



***Before the King*
by Heather Kaufman**

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BETHANYHOUSE

***Rising Author Weaves Tale of Courage, Conviction, and
Forbidden Faith in King Herod's Inner Circle***

“Kaufman’s writing is skillful and compelling, conveying Martha’s deep emotions and inner conflicts in a novel that will be greatly appreciated by readers who enjoy Christian fiction.”

—**Booklist** on *Up from Dust*

Bloomington, Minn.—Rising author Heather Kaufman has been praised by *Kirkus Reviews* for writing “a charming and well-crafted tale.” In her latest novel, *Before the King*, Kaufman displays her storytelling prowess once again in a gripping tale of faith, resilience, and love set against the dangerous backdrop of King Herod’s court.

. . . .

Joanna’s wealthy family aspires to join Herod’s inner circle. But when her father’s position in the Sepphoris Sanhedrin is threatened, Joanna finds herself caught between family loyalty and personal desires. A life-altering injury and an unexpected encounter with Herod’s financial minister set her on a new path, challenging her sense of duty and hope for love.

Years later, Joanna’s life is transformed by the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth. As she navigates the treacherous waters between a skeptical court, suspicious believers, and a husband with his own secrets, Joanna must protect her newfound faith in the face of increasing pressure.

Join Heather Kaufman as she masterfully blends historical detail, a spiritual journey, and personal drama for a story that will captivate historical and biblical fiction fans.



About the Author

Heather Kaufman is the author of multiple books and devotions, praised by *Kirkus Reviews* for writing “a charming and well-crafted tale.” She delights in highlighting the goodness of God through storytelling. When not reading, writing, or accumulating mounds of books, Heather can be found exploring new parks with her husband and three children near their home in St. Louis, Missouri. Learn more at HMKStories.com.

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Heather Kaufman

PRAISE for Heather Kaufman’s Novels

“*Up from Dust* invites us into Jesus’s inner circle with fresh insight on the life of Martha of Bethany. Taking us on an intriguing journey through heartbreak and healing, Heather Kaufman leads her readers directly to the joy of the empty tomb.”

—**Connilyn Cossette**, Christy Award winner
and ECPA bestselling author

“Heather Kaufman is a truly fresh voice in biblical fiction with great promise.”

—**Tessa Afshar**, *Publishers Weekly* bestselling author of
The Hidden Prince and *The Peasant King*

“Heather Kaufman gives us a biblical story with a heart for today’s world, pulling out an array of joy and hope, sorrow and loss. Ultimately, this book consumed me with absolute delight. . . . *Up from Dust* is a ray of hope for every Martha who seeks and follows Jesus.”

—**Mesu Andrews**, Christy Award-winning author

“A heartfelt story of faith.”

—**Historical Novels Review** on *Up from Dust*

“Kaufman’s winsome main narrative is full of misunderstandings, hijinks, and lonely people who find one another despite the many obstacles that stand in the way. . . . Readers will enjoy this sweet tale of a unique bookstore and the patrons that love it.”

—**Publishers Weekly** on *The Story People*