



## The Vow

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A massive head injury, as the result of a tragic car accident, left Krickitt Carpenter in a coma just two months after her marriage to Kim. When she finally emerged from the coma, she recognized everyone in her life except her husband, Kim. Starting all over, they built a new love and dedicated their lives to each other all over again.

## The Vow Details

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## From Reader Review The Vow for online ebook

### **Aishu Rehman says**

A very inspiring book. It was a very enjoyable read. It also shows just how the Lord Jesus works in our lives when we submit to Him. Sometimes we think what is happening isn't fair, but in the end, we can say, "all things work together for good to those who love God to those who are called according to His purpose."

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### **Hillary Peters says**

Very, very inspirational book. It's amazing how the prayers were answered from God. "Krickitt's soul can't be affected by any injury because it's immortal. Her faith will always be there. It's there now. We've seen it. God has preserved her for some great purpose, and her faith is there to carry through." The ending paragraph of this book really hit me, I love this book. I can't wait to see the movie, I hope it's very inspirational like the book.

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### **Jenn says**

This is our March book club book. After seeing the movie, I was very intrigued to read this book. It's a quick read. I really enjoyed hearing about how their faith helped them through this trail. It's a great reminder that God is there for all of us. One of my favorite quotes, "We don't dwell on the bad times but look ahead to the amazing things we know God still has in store for us." One more that I loved, "if there is something missing in your life, seek the Lord. If you once had him in your life And now he seems far away, guess who moved? He is still there; just go to him."

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### **Joan Lattanzio says**

Ugh. I decided to read the book that had been on the back of every shelf of every single library in the world (for good reason) because after seeing the trailer for the movie I was compelled to look for the book.. Being a reader myself and as im sure everyone thinks the same, books are always leagues away from the movie.. So I started reading it, to make the story short I believe the movie will be better than the book. Something unheard of right? I havent seen it yet but ill give it that at least. I expect not to be completely dissappointed.. I even think the one star is too much. Repetitive and dull and full of God and the bible, not a book about love at all, if romance is what you seek. If id known before starting the book that the protagonist was actually religion it wouldnt have been so overbearing, but I didnt so I hated it. I mean they didnt even stay together for their love because im quiet sure she wasnt even feeling it at the moment, they were together for their vows to God and because being the religious people that they were (or are) they didnt want to get a divorce. That being said, theyre togehter so kudos to them. Anyways, the only reason to even consider this book is if you love God and faith and religion. Boring.

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## Beth Fred says

This is going to be a weird review for a couple of reasons. I can't really talk about this one without talking about the movie, because it's non-fiction, and I would have never read it if I didn't think the movie was compelling but could be better. I don't read non-fiction, but I picked this book up thinking it would be better than the movie. Wrong. And I want to apologize in advance to the Carpenters as this won't be a five star review. I couldn't decide whether I should review this or not, because it's a true story, and I don't want to offend anyone. But I've checked the amazon reviews and my thoughts seem to be on par with a lot of people's.

The Carpenters are in a car wreck the day before Thanksgiving which leaves Krickitt in a coma. The movie opens up here. The book starts a year and a half earlier. The problem is this is the inciting incident. I know it's non-fiction, but I've read memoirs need to be as compelling as a novel. The story starts here. Another difference is that the movie moves pretty quickly from the car accident to her trying to rebuild her life. The book spends way too long on the details of her hospitalization and recovery.

The thing that surprised me is even though this is a memoir and the movie is fiction, I found the movie more believable in many aspects than the book. The couple were basically pen-pals for the first year of their relationship. They met in person 2 months before they got married and were only married 10 weeks before the accident. It then took a year and a half after the accident for them to rebuild any sort of relationship worth having. I know it's true, and I don't doubt it did happen, but there wasn't enough relationship building in the book to make me believe it as I read it. A couple of other things bothered me about the book. For example, I found the characters in the movie easier to relate to. Now, it's true an over-achiever who finally drops out of law school to do something artsy and takes crap from the whole family for it hits close to home for me, but I just felt the characters in the movie were more well rounded. (I'm not in any way implying that the Carpenters are not well-rounded individuals, just that you don't get that from the book).

Part of the reason I chose this book was because I caught part of an interview with the couple where they said they liked the movie but wish it paid more attention to the role their faith played in staying married. I find lots of expectations when writing and lots of things available for reading to be anti-faith. I thought I'd give this a try. I think the fundamental problem is that it's too much the other way. Rather than building characters (which should be easy to do--the writer knows these people) and building relationships, the writer spends the majority of every page in excerpts from prayer journals. If he really felt it was necessary one or two excerpts for examples would have been fine, but this book reads more like a list of events squeezed between prayers than a story. And I don't know that the overtness makes God's role more apparent to the story. If you're going to have massive head trauma and memory loss, Krickitt Carpenter's situation is the ideal way to do it. They had lots of really supportive family and friends. Her family wanted them to stay together had they taken advantage of her memory loss the way Paige's family in the movie did, I'm not sure this couple would have made it. In spite of having a family that wanted to get rid of her husband and not being able to remember who he was Paige still ended up where she was supposed to be. When she dropped out of law school the second time for the same reason. I just thought "Wow, you always end up where you're supposed to be. All roads lead to the same place." If I didn't believe in God I'd have to call it fate. Then she ends up with her husband again. I actually found that more amazing than being able to stay together with lots of encouragement and support. And it's kind of reflective of life too. We make bad or dumb decisions from time to time. It's called being human, but years later when I look back on it, I often find that had I gone another route I'd still end up where I am today.

bethfred.com

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## Beatrice Masaluña says

Heartwarming and inspirational.

I like it, but some parts are somewhat redundant.

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## Maria Espadinha says

Outra Vez O Amor

É sempre bom dissertar sobre Amor:

Amor é fogo que arde sem se ver  
É ferida que dói e não se sente  
É um contentamento descontente...

Ooops, parece que já ouvi isto em qualquer lado  
E se calhar vocês também ?!  
Bom...recomecemos então:

O Amor é como Fernando Pessoa...  
Aposto que esta nunca ouviram, hein?  
Continuando:  
O que terá então o Amor em comum com Fernando Pessoa?  
Há por aí ideias?  
Talvez dando algum tempo para pensar:...

Já pensaram?  
Ora ótimo!  
É isso mesmo: são os heterónimos, pois claro!  
Há o Amor pela família, pelos animais, pela natureza, pelos amigos, entre um casal, etc, etc...  
Também podemos pensar no Amor como um arquipélago que é capaz de ser outra abordagem original  
Como veem , apesar de já muito badalado ainda é possível encontrar novas formas de falar acerca deste  
nobre sentimento  
E ainda bem, porque senão um destes dias, logo que se falasse ou escrevesse sobre ele, os olhos e ouvidos  
fechar-se-iam o que acarretaria graves consequências à felicidade de cada um...

Uma vez introduzido o tema, falemos então sobre este livro:  
Sendo uma estória de amor verdadeira trata-se duma peça única  
Nenhum dos membros do casal envolvido escreve profissionalmente. Encontram-se apenas a partilhar um  
momento algo complicado das suas vidas e como se socorreram do Amor para o enfrentar e superar  
É uma estória vivida e sofrida que testemunha o poder milagroso deste sentimento e reconquista os mais  
desiludidos mostrando como ainda vale a pena investir nessa "strange lil thing called Love"!

5 gloriosas estrelas

## Michelle says

I can not say enough good things about this book. In my honest opinion I think it should be required reading for any couple going through premarital counseling. After completing this easy read I honestly wanted nothing more than to hug their necks and tell them Thank You for sharing such a courageous story of their infinite faith and devotion to each other and to God.

But let me address the two most common complaints with this book.

It's Preachy: ok you are reading an amazing story of the miracle that God performed for this couple and their strong religious beliefs and faith are the very soul of this story. If you aren't religious then I could see you having this issue with it. However for me, and I consider myself a very religious person, I devoured the book as one of the greatest love stories ever told with God as the center of their relationship. I've read church bulletins that were "preachier" than this book. There is no condemnation of your own beliefs in this book, Kim and Cricket are simply telling you their story that includes their faith.

The writer tells the story very clinically without giving you details of how they fell in love again: Ok while this is partially true, it does read more clinical than emotional, you have to remember this is written by the husband who is NOT A WRITER. This is a real life story, not some fairytale. Please do not pick up this book expecting it to be exactly like the movie or a Nicholas Sparks novel because it is NOT A NOVEL.

I do wish we would have had a little more of an update on Cricket's behavior now at twenty years since the accident. We know she never regained her memory, but I am still curious as to how much of her personality returned and how much of the selfish, teenage tantrums still occur.

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## Yunita1987 says

Buku ini bagus banget...buku ini bukanlah buku yg hanya menceritakan kisah romantis ataupun kisah perjuangan sang suami untuk menyelamatkan istrinya. Tetap banyak hal yang aq peroleh setelah baca buku ini. Yang pasti baca buku ini menyadarkan kepada kita kalau disaat kita memiliki banyak masalah janganlah khawatir tetapi serahkan semuanya kepada Tuhan dan jangan pernah berpikir kalau Tuhan jauh dari kita atau tidak mendengarkan doa kita. Karena Tuhan tau apa yang terbaik untuk kita.

Selain itu, ada pesan penting dari buku ini untuk kita semua yaitu lebih baik memberi daripada menerima. Sehingga disaat kita menghadapi banyak masalah dalam hidup kita maka belajarlah untuk menerimanya bukan menjauh dari masalah dan saling berbagi dengan keluarga, teman dan terkhusus pada Tuhan. Sehingga kita akan tau apa arti menerima dan sebagai hasilnya kita akan tahu bagaimana untuk memberi kepada orang lain.

Ada beberapa kalimat2 dibuku 'The Vow' yang aku baca,,,sepertinya menarik untuk bahan renungan :

1. Being a Christian is having an ongoing intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. When I heard that Christ had died for me so my sins could be forgiven, it was the most awesome news I'd ever heard.
3. the message of Christ had touched me. It wasn't a quick process, but in time I came to fully trust and

follow Jesus as my Savior.

4. She had incorporated her faith into every part of her life. She wasn't a Christian just on Sunday mornings; being a Christian was the core of who she was. And I adored that about her.

5. "Lord, I really need your wisdom and Spirit to guide me with Kimmer. . . . Part of me wants to meet him—I think it would be fun. Part of me doesn't because I don't want to begin to have feelings for him if this is not of you. If it is, I pray you would show me that. I want to be led by you. I see so many ways in which we relate, but you must be the center."

6. "Life isn't fair; it's life," she said softly, confidently. "Everybody has times when they feel like God's just not there. But he's always there, always bringing you closer to him, even when your mother's sick and your baseball team isn't playing well."

7. Philippians 4:6–9—Read and dwell on this.

8. The Lord is constantly teaching us. I know He has me in His right pocket and I'm very safe there. I love to see Him really work in my life, and I know He'll use me in His due time."

9. you can't do it by yourself. You need God,."

10. "God hasn't forgotten you," he said with quiet confidence. "God will never forget you. He says he will never leave you comfortless, and he won't. You can't use him up or wear him out. Hang on to him, Kim. He's the most powerful force for good you have. He won't forget you. So please don't forget him."

11. "Dear Lord, I thank you so much for being by my side and being so faithful to me. I need you now, and daily. I can see that I cannot do this on my own strength, but I need you to carry me and help me through each and every day

12. From that moment on we gave it up to God. Our lives were in his hands, and he was having us look to the future, not to the past.

13. Our family lives by three sayings. -> The first is that we "do the right thing." If you were to walk up to one of my kids on the street and say, "Remember . . ." they will respond with, "do the right thing." -> Our second saying is, "It's important to give it all you got." We have learned that life is precious, so while we're here we need to give all we have. -> our third saying is, "I got gaps, and together we fill them." Think about that for a moment. We all have things that we're good at and not-so-good at, but together we fill each other's gaps. When we work together and complement each other by filling in the gaps, we can achieve our dreams hand in hand. I believe that as our family lives out those three things, we can give to others what has been given to us. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

14. I'm no hero. I have made mistakes just like anyone else has, and I wouldn't be who I am today without my faith and trust in him. This story is not about me, and it's not about Krickitt. It's about the Lord and how He brought my wife and me through a terrible time to a life that is greater than we could have ever imagined.

15. I want you to remember that in life you will encounter some very tough times, but you can find your strength in God. If there is something missing in your life, seek the Lord. If you once had him in your life and now he seems far away, guess who moved? He is still there; just go to him. He loves you with an everlasting love, and through obedience to him all commitments will endure.

16. Life is a gift from the Lord and he is our refuge and strength in good times and bad, in sickness and in health. He has blessed us by creating individuals that have played such an instrumental role in our lives.

17. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

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### **Jessica says**

I was very disappointed by this book, and I think this is one of those rare instances where the movie will actually be better than the book.

By now, I'm sure everyone knows the story - and since there's a movie, there's no room for ending spoils, which is why I'll go into detail about what I didn't like.

The way the book was written was not ideal - the bylines say Kim and Krickett Carpenter, yet only Kim narrated. I would've liked to hear what Krickett had to say. And Kim was very repetitive. For a solid three chapters I heard about how she didn't recognize him, how she would insult him and this would lead to arguments. Surely, there had to be more to the story than that. By the time Kim decides to see a therapist (who decides the two need to start 'dating' again), I'm the one who's ready to give up. After what seems like three dates - and no indication of how they fell in love again - they are ready to remarry. I want to know: What made Krickitt decide to stay (besides the fact that she was a devout Christian - surely there was something inside her that said, I don't recognize this man, or this home, why don't I just start anew?) What was it like to fall in love again - what kinds of emotions led to this?

I understand why they decided to take their story to the media - for one, they really did believe they could help people, and hey, after a major accident they are left them in financial ruins. but the last two chapters seem to give more detail of their 16-year media tour and how their new best friends are Ann Curry and Leeza Gibbons, than it does of the year and a half after the accident.

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### **Leo says**

I came to know this book when I watched the movie (which was good but could be better) and I was curious to read the real story from the real people. The book is told by Kim Carpenter but not Krickitt and I wish that she had also told us her story and what she went through. I wanted to know what she felt when she suddenly woke up and discovered that she was married to a stranger, how she coped with that and what made her decide to fight for her marriage.

And although Kim tells his story, I expected a bit more development in how they rekindled their relationship. He tells us they fall in love again, but we don't read it for ourselves.

Apart from that, this is an amazing story, of survival and strength and love. Not only is surprising how Krickitt survived the crash and the following days, but also how Kim stayed by her even in their darkest moments, when it seemed like he had lost her. And it amazes me how they both relied in God to help them. I don't believe in God and it was a bit weird at first to read how they so vehemently did believed in him, but the important thing is that that belief helped them overcome all the adversities they faced and that got to me. It's an inspiring story and I glad I read the book instead of just watching the movie.

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### **Keri says**

This book was a super quick read but it was for sure uplifting!! It reminds you that love can conquer all! We cant see the whole picture but He can, this book helps you in remembering to trust in God. Now to see the movie :)

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### **Melissa says**

If you're reading this book because you enjoyed the movie and want more of it, you'll be a bit shocked or confused when you read this. The movie is cute and Channing Tatum is a lot of fun to look at, but the love story in the movie completely leaves out the reason why they decided to keep their vows in such a terrible situation: they loved God and wanted to honor the commitment they made to him. So the book centers on that theme: honoring God and being faithful. I think it's a really beautiful story and a great example of the kind of marriage that I would hope to have if I do get married one day. It reminded me a lot of my parents and how my dad loved and cared for my mom when she couldn't care for herself. It's stories like this that warm my heart and give me hope that people can really love others unconditionally.

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### **Margo says**

I went into this book thinking it was going to be a Nicholas Sparks novel- I was so wrong. It is an incredible story but lacked the romance I was hoping for.

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### **Jenifer says**

Five months ago my husband was in an accident and suffered a major head injury. So when my BBF dropped this book off to me yesterday. I was intrigued and read it from beginning to end. Our story is different in many ways. My husband remembered me but took time to remember others. We have been together for 18years and we already have children. But in many ways the thoughts and questions Kim had to work through are the same, the early days of my husband coming home were rough. Because of this the story for me was easy to relate to. Some reviews say it didn't have enough romance for them. I feel the simple moments of the book show real and true romance and more importantly love. True romance or love isn't the ripping off of clothes or the smoke of meaningless words. It's the staying and pushing through the hardships. The faith they had in God held them together. Love or romance is holding onto the glimpses of your future in someones eyes. Its grinding agaist your pain to continue on to be better for someone else. It's coming to the terms of lifes changes and becoming who you need to be ,to meet the needs of the ones most important to you. The book reminded me to pull my faith to the forefront and to be patient with love because that's God's biggest plan for us . God knows my place is beside husband today and always because of our vows.

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