



For Immediate Release

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Historical romance novel explores the mysteries of love and forgiveness

Ventura, California—May 2010—Nordskog Publishing releases Close to His Heart, a romance by Leonora Pruner set in eighteenth-century England. Published under the Noble Novels imprint, this new line aims to provide wholesome, inspiring stories.

Close to His Heart by author Leonora Pruner explores the depth and strength of true love in a marriage gone awry. The principle of forgiveness becomes a key element for working through a marital relationship damaged by past misunderstandings and hurtful events.

In this eighteenth-century romance, a young and naive Grace Carstares plans a midnight elopement with a handsome stableman with suspicious motives. Their plans are thwarted, however, when Grace discovers a mysterious stranger lying guard at her bedroom threshold. All is explained the next morning when, to her dismay, Grace learns her nighttime guardian is young Lord Buryhill, a suitor approved by her father who caught rumor of her misguided romance and decided to protect her from ruining her life.

Determined to marry this particular young woman, Lord Henry Buryhill comes to deeply love Grace and hopes to win her love in return. Yet buried beneath this determination is his own abandoned hope that he would meet a woman who might share his commitment to God.

Henry wins Grace's heart as well as her hand in marriage. But Henry cannot overcome his nagging fears that Grace clings to her affection for the stableman. His distrust darkly clouds their wedding night and shatters their hopes for a joy-filled union. Unaware of the reasons driving her husband's suspicions and jealousy, a devastated Grace withdraws from Henry, busying herself in gardening and taking solace in God's love.

An ensuing pony-cart accident, through which Grace loses all memory of former things, presents both Grace and Henry the opportunity to either abandon their shattered marriage or begin anew. A guilt-ridden Henry is determined to win Grace's heart once again, but Grace must decide whether to accept the courtship of a complete stranger or continue her life in the small community among the people who found her and nursed her back from a head injury. Will Henry's determination, forgiveness, and tender care be sufficient to rebuild a foundation for their marriage?

"*Close to His Heart* is more than a superbly researched historical romance," says fellow author Donna E. Crow. "It is a profound study of true love and the meaning of forgiveness."

Nordskog publisher Gerald Christian Nordskog says: "Novels are read not so much for information as for a vicarious experience. Often fiction displays deep spiritual truths with an added emotional dimension that impacts our understanding of our own issues in life. With this in mind, we present Leonora Pruner's novel *Close to His Heart*."

From junior high, writing has been an important part of author Leonora Pruner's life. A graduate of both Westmont College and Pepperdine University, Pruner has written two previous novels also set in the eighteenth-century England.

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376 pages