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## PRESS RELEASE

### **A promise from God is a promise kept**

*Robin Lee Hatcher draws on her own personal pain to illustrate God's goodness.*



**Seattle:** When **Robin Lee Hatcher's** marriage ended in divorce, she was devastated. "I'd been so convinced God had promised me that He would save our marriage," the author says, but she quickly learned that sometimes God answers prayer in the most unexpected ways. In the following years, God used the pain of what appeared to be a failed marriage to draw her closer to Him. In ***A Promise Kept*** (Thomas Nelson/January 7, 2014/ISBN: 978-1401687656/\$15.99) Hatcher draws on that personal pain to craft a story about a woman married to an alcoholic, a woman who has to learn the value and importance of surrendering everything to the Lord.

Despite the similarities to her own life, Hatcher notes, "Allison's life is not the same as mine. I didn't retreat to a mountain cabin nor have an aunt whose journals helped me discover truths I needed to know, nor did I withdraw from God during the depths of my grief as

Allison does. But every lesson God teaches me eventually makes its way into one of my stories. That was certainly true of *A Promise Kept*."

In *A Promise Kept*, Allison finds herself divorced despite her long-held belief that God would save her marriage. She's left asking, "What became of God's promise?" Tony Kavanagh had been Allison's dream-come-true. They were in love within days, engaged within weeks, then married and pregnant within a year. Her cup bubbled over with joy . . . but years later, that joy had been extinguished by unexpected trials.

The day Allison issued her husband an ultimatum to get and stay sober or leave, she thought it might save their marriage. She never expected he would actually choose to walk out the door. She was certain God had promised to heal; it was clear she'd misunderstood. Now, living in the quiet mountain cabin she inherited from her single, self-reliant great aunt Emma, Allison must come to terms with her grief and figure out how to adapt to small-town life. But when she finds a wedding dress and a collection of journals in Emma's attic, a portrait of her aunt emerges that takes Allison completely by surprise: a portrait of a heartbroken woman surprisingly like herself.

As Allison reads the incredible story of Emma's life in the 1920s and 1930s, she is forced to ask a difficult question: Has she really surrendered every piece of her life to the Lord?

Drawing from her own heart-wrenching story of redemption and eventual reconciliation with her husband, *A Promise Kept* is Hatcher's emotionally charged thanksgiving to a God who keeps His promises. "I hope readers will be encouraged to keep walking forward," Hatcher says. "I hope, if they are in a troubled marriage, that they will seek God with their whole hearts and not act out of selfishness but out of obedience. I hope reading *A Promise Kept* will deepen their faith in a God who answers prayers, in His own way and His own time."

**Robin Lee Hatcher will be hosting a Facebook party on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 8:00 PM EST to chat with readers about *A Promise Kept*, give away copies of the book and reveal the grand prize winner of a social media giveaway. More details will be available on her [Facebook page](#).**

## Advance Praise

"A beautiful, heart-touching story of God's amazing grace, and how He can restore and make new that which was lost."

~ Francine Rivers, New York Times bestselling author

"Hatcher's beautifully crafted tale alternates between the past and the present. Allison and Emma are incredibly relatable characters, and readers are able to examine their own lives through the mirror of the novel's events. Filled with family and faith, the author's phrasing is exquisite and a treat to savor."

~ RT Book Reviews Top Pick

"Hatcher departs from her more recent historical novels for this contemporary exploration of the conundrum faced by believers when they accept God's word but can't see it being manifested in their lives. Seeking refuge from the pain of her recent divorce, Allison Kavanagh moves to the remote mountain cabin in Idaho, bequeathed to her by beloved Aunt Emma... With the help of family and newfound church community, Allison reconsiders the trajectory of her marriage, and gradually works through her spiritual and emotional turmoil. The mountain setting is as appealing an aspect of this upbeat, well-paced novel as Allison, Emma, and their family and friends."

~ Publisher's Weekly

"Award-winning Hatcher's latest is a story of love, heartbreak, and redemption... Hatcher's inspirational novel dramatizes the perception that even when it seems like you're alone, you are always a part of a greater plan."

~ Booklist

## About the author



Best-selling novelist Robin Lee Hatcher is known for her heartwarming and emotionally charged stories of faith, courage, and love. She discovered her vocation after many years of reading everything she could put her hands on, including the backs of cereal boxes and ketchup bottles. Winner of the Christy, the RITA, the Carol, the Inspirational Reader's Choice, and many other awards, Hatcher is also a recipient of the prestigious RWA Lifetime Achievement Award. She is the author of 70 novels and novellas with more than five million copies in print.

Hatcher's own experience being married to an alcoholic led her down an unexpected path. Her divorce, though painful, strengthened her faith and gave God the opportunity to save not only her husband but her marriage as well. Their reconciliation became the answer to prayer Hatcher had been waiting for and it became part of the deeply personal story she wanted to share with her readers in *A Promise Kept*.

Hatcher enjoys being with her family, spending time in the beautiful Idaho outdoors, reading books that make her cry, and watching romantic movies. Her main hobby (when time allows) is knitting, and she has a special love for making prayer shawls. A mother and grandmother, Robin and her husband, Jerry, make their home on the outskirts of Boise, sharing it with Poppet, the high-maintenance Papillon and Princess Pinky, the DC (demon cat).

For more information about Hatcher and her books, visit her online home at [www.robinleehatcher.com](http://www.robinleehatcher.com), become a fan on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/robinleehatcher) ([robinleehatcher](https://www.facebook.com/robinleehatcher)) or follow her on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/robinleehatcher) ([@robinleehatcher](https://twitter.com/robinleehatcher)).

## Suggested interview questions

- Can you tell us a little bit about *A Promise Kept* and specifically how your own life inspired this story?
- How does your husband feel about you using aspects of your lives in a novel and speaking openly about it in interviews?
- How much of your main character's situation is based on your own and will readers see a portrait of the author in your heroine?
- What would you say to someone who feels like God has abandoned him or her or forgotten His promise?
- What is the most important thing God taught you during your own period of refinement?
- Is there anything in particular that your heroine, Allison, clings to that helps remind her of God's promises?
- An important question raised in *A Promise Kept* is, "Am I surrendering everything to the Lord?" What is the significance of this question and how do you determine the answer?
- When things don't work out the way we want them to, it's easy to blame God. What would you say to someone wrestling with these feelings, and how can we avoid the bitterness that sometimes accompanies them?
- God never seems to answer our prayers the way we expect or even in the timing we wish for. What advice do you have for people who are in the waiting period?
- Allison moves into the cabin she inherited from her self-reliant aunt Emma and uncovers a side of the woman she didn't know existed. Is this wise woman inspired by someone in your real life?
- You have an important group of women who have influenced your life. Tell us the most valuable aspect of these friendships.
- In your letter to readers, which appears at the end of *A Promise Kept*, you talk about how your divorce felt like a failure. How did God turn that failure around in your life?
- Alcoholism played a large part in your marriage and eventually your divorce. What gave you the strength to continue to pray for your spouse even when no answer came?
- There are many women in our audience who are married to someone who has struggled with addiction, and though they have prayed for them, the answers have yet come. As Christians, we know that divorce is a last resort, but is it ever possibly the answer to prayer? How did you come to that painful decision?
- *A Promise Kept* is such a personal story; what do you hope each reader takes away from it?

**Robin Lee Hatcher is available for interviews to promote the release of *A Promise Kept*. To request a review copy, schedule an interview or for more information, please contact Audra Jennings, [audra@lifusegroup.com](mailto:audra@lifusegroup.com).**