has 'When the Heart Waits' resonated with contemporary readers?

It resonates because it addresses universal feelings of restlessness and longing, offering a hopeful perspective on how waiting can be a profound and necessary part of personal and spiritual growth.

Additional Resources

Sue Monk Kidd's **When the Heart Waits**: A Deep Dive into Spiritual Patience and Personal Transformation

sue monk kidd when the heart waits is a phrase that echoes the essence of a profound spiritual memoir penned by the acclaimed author Sue Monk Kidd. In **When the Heart Waits: Spiritual Direction for Life's Sacred Questions**, Kidd embarks on a reflective journey that explores the complexities of waiting, the challenges of spiritual longing, and the transformative power of embracing life's pauses. This work diverges from her popular fiction and instead delves into memoir and spiritual guidance, offering readers an intimate look at her own process of growth and the universal human experience of waiting with intention.

Exploring the Core Themes of **When the Heart Waits**

At its heart, **When the Heart Waits** is a meditation on the often overlooked spiritual discipline of waiting. Kidd examines how modern society's obsession with speed and instant gratification clashes with the natural rhythms of personal and spiritual development. The book's central thesis advocates for embracing waiting periods as essential, transformative phases rather than frustrating obstacles.

Sue Monk Kidd's narrative intertwines personal anecdotes with spiritual insights, drawing from Christian mysticism, contemplative traditions, and psychology. This blend creates a rich tapestry that invites readers to reconsider their attitudes toward uncertainty and delay. Rather than viewing waiting as a passive state, Kidd reframes it as an active, engaged process that fosters deeper self-awareness.

Spiritual Waiting Versus Societal Pressures

One of the most compelling aspects of **When the Heart Waits** is Kidd's critique of cultural impatience. She highlights how the prevailing culture often dismisses waiting as unproductive or even detrimental. Kidd contrasts this with spiritual traditions that honor periods of solitude, silence, and waiting as times of preparation, healing, and inner work.

The book explores how spiritual waiting is not merely about biding time but about cultivating a readiness to receive deeper wisdom. This perspective is an essential corrective in an age where quick fixes dominate both secular and religious contexts. Kidd's reflections challenge readers to resist the urge to rush and instead develop a patient attentiveness to their own inner lives.

Personal Transformation Through Waiting

Sue Monk Kidd's memoir elements add a deeply personal dimension to **When the Heart Waits**. She candidly shares her own experiences of loss, grief, and spiritual searching, which led her to embrace waiting as a transformative process. Through her narrative, readers gain insight into how patience and surrender can lead to profound personal growth.

This transformation is depicted not as a linear path but as a cyclical and often challenging journey. Kidd's openness about her struggles lends authenticity to her message, making it resonate with those who have faced similar spiritual or emotional limbo. The book encourages embracing vulnerability and uncertainty as gateways to deeper maturity and insight.

The Literary Style and Structure of **When the*

Heart Waits*

Sue Monk Kidd's prose in **When the Heart Waits** is characterized by its lyrical quality and contemplative tone. Unlike her novels, which often feature vivid storytelling and character development, this work adopts a reflective and meditative style suited to its spiritual subject matter.

The book is organized into thematic chapters that each focus on different facets of waiting and spiritual growth. This structure allows readers to engage with the content at their own pace, reflecting the very patience that Kidd advocates. The interweaving of personal memoir, historical anecdotes, and scriptural references enriches the texture and depth of the narrative.

Integration of Christian Mysticism and Contemplative Practices

A significant feature of **When the Heart Waits** is its integration of Christian mysticism and contemplative spirituality. Kidd draws extensively on figures such as Julian of Norwich, Teresa of Avila, and Thomas Merton to illustrate how waiting has been understood and practiced throughout Christian history.

This approach situates Kidd's personal experiences within a broader spiritual tradition, offering readers both historical context and practical wisdom. The contemplative practices highlighted in the book, such as meditation, prayer, and silence, serve as tools to cultivate the art of waiting with grace and attentiveness.

Accessibility and Audience Engagement

Despite its deep spiritual themes, **When the Heart Waits** is accessible to a broad audience. Kidd's writing avoids overly academic language, making complex spiritual concepts approachable for readers from various backgrounds. This accessibility has contributed to the book's popularity among both religious and secular readers interested in personal growth and mindfulness.

Moreover, the memoir format fosters a connection between Kidd and her readers, inviting them into a shared exploration rather than a didactic lecture. This relational quality enhances the book's impact, encouraging readers to reflect on their own experiences of waiting and transformation.

Comparisons and Place Within Sue Monk Kidd's Oeuvre

Sue Monk Kidd is widely recognized for her richly textured novels such as **The Secret Life*

of Bees* and *The Invention of Wings*, which often explore themes of identity, spirituality, and liberation. *When the Heart Waits* represents a departure from fiction into the realm of spiritual memoir and guidance.

While her novels embed spiritual themes within narrative fiction, *When the Heart Waits* offers a direct engagement with spiritual practice and introspection. This makes the book a valuable complement to her fictional works, providing readers with insight into the spiritual foundations that inform her storytelling.

Compared to other spiritual memoirs, Kidd's work stands out for its literary grace and the way it bridges personal narrative with theological reflection. It aligns well with contemporary movements toward mindfulness and contemplative living, resonating with readers seeking depth in a fast-paced world.

Pros and Cons of *When the Heart Waits*

- **Pros:** The book offers profound spiritual insights, is beautifully written, and encourages a healthy reevaluation of waiting and patience. It integrates personal narrative with historical and theological context, making it both relatable and informative.
- **Cons:** Some readers may find the Christian mystical references less accessible if unfamiliar with the tradition. Additionally, those looking for a straightforward self-help manual might find the contemplative style slower paced and more meditative than practical.

Relevance of *When the Heart Waits* in Contemporary Spiritual Discourse

In a world dominated by rapid technological advancements and an ever-increasing demand for instant results, *When the Heart Waits* serves as a timely reminder of the value of patience and presence. Kidd's exploration of spiritual waiting invites readers to slow down and embrace the tension of not knowing, which is often where true growth occurs.

This message is particularly relevant in contemporary spiritual discourse, where there is a growing emphasis on mindfulness, intentional living, and emotional resilience. Sue Monk Kidd's work contributes to this dialogue by framing waiting not as passive inactivity but as an active, sacred space for transformation.

Her reflections encourage readers to rethink societal narratives about success and progress, urging a more holistic understanding of life's rhythms. For those navigating periods of uncertainty or searching for deeper meaning, *When the Heart Waits* offers both consolation and challenge.

The enduring appeal of **When the Heart Waits** lies in its capacity to speak across different spiritual traditions and personal experiences, making it a valuable resource for anyone interested in the intersection of spirituality and everyday life. It invites us to consider how waiting, often seen as a void, can instead be a fertile ground for the heart's awakening.

Sue Monk Kidd When The Heart Waits

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *When the Heart Waits* Sue Monk Kidd, 2016-09-20 The bestselling author's inspiring autobiographical account of personal pain, spiritual awakening, and divine grace. Inspiring. Sue Monk Kidd is a direct literary descendant of Carson McCullers.—Baltimore Sun Grounded in personal experience and bolstered with classic spiritual disciplines and Scripture, this book offers an alternative to fast-fix spirituality.—Bookstore Journal Blending her own experiences with an intimate grasp of spirituality, Sue Monk Kidd relates the passionate and moving tale of her spiritual crisis, when life seemed to have lost meaning and her longing for a hasty escape from the pain yielded to a discipline of active waiting. Full of wisdom, poise, and grace, Kidd's words will encourage us along our spiritual journey, toward becoming who we truly are.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: Summary of Sue Monk Kidd's When the Heart Waits Everest Media,, 2022-09-21T00:00:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 I had been lost in a crisis of spirit for some months. I had woken up to a growing darkness and cacophony, as if something in me was crying out. A chorus of voices. Orphaned voices. They seemed to speak for all the un-lived parts of me. #2 I was having a midlife crisis, and I didn't know what was happening to me. I was feeling lost and empty, and I didn't know what to do. I had never experienced anything like this before. #3 I had been drawing a tent in the middle of some wind- howling woods. I had been a tent dweller, someone who had little self-validation or autonomy, and who tended to define life by others' expectations and projections. #4 The midlife transition between the first half of life, which is spent developing the ego, and the second half, which is spent developing the full and true self, is like a difficult birth.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: A Life with God Uncensored Anne Hinds, 2007-12 Have you ever wondered if God can work through your life even in the midst of mistakes, infidelity, and feelings of unworthiness? New to the scene author Anne Hinds gives a fascinating account of her quest to unearth value, connection, and spirituality in *A Life with God Uncensored*. Through her voice and powerful vulnerability, she tells her story of trying to live her life more authentically and of discovering who she truly is. She voices a determination to recognize her God-given image with a distinct vulnerability straight from her heart. Her genuineness concerning her grief in her marriage, in her life, and in losing her son grabs you and offers a realization that you are not alone. In the face of feeling insignificant, being unfaithful, and being human, author Anne Hinds takes you on a compelling journey to discover if she can have *A Life with God Uncensored*.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: Contemplation and Midlife Crisis Rosemarie Carfagna, 2014-05-14 This book helps the reader in midlife crisis frame his/her experience in spiritual/contemplative terms, and thereby provides a wider context in which to understand and eventually accept it.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *Henri Nouwen and Spiritual Polarities* Wil Hernandez, 2012 Highlights the tension-filled nature of our journey and shows us, via Nouwen's example, how we too can navigate our way through it in a transformative way.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *Running on Empty* Fil Anderson, 2009-06-10 Learn to live with God instead of for God. In this candid and achingly authentic book, Fil Anderson shares the healing insights that restored his spiritual compass and guided him back to God--the God who

specializes in filling empty souls. Fil Anderson had accomplished more for God than most of his contemporaries, but his worn-out body housed an empty soul. His frenetic pace of ministry had earned him just one thing: greater pressure to do even more. He had fallen for the soul-killing lie that doing more for God would give his life meaning. Then the godly admonition of a spiritual director set this burned-out believer on a life-saving spiritual path. Sometimes the only way to get a new life is by running your old one completely into the ground. This powerful story of a reawakened soul can be the story of every person who has pursued spiritual productivity over intimacy with God and come up empty. It's the story of reclaiming your soul and finding a home in the center of God's relentless love. It's the journey from self-importance to God-importance. "To the harried and the unharried, I pray that this book will minister to your heart in the profound way that it has blessed mine." —Brennan Manning

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: The Second Half of Life Angeles Arrien, 2007-08-01 There is a grace in this book, an invitation to beautiful, deep wisdom, a banquet to refresh your spirit for the years ahead.—Jack Kornfield, PhD, author of *A Path with Heart* *The Second Half of Life* is a wise, unique, and beautifully written guidebook for those who want to live every day of their lives. A book for everyone who plans to grow old.—Rachel Naomi Remen, MD, author of *Kitchen Table Wisdom* and *My Grandfather's Blessings* When you find the courage to change at midlife, Angeles Arrien teaches, a miracle happens. Your character is opened, deepened, strengthened, softened. You return to your soul's highest values. You are now prepared to create your legacy: an imprint of your dream for our world—a dream that can fully come true in *The Second Half of Life*. Working with images, poetry, metaphors, and other forms of symbolic language from diverse world cultures, Dr. Arrien introduces us to the Eight Gates of Initiation. By mastering their lessons and gifts, you harvest the meaning and purpose of your life, and come into spiritual maturity. With *The Second Half of Life*, she takes you step-by-step through each gate to deepen your most valuable relationships, reclaim your untended creative talents, and shift your focus from ambition to meaning to grow into the exceptional elder you've always imagined you would one day become.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *Bravehearts* Sharon Hersh, 2009-10-07 For Every Woman Who Wants More from Her Relationships Within every woman is the desire for extraordinary relationships. We crave intimacy and interconnectedness, companionship and camaraderie. Yet most of us eventually begin to wonder if we want too much. As heartbreak and disappointment take their toll, we become convinced that our desire for deep connection is our downfall. Not understanding that a woman's longings are her strength, we bury or ignore this God-given compass and lose our way. Yet the desire to connect persists. We make cookies for a new family in the neighborhood, send a note of encouragement to someone at church, plan date nights with our spouse, call a friend after a bad day at work to tell her every detail because we know she cares. And still we long for more. What is behind this yearning? Is it healthy? Is it normal? Does it have a purpose? Yes, says author and licensed professional counselor Sharon Hersh--and in *Bravehearts*, she'll teach how your deepest longings can lead you to rich relationships and give you the courage to love with abandon.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *Never Stop Starting* Peter James Flamming, 2016-05-12 This book will challenge, inspire, and offer encouragement for your life's journey by sharing modern aging wisdom through the lens and experiences of twelve biblical characters.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *Caregiving Reimagined* Claudia Cassidy Bennett Ph.D. OT, 2025-01-31 Claudia Cassidy Bennett, an occupational therapist with a career spent treating patients with neurological disorders, discovered the profound power of emotions when she began caring for her mother, who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. In *Caregiving Reimagined: A Practical and Spiritual Guide for Family Caregivers*, Dr. Bennett offers a deeply personal and heartwarming account of her own caregiving journey, candidly sharing both her struggles and triumphs. Through her reflections, insights, and expertise she provides a blend of practical advice and spiritual wisdom, empowering others to navigate their caregiving roles with confidence and compassion. In this book, you will discover: • Practical strategies to make caregiving tasks more manageable • A spiritual practice program designed to nurture your soul while caring for

others • Effective self-care techniques to recharge and stay balanced • Simple ways to integrate spiritual practices into your daily caregiving routine • Guidance on assisting with activities-of-daily-living (ADLs) with proficiency and kindness • Crucial safety tips for performing caregiving tasks with care and efficiency Dr. Bennett encourages caregivers to see this role as an opportunity to strengthen relationships with loved ones, deepen their spirituality, and enhance their self-awareness through introspective questioning.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: God's Creative Gift—Unleashing the Artist in You Jody Thomae, 2013-02-27 God's Creative Gift is an in-depth study for the creative Christian. It is intended for both professional and lay artists, for the casual crafter and hobbyist, and for those in both sacred and secular settings. It is for those who see things where others do not and for those whose imaginations cannot be confined by religious dogma and tradition. It is for musicians, singers, painters, sculptors, dancers, dramatists, writers, poets, carvers, weavers, film editors, photographers, filmmakers, architects, designers--anyone who finds inspiration in creativity. Focusing on the creative spirit within, it is designed to help you draw your inspiration from a Deeper Source. It is deeply rooted in Scripture--for the creative Christian must enter into the Word of God on a regular basis in order to know the choreographer of her steps, the crafter of her designs, the author and perfecter of her faith, and the sculptor of her creative heart, soul, mind, and body. And to know Him intimately.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: Sustainable Children's Ministry Mark DeVries, Annette Safstrom, 2018-01-23 Are you a children's ministry leader on the edge of burnout? Sustainable Children's Ministry shows you how to recruit volunteers, partner with parents, navigate politics, and care for your own soul instead of frantically scrambling to do it all yourself. This practical resource will help you build a ministry foundation that will still be standing long after you are gone.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: How Can I Let Go If I Don't Know I'm Holding On? Linda Douty, 2005-08 Letting go isn't just saying good-bye to people, places, and things, as important as they may be. It's also about letting go of attitudes and ideas, such as perfectionism, resentment, worry, and judgmentalism--that keep us from growing in our relationships with God and others. Letting go is crucial to our spiritual and emotional health. In *How Can I Let Go If I Don't Know I'm Holding On?*, Linda Douty examines a variety of letting-go struggles and offers ways to move on to a deeper spirituality. Weaving together her own experiences and the stories of others, she offers strategies for letting go of the things that keep us from a deeper relationship with the Divine. With practical suggestions and updated versions of spiritual classics such as *lectio divina*, plus questions for study and reflection, this book is a rich resource for personal spiritual growth as well as for group study.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: Sustainable Youth Ministry Mark DeVries, 2010-11-29 You're looking for a youth pastor. Again. What goes wrong? Why do youth ministries crumble? And what is the cost to students, parents, volunteers and church staff? Is a sustainable youth ministry possible, even after a youth pastor leaves? Youth ministry expert Mark DeVries knows the answer is yes, because he helps build sustainable youth minist...

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: The Great Blue Hills of God Kreis Beall, 2020-02-04 The creative force behind Blackberry Farm, Tennessee's award-winning farm-to-table resort, reveals how she found herself only after losing everything in this powerful memoir of resilience. "I couldn't put down this wise, honest, beautifully written story."—Shauna Niequist, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Present Over Perfect* and *Bread & Wine* Born with the gift of hospitality, Kreis Beall helped create one of the nation's most renowned resort destinations, Blackberry Farm, in Tennessee's Smoky Mountain foothills. For decades, she was a fixture in the travel and entertaining world and frequently appeared in the pages of popular home and design magazines. But at the pinnacle of her success, Kreis faced a series of challenges that reframed her life, including a brain injury that permanently impaired her hearing and the conclusion of her thirty-six-year marriage to her best friend and business partner, Sandy Beall. Alone and uncertain as her world shifts and

marriage ends, Kreis begins a new journey to find her faith and find God. After spending years on her beautiful exterior life and work, she begins the hardest undertaking of all: reclaiming and redesigning her interior life and soul. Kreis retreats to Blackberry Farm, moving into an unassuming, 300-square-foot shed with peeling paint on the exterior walls, "where I met myself for the first time." She examines what it takes to redefine life after deep loss and acknowledges, for the first time, often unbearable truths that existed beneath the beauty she had created. By turns fiercely honest, heartbreaking, and warm, Kreis Beall's story will resonate with anyone who can benefit from her discovery that "All it takes is all you've got. And it is worth it."

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *Reinventing Mom* Kelly Pryde, Ph.D., 2013-12 You're on demand 24/7, juggling children, home management, work, relationships, and never-ending to-do lists. You perform superhuman feats of multitasking to get it all done, but the harder you strive for life balance and happiness, the more tired, frustrated, and underappreciated you feel. Like many moms today, you are simply running on empty. In this guide, Kelly Pryde, Ph.D., combines real-life experiences with extensive research to help you step out of the hurried foggy of everyday juggling into a deeper, more joyful experience of motherhood. Her seven pathways of reinvention will help you learn how to: - turn around self-limiting beliefs and practices - reclaim your feminine wisdom and restore your energy and mood - rethink balance and priorities - find joy, meaning, and peace of mind amidst the chaos - slow down and reconnect with what matters most to you and your family Filled with practical advice, inspiring stories, and a wealth of resources, *Reinventing Mom* will support, nurture, and guide you toward becoming the Mom and woman you are meant to be.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *The Velveteen Woman* Brenda Waggoner, 2009-11-05 From the pages of the children's classic *The Velveteen Rabbit* comes the universal question that has touched the hearts and minds of millions. "What is real?" the rabbit asked the white Skin Horse. "Real isn't how you are made," he answered, "it's a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become real." *The Velveteen Woman* is about transforming love of the Christ Child who came so that we could be real, whole, connected to our Creator. And yet, so many women today ignore His liberating love to pursue rabbit trails that lead only to fear, disappointment and pain. Are you tired... • Of maintaining a carefully kept Christina façade? • Of sharp edges of self-protection that thwart the very love you seek? • Of holding together a little brittle Christianity that is empty of real intimacy? Then join author Brenda Waggoner on a woman's journey toward real, that place of transparency and security in the arms of a Savior who REALLY loves you. "The Velveteen Woman is for every woman who has ever struggled with her significance, security, intimacy with God, and others. (I think that's all of us!) It's a must-read book!" -Carol Kent, Speaker, Author, and President of Speak Up Speaker Services

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: *Searching for Enough* Tyler Staton, 2022-11-10 Do you ever find yourself thinking, 'I'm not enough, and I'm never going to be. And I know I'm not supposed to say this, but God's not enough for me either.' Whether or not we attend church, deep down we wonder if the biblical story of faith is really enough for the complexity of the world in which we live. We fill our lives with other things, hoping that maybe the next experience or accomplishment will complete us. Yet with every goal we reach, we still feel discouraged and anxious. In *Searching for Enough*, Pastor Tyler Staton draws on ancient and modern insights to introduce us, as if for the first time, to Jesus' disciple Thomas: history's most notorious sceptic. Like Thomas, we are caught between two unsatisfying stories: we want to believe in God but can't reconcile his presence with our circumstances and internal struggles. But what if there's a better story than shame? What if there's redemption so complete that there's nothing left to hide? What if there is a God who can heal your resentments, fears, and loneliness in such a profound way that you feel whole? From a place of spiritual companionship and deep authenticity, Tyler shows us that it is not an empty tomb that will change our lives, but the presence of the living God. Whether you are a distant skeptic, an involved doubter, or a busy but bored Christian, *Searching for Enough* invites you to find enough in a God who offers the only promises that never disappoint. Tyler Staton will be

coming to the UK in May this year to speak as a contributor at Wildfires 2023.

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: Mustard Seeds Lynn Coulter, 2008-09-01 C.S. Lewis likened hard times to God's megaphone, a season when the Creator's ways are made clear and proven merciful. Mustard Seeds author Lynn Coulter agrees, writing here across fifteen essays about the natural graces and God signs that emerged during a three-year period of hardship and sustain her faith today. From personal events (her parents' deaths, a job loss) to universal crippers (stress, worry), Coulter's fresh anecdotes unearth the little daily markers of God's love and care while staying rooted in Scripture. Her writings fuse the observational strength of Anne Lamott's nonfiction with the warm delivery of Sue Monk Kidd's devotional books and are sure to be passed around as tools of encouragement and faith strengthening among friends. Chapters include Used People, Deep Healing, and Nothing without Joy. Endorsements Starred review. Coulter, a magazine journalist, takes the familiar biblical story of faith the size of a mustard seed to illustrate how God can use even the most horrendous lifequakes as faith-builders. Coulter opens her compilation of life essays with a personal story from her childhood, when the concept of mustard seed faith was first planted after a teacher offered the class mustard seed charms as an attendance reward. Though Coulter eventually lost the charm, she never forgot its message. Years later, after the death of her parents, her husband's job loss, financial setbacks, and her own shattered shoulder, the author's faith was in pieces. She wrestled long and hard to regain closeness with God. In each of these tender topical chapters, Coulter uses everyday happenings from nature, parenting, work, illnesses, and church to reaffirm a single lesson: God is intimately involved in every aspect of life and he cares with a watchful affection. Readers will find strength from Coulter's story and solace in God's promises regarding faith and grace. —Publishers Weekly Reading Mustard Seeds feels like time spent conversing with a dear old friend over a cup of coffee. Lynn's honest story of how she renewed her faith in Jesus will be a blessing and a source of encouragement. —Mickey McLean, Web Managing Editor, WORLD Magazine A sensitive, thoughtful book, filled with new beginnings, hope, and the wonder and beauty of the search for God. —Amy Blackmarr, author of Going to Ground: Simple Life on a Georgia Pond

sue monk kidd when the heart waits: Seven Transforming Gifts of Menopause Cheryl Bridges Johns, 2020-03-17 Menopause is a dramatic but largely overlooked developmental window to the second half of life. Although today's women are more aware of and actively involved in mapping their menopausal journey than generations before, many still do not see menopause as a time of important psychological and spiritual transformation. This book goes far beyond hot flashes and gets to the very heart of the midlife journey, helping women find their unique voice and speak their truth in an era of #MeToo and #ChurchToo. Coming alongside readers as a wise spiritual guide, pastor and theologian Cheryl Bridges Johns identifies seven key developmental tasks of menopause and gives practical ways women can embrace each one. She encourages women to view these tasks as gifts as they experience the remarkable physical, emotional, and spiritual transformation that occurs in this stage of life. Written in a warm and conversational tone, this book helps women chart a course for the future, leading them to a renewed sense of identity, a more focused vision for life, and a deeper spirituality. Each chapter includes guided questions for personal reflection and study questions for group discussion.

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