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A New Voice in Biblical Fiction Depicts Jezebel's Samaria in Bold Color

Rain from Mountain Brook Ink Explores the Volatile World of Elijah and 9th Century BCE Samaria



White Salmon, WA., NOV. 12, 2020 — *Rain* by Dana McNeely bursts onto the scene in the bloody pagan temple of Melqart. Pulling from Canaan's tumultuous history, McNeely weaves the tale of Elijah in vibrant detail.

"There's a new name in biblical fiction," says Mesu Andrews, Christy Award winning and bestselling biblical fiction author. "McNeely explores a tale not widely told but brought to life with impeccable research and fascinating fiction. Biblical novice and scholar alike will be enthralled."

However, *Rain* almost never went to press. When an author from Mountain Brook Ink tracked down writer Dana McNeely, she had nearly given up on the unique biblical fiction story steeped in the culture and history of 9th century BCE Canaan. Instead, the author, who had sleuthed McNeely's identity from an anonymous contest, informed McNeely that Mountain Brook Ink was looking for biblical fiction—and she should submit.

In the book, Aban yearns to join the priesthood of Ba'al Melqart, unlock the power of the rain god, and hear the deity's voice. If he can survive the initiation ceremony, one day he'll rise to high priest. When the mysterious prophet Elijah interrupts the rites, overturns the idol, and curses the land with drought, Aban's world is shaken. Against his better judgement, he conceals the prophet's whereabouts, forfeiting the high priesthood. Now an enemy of relentless Queen Jezebel, Aban's commitment to Melqart wavers as he and his loved ones flee. Aban must choose a side in Yahweh's war against the Ba'als—and it may cost him his life.

Intrigued by the premise and compelled by the gentle handling of deep issues with a voice likened to Francine Rivers' *Mark of the Lion* series, Mountain Brook Ink signed debut author McNeely for a book New York Times bestselling author Rachel Hauck called "a splendid debut." With a series contract, McNeely isn't a name soon to fade from the biblical fiction scene.

Mountain Brook Ink is a small press based out of White Salmon, Washington owned by multi-published and ECPA best-selling author, Miralee Ferrell. *Rain* will be available through major retailers March 5, 2021.

Dana McNeely dreamed of living in a world teeming with adventure, danger, and romance. She learned to visit that dream world by stepping into a book. Soon, she began writing her own stories. No stranger to drought, Dana lives in an Arizona oasis with her husband, two good dogs, an antisocial cat, and migrating butterflies. You can learn more about Dana at her website danamcneely.com. Dana is available for speaking engagements, author interviews, and book signings. To schedule an appearance, please contact the media contact below.

Rain
WHISPERS ON THE WIND, #1
by Dana McNeely
Mountain Brook Ink

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Media Contact: Alyssa Roat
E-mail: alyssa@mountainbrookink.com

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