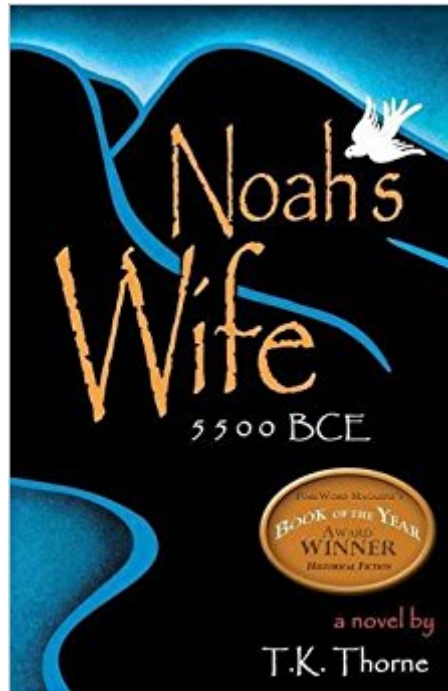




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Noah's Wife



Synopsis

A ForeWord Reviews BOOK OF THE YEAR for Historical Fiction. Noah's Wife transports readers to an ancient time and place, while delving into issues that affect our contemporary lives--family relationships, autism, religious freedom, kidnapping and cultural change. Thorne's version weaves myth, history, and archeological findings with her vivid imagination, wisdom and humor into an epic tale you will not forget. Told from the unique perspective of a young girl with what is now called Aspergers, this is the story of Noah's completely unknown wife, Naamah. Naamah wishes only to be a shepherdess on her beloved hills in ancient Turkey-- a desire shattered by the hatred of her powerful brother and the love of two men. Her savant abilities and penchant to speak truth forces her to walk a dangerous path in an age of change--a time of challenge to the goddess's ancient ways, when cultures clash and the earth itself is unstable. When foreign raiders kidnap her, Naamah's journey to escape and return home becomes an attempt to save her people from the disaster only she knows is coming. A few interesting tidbits: *Scientists (including Robert Ballard, the explorer who found the sunken Titanic) discovered evidence that the Black Sea was once a fresh water lake that flooded in a cataclysmic event around 5500. *The oldest known worshipped deity was female! The role of the feminine in the divine was entwined with early Judaism and keeps reappearing throughout history. *One in every 88 persons has a form of autism. The choice to make Noah's wife an Asperger savant stemmed from personal experience in the author's life and gives the story a distinctive perspective. EXCERPT: "My name, Naamah, means pleasant or beautiful. I am not always pleasant, but I am beautiful. Perhaps that is why I am trundled atop this beast like a roll of hides for market and surrounded by grim-faced men. If my captors had bothered to ask me, I would have told them that their prize is of questionable value because my mind is damaged. But they did not, and I lie draped, belly down, across the back of a naurochs, a large black ox with an eel stripe that runs down his spine and a stench worse than a rutting goat. CRITICAL PRAISE: "T.K. Thorne is a magical writer. In Noah's Wife, she turns Biblical lore upside down...and makes us believe every word of this novel is true. Her writing is flat-out brilliant and spellbinding. ...I couldn't put it down." -- "A terrific storyteller, with the ability to transport readers from one time and place to another." -- Sena Jeter Naslund. . . an extraordinary work." -- Dianne Mooney, founder of Southern Living At Home -- "A novel of epic sweep, emotional power, and considerable beauty." -- Ron Gholson, The Blount Countian

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Customer Reviews

With her debut award-winning novel, Noah's Wife, Thorne has accomplished a successful blend of literary, historical, romance, and adventure with unique characters who stay with the reader long after the last page. This is not a "religious" book, although it is based loosely on the Biblical flood story. Look for more to come from this up and coming writer!

Writing Noah's Wife was an incredible experience, a four-year research project that took me to Turkey. The characters became so real to me that when I finally finished the book, I missed them terribly. I hope you enjoy reading this story and bringing them back to life. My Best,--T.K. Thorne

Simply amazing! There are just so many positives that I don't know where to begin. Let's start with Naamah. She is such a great role model for many women out there. She is not afraid to believe in what she believes in, she doesn't bend to society's views of women, her thoughts are original, and she is extremely strong-willed. I mean venturing through the woods on your own when you are pregnant for the first time in order to escape from those who captured you? My praises to her! The other aspect that really makes that sets this apart is the twist of the classic Biblical tale of Noah's Ark. In the version that we know, there is God who informs Noah of the upcoming flood. However, in this fictional tale, there is a Father God and a Mother Goddess, and the driving force in this story is definitely female. Though the story that Thorne tells isn't real, it was a nice surprise of how important the female role

was here. Even though, some of the characters' names were unique, the author does an excellent job in helping the readers differentiate between one from the other. There is an antagonist here, and it becomes clear who he is early on. Then, when I think I could not dislike him any more, the author throws a curve ball and I began to sympathize for him. As a warning, there are scenes of rape, sexual assault, and incest that may bother some. There were times that saddened my heart and left me with my mouth open. Though with times of heartache, there were also times of happiness. Overall, this is a book that encourages to question, discover, and be true to yourself. To not be afraid to say what you actually feel and what's on your mind. Absolutely loved every minute of this read! It is one that I can see myself revisiting. I would recommend this to those who like a book that pushes your way of thinking and about how a young girl with a condition can make a difference.

Noah's wife is a fictional tale about Naamah. The story begins twenty-one years before the flood when Naamah was just a kid. The setting of the tale is around 5521 B.C. and so many historical references match the same biblical stories we know from that time. Of course, this has to be made clear that the story is not true. So any religious scholar looking to pinpoint any facts that do not go with their holy book can just stop there. There is something very special about Noah's wife. Not only does the story demonstrate the hardship and the choices that women had to make back in those days but it also displays a not so commonly known illness, Autism. Naamah suffers from Asperger. Something completely oblivious back in those days and so she is treated like an outsider, someone weird and her prospects of getting married and having children are limited. Due to being autistic she cannot retain thoughts and so Naamah questions many things. The religious setting of the story was very interesting to me. The people worshiped Mother Goddess and Father God. However, Naamah questioned their beliefs, and so she does not believe whatever is told to her. The time frame from Naamah being a child to becoming a woman was written beautifully. Noah, the boat maker, meets Naamah at the market and asks if he could marry her when she comes of age. Her father agrees to this. However, there is a twist of fate in this event, which made it very intriguing. Although mistreated by the River People, Naamah's spirit was never touched. Her Autism did not limit her in any way, and she was written to be a very loving and admirable character. The story remained consistent with enough backstory and references to everything that was relevant to the plot. I have to warn the readers that the book does consist of topics such as rape, incest narratives, and other similar sensitive subjects. In conclusion, I recommend this book to

everyone. I rarely find stories that are this good and believe, that anyone that does not read it will be missing out big time. Written by Jeyran Main

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