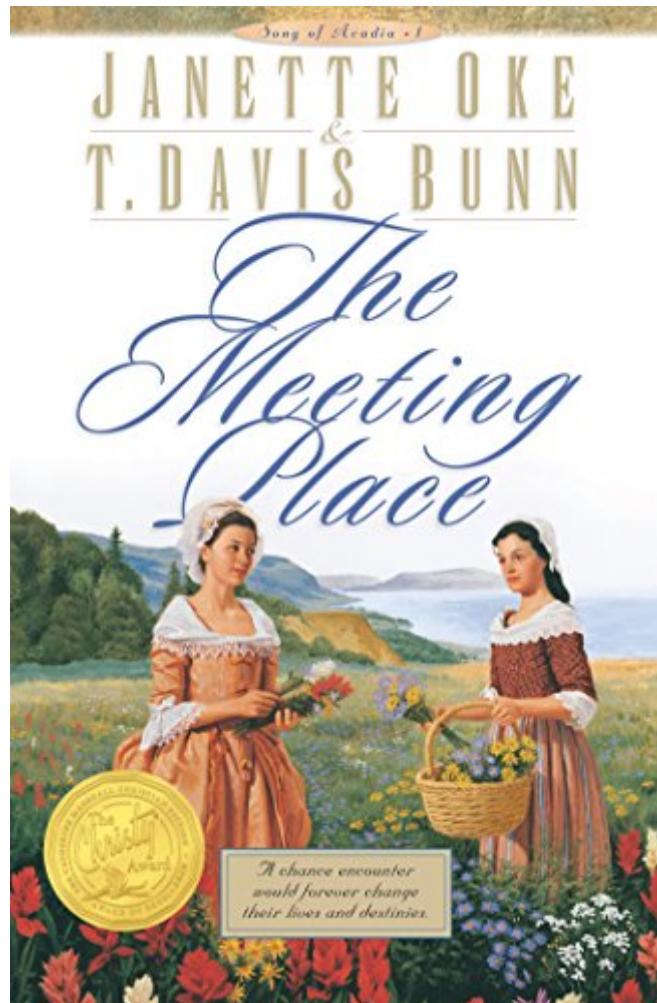


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The Meeting Place (Song Of Acadia Book #1)



Synopsis

A Chance Encounter Forever Changed Their Lives--and Destinies.Crafted by two masters of inspirational fiction--Janette Oke and T. Davis Bunn--and combining the engaging historical settings, rich characterization, and heartwarming messages quintessential to both authors, *The Meeting Place* is another timeless story for you to cherish.Set along the rugged coastline of 18th century Canada in what was then called Acadia (now Nova Scotia and New Brunswick), *The Meeting Place* re-creates a world that was home to native Indians, French settlers, and English garrisons. Such diverse populations did not live in accord, however. Instead, they were isolated within their own groups by a brewing political tension under the difficult English rule. Amid such chaotic times two women, both about to become brides and both trying to live lives of quiet peace, meet in a lush field of wildflowers. Louisa, a Frenchwoman, and Catherine, who is English, continue to meet secretly through the seasons, sharing both friendship and growing faith. The outside world does not mirror their own tranquil happiness, and the dreaded crackdown by the English throne threatens far more than their growing bond. In the face of a heart-wrenching dilemma, Louisa and Catherine strive to maintain their faith and cling to their dreams of family and home.Winner of the Christy Award, presented by the Christian Bookseller Association to honor the best in Christian fiction.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Oh my word. This book touches your very soul. Catherine & Louise, two young women, supposed to be "enemies" meet by accident, then become intent on nothing more than sharing their lives, married on the same days, both become pregnant at about the same time, both give birth to baby girls. They both are searching for something more, & in their sharing grow together as sisters & searching the scriptures expand their knowledge of the Bible & it's word. They share this knowledge with their husbands as well. Then, as will happen, the world around them explodes, as war does, but there's more to this event than the norm, two baby girls are involved..it tears at your heart for all concerned, parents & grandparents. My word, once you start this book, give yourself some time to read & enjoy. Tears are involved as well.

I was very excited to read this. I was interested in the historical context. I loved the long poem *Evangeline* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow - also a story about French Acadians being relocated to Louisiana. But I was a bit disappointed in this book. It's funny because all I'm seeing are good reviews, and I'm rating it a three. With most other Christian historical novels I've read, it's been the opposite. I give it a five while everyone else is criticizing it. I don't know. Maybe now I understand what this audience generally wants out of Christian historical fiction. And what I want and enjoy is different. I agree with another reviewer that the two characters Catherine and Louise are essentially the same person. Louise is the French version of Catherine. And Catherine is the English version of Louise. I also agree that the characters overall were not very complex. The main reason, however, that this book disappointed me was that it seemed to move soooo slowly. Until the last quarter of the book, the only thing I looked forward to happening were the meetings between Louise and Catherine. In between those interactions, it was mostly boredom for me. The story finally started to pick up in the last quarter, but by then I had already decided that I didn't like the book all that much. I was very ready to be done with it so I could move onto something else. Another thing that kind of irritated and bored me was that neither Catherine nor Louise seemed to have any interests in life besides homemaking and their children. I understand that during that time they couldn't do much else, but I prefer my heroines to be a little more complex. I also thought it a bit unrealistic and oversimplified that both of their husbands would be so perfectly nice. I don't know if I am interested in reading the rest of the series or not. That's very disappointing to me, because I would have liked

to own such a pretty collection of books.

In "The Meeting Place", Ms Oke draws you into the story of two young girls meeting in a hillside meadow, captures my heart for one English girl, the other a French girl, and shows how faith allows them to gain hope during the darkest time for any mother concerning their children. The two would have never mingled, as the countries were always at odds and battle, but there in the meadow, the only thing separating their settlements, was the valley and not understanding either's culture. The two girls of the same age were following the same life path and needing to share with one of their own age and neither knowing that their friendship would lead them on a path that would tear them apart, yet give them strength only faith in God would see them through and help keep their hearts stay loving, sweet and kind. This story is heart wrenching yet very uplifting and truly leaves me with hope in all things. Excellent written story.

I chose 2 stars because I couldn't select 3 stars to say it was okay since the only redeeming quality of "The Meeting Place" was the interesting historical content. It was verrrrrrrrrrrrrry sloooooooooooooowwwww for about half the book. I kept thinking we would get there, wherever that may be. However, all the book did was build the characters and take you down the pathway to Song of Acadia Book #2. I don't enjoy reading nearly 300 pages for NOTHING! There was no completion in any scenario or for any character. I would like to know what happens to Elspeth and Antoinette, but I'm not reading "The Sacred Shore" for fear it will only go on and on to nowhere just to set up Book #3.

This book will show how important God is in people's lives, whether they be British or French. The English have a Ft. Edward at the Cobequid Bay, Acadia (early name of Arcadia & New Brunswick). An English woman Catherine Price Harrow becomes a French woman's best friend, Louise Belleveau Robichard. They meet in an open field of wild flowers, unknown to many. They both married the same day. Also had a baby daughter 2 days apart, Elspeth Catherine's & Antoinette Ann Louise's. The King of England wants all of Acadia. The Frenchmen must sign Allegiance to his Royal Highness King of England. Which they refuse because they refused to fight for France. There is romance, love, hardships brutal winters. Catherine & Louise switch babies. Catherine & Andrew decide they want to try & save Antoinette Ann who is very sick. Catherine goes with father to take her to a doctor while he's on official business. The British soldiers overtake Minas & forced all to leave on big ships to unknown destinations. Will they ever see their daughters

again? I recommend reading this book. There are so much to this book. Many other people, love, hardships. It's an excellent book.

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