

Up from Dust by Heather Kaufman

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To schedule an interview or request a copy of the book, please contact

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BETHANY HOUSE

New Biblical Fiction Series Spotlights New Testament's Most Memorable Women

"A biblical story with a heart for today's world, pulling out an array of joy and hope, sorrow and loss."

-Mesu Andrews, Christy Award-winning author

Bloomington, Minn.—A devotional contributor to *Open Windows*, *Portals of Prayer*, and *Guideposts*, author Heather Kaufman believes each of our stories is a part of the larger, beautiful story that God is telling, and she strives to highlight the goodness of God through her own storytelling.

Making her Bethany House publishing debut with *Up from Dust*, Kaufman reimagines the story of Martha of Bethany in the launch of her new WOMEN OF THE WAY series. In each installment, Kaufman highlights a different influential woman of the Bible and the Savior who pinpointed their pain, met them in the middle of their mess, and lifted them up. Perfect for fans of Angela Hunt, Jill Eileen Smith, and the TV series *The Chosen*, readers of *Up from Dust* will experience for themselves the life-changing power of a true encounter with Jesus of Nazareth.

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Martha of Bethany is a woman of dust, undone and unseen in her hurt and her loss—until everything changes in the presence of Jesus of Nazareth.

Martha of Bethany is no stranger to adversity. After her mother's untimely death, Martha shoulders the responsibility of raising her siblings—quiet and studious Lazarus, and wild and rambunctious Mary. She finds solace in friendship and the beginnings of first love, but just as Martha begins to imagine a new future, hardship strikes again, and her dreams crumble into dust.

Ten years later, Martha's friend pleads for the new teacher, Jesus of Nazareth, to come and heal her husband. When Martha discovers that the carpenter-rabbi is connected to her past, she's not sure she can trust him with her future. But as he continues to perform miracles, the invitation to believe becomes harder to resist, renewing Martha's hardened heart, even as she faces an unknown future.



Get Connected: Heather Kaufman <u>HMKStories.com</u>

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About the Author

Heather Kaufman is the author of multiple books and devotions, praised by *Kirkus Reviews* for writing "a charming and well-crafted tale" (*Loving Isaac*). She delights in highlighting the goodness of God through storytelling. When not reading, writing, or accumulating mounds of books, Heather can be found exploring new parks with her husband and three children near their home in St. Louis, Missouri.

PRAISE for *Up from Dust* and Kaufman's Previous Work

"*Up from Dust* invites us into Jesus's inner circle with fresh insight on the life of Martha of Bethany. Taking us on an intriguing journey through heartbreak and healing, Heather Kaufman leads her readers directly to the joy of the empty tomb."

--Connilyn Cossette, Christy Award winner and ECPA bestselling author

"A charming and well-crafted tale of family, compassion, and acceptance."

-Kirkus Reviews on Loving Isaac

"Kaufman's winsome main narrative is full of misunderstandings, hijinks, and lonely people who find one another despite the many obstacles that stand in the way. . . . Readers will enjoy this sweet tale of a unique bookstore and the patrons that love it."

-Publishers Weekly on The Story People