

a faith that smiles

A Faith That Smiles: Embracing Joy in Spirituality

a faith that smiles is more than just a poetic phrase; it embodies a way of living spirituality that radiates warmth, hope, and genuine happiness. In a world often shadowed by doubt, fear, and hardship, a faith that smiles offers a refreshing perspective—one where belief is not heavy or burdensome but uplifting and encouraging. This approach to spirituality invites us to explore how faith can be a source of joy and inner peace, transforming not only our relationship with the divine but also how we interact with the world around us.

What Does It Mean to Have a Faith That Smiles?

At its core, a faith that smiles is about embracing spirituality with a light heart and an open spirit. It suggests a belief system that doesn't dwell excessively on guilt, fear, or judgment but instead focuses on love, grace, and hope. When faith smiles, it reflects a trust that, regardless of life's challenges, there is goodness to be found, and a higher purpose at work.

This concept is not limited to any single religion or tradition; it can be found across various spiritual paths where joy, gratitude, and kindness are central themes. Smiling faith is about cultivating an attitude that finds beauty in the everyday and welcomes challenges as opportunities for growth rather than punishment or despair.

The Power of Positivity in Spiritual Practice

Positive thinking and spirituality have long been intertwined. A faith that smiles nurtures a mindset that encourages optimism and resilience. When we approach our beliefs with positivity, we are more likely to experience emotional well-being and maintain hope through difficult times. This doesn't mean ignoring the reality of life's struggles but rather choosing to focus on the constructive and healing aspects of faith.

For example, many spiritual teachings emphasize forgiveness, compassion, and community—all of which foster a smiling faith that uplifts rather than tears down. This positive foundation can lead to stronger relationships and a more peaceful existence.

How a Smiling Faith Influences Daily Life

Faith is not just about rituals or doctrines; it is about how we live each day. When faith smiles, it colors our daily experiences with kindness and grace. People who embody this kind of faith often find themselves naturally drawn to acts of service, generosity, and encouragement.

Spreading Joy Through Small Acts

One of the most beautiful expressions of a faith that smiles is the ability to bring light to others' lives. Simple acts such as offering a genuine compliment, extending a helping hand, or sharing an encouraging word can create a ripple effect of positivity. These moments not only brighten someone else's day but also reinforce our own connection to the faith that inspires us.

Building Resilience and Hope

Life's difficulties can sometimes shake our belief systems, but a faith that smiles provides a cushion of hope and resilience. Instead of succumbing to despair, those who maintain this joyful outlook find strength in their trust that there is meaning beyond immediate circumstances. This can be especially comforting during times of loss, illness, or uncertainty, serving as a reminder that joy and peace are always within reach.

The Role of Gratitude in a Faith That Smiles

Gratitude is a cornerstone of a faith that smiles. When we cultivate thankfulness for the blessings in our lives, we naturally develop a more joyful and content spirit. This doesn't mean ignoring challenges, but rather recognizing the good alongside the difficult.

Practicing Daily Gratitude

Incorporating gratitude into everyday spiritual practice can be simple yet profoundly transformative. Many people find keeping a gratitude journal or setting aside time for reflective prayer or meditation helps center their hearts on what is positive. This habit shifts the focus from scarcity to abundance, fostering a smile that arises from deep appreciation.

Gratitude and Community Connection

Expressing gratitude within a community strengthens bonds and creates an environment where faith can thrive joyfully. When we thank others for their presence, support, or kindness, we build a network of encouragement that sustains a smiling faith collectively.

Nurturing a Faith That Smiles: Tips and Insights

Developing a smiling faith is a journey, and it benefits from intentional practices and mindful awareness. Here are some ways to nurture this uplifting spiritual outlook:

- **Engage in joyful worship or rituals:** Participate in spiritual activities that inspire happiness and connection rather than obligation.
- **Surround yourself with positive influences:** Spend time with people who uplift your spirit and model a faith filled with joy and hope.
- **Practice mindfulness and presence:** Being fully present helps you appreciate the moment's blessings and reduces worry about the future or past.
- **Read uplifting spiritual literature:** Seek out books, sermons, or teachings that emphasize love, grace, and joy.
- **Serve others with a cheerful heart:** Acts of kindness done joyfully increase your own faith's smile while brightening someone else's day.

The Importance of Humor and Lightheartedness

Often overlooked in spiritual conversations, humor and lightheartedness are vital components of a faith that smiles. Laughter connects us to one another and to the joy inherent in life itself. It reminds us not to take ourselves too seriously and that even in the midst of trials, there is room for hope and delight.

Faith and Smiles in a Modern World

In today's fast-paced, sometimes overwhelming world, a faith that smiles offers a much-needed antidote to stress and negativity. It encourages us to slow down, appreciate the small wonders, and find peace amidst chaos.

Digital communities and social media have created new spaces for sharing faith experiences, and a smiling faith can be a powerful presence online. Sharing stories of hope, gratitude, and kindness can inspire others and cultivate a more compassionate global community.

Balancing Realism and Optimism

While a smiling faith leans toward positivity, it also embraces realism. It acknowledges pain and injustice without losing sight of the potential for healing and transformation. This balance is what makes it authentic and relatable—a faith that doesn't shy away from life's complexities but meets them with a hopeful heart and a gentle smile.

Embracing a faith that smiles invites us all to experience spirituality not as a heavy burden but as a source of lightness and joy. It calls us to live with gratitude, resilience, and kindness, reflecting an

inner peace that naturally radiates outward. In doing so, faith becomes not just a belief but a vibrant, smiling way of being in the world.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the phrase 'a faith that smiles' mean?

The phrase 'a faith that smiles' refers to a positive, hopeful, and joyful belief system that maintains optimism and confidence even in difficult times.

How can 'a faith that smiles' impact mental health?

A faith that smiles can improve mental health by fostering resilience, reducing stress, and encouraging a hopeful outlook, which helps individuals cope better with challenges.

In what ways can 'a faith that smiles' influence daily life?

It can promote kindness, patience, and positivity in daily interactions, leading to better relationships and an overall sense of well-being.

Can 'a faith that smiles' be practiced in any religion or belief system?

Yes, 'a faith that smiles' is a universal concept that can be embraced within any religion or spiritual practice, emphasizing joy and hope as core elements of faith.

What are some practical steps to cultivate 'a faith that smiles'?

Practicing gratitude, engaging in regular prayer or meditation, surrounding oneself with positive influences, and focusing on hopeful outcomes can help cultivate a faith that smiles.

Why is 'a faith that smiles' important in times of crisis?

During crises, a faith that smiles provides emotional strength and hope, helping individuals maintain perspective, find meaning, and persevere through hardships.

Additional Resources

****A Faith That Smiles: Exploring the Intersection of Positivity and Spiritual Belief****

a faith that smiles represents more than a mere expression; it embodies a perspective in religious and spiritual life that embraces optimism, resilience, and hope. This concept challenges traditional portrayals of faith as solemn or austere, instead highlighting how belief systems can inspire joy, encouragement, and a positive outlook on life. In contemporary discourse on spirituality, the idea of a faith that smiles has gained traction, reflecting a broader cultural shift towards integrating mental

well-being with religious practice.

This article delves into the meaning and implications of a faith that smiles, examining its role in various religious traditions, its psychological benefits, and how it shapes community dynamics. By analyzing the nuances behind this concept, we aim to understand how faith infused with positivity can influence individual lives and collective spiritual experiences.

The Essence of a Faith That Smiles

At its core, a faith that smiles suggests a spirituality rooted not only in reverence and ritual but also in joy and emotional upliftment. This approach to faith often emphasizes gratitude, hope, and forgiveness, encouraging followers to face life's challenges with a hopeful demeanor. Unlike faith systems that focus heavily on fear or penance, a smiling faith promotes a balanced view of human existence that acknowledges suffering but also celebrates human resilience and divine benevolence.

Religious scholars have noted that smiling faith traditions tend to cultivate communities characterized by warmth and mutual support. This aligns with the growing interest in faith-based approaches to mental health, where spiritual positivity is linked to improved psychological outcomes such as reduced anxiety and enhanced life satisfaction.

Comparative Perspectives on Faith and Positivity

Across the world's major religions, expressions of joy and hope are integral but vary in their emphasis and manifestation. For instance:

- **Christianity:** Many Christian denominations celebrate joy as a fruit of the Holy Spirit, with biblical narratives often focusing on redemption and resurrection as ultimate causes for hope and happiness.
- **Buddhism:** Although Buddhism emphasizes detachment from worldly desires, it also promotes compassion and mindfulness, which can lead to inner peace and contentment—a form of smiling faith centered on enlightenment.
- **Islam:** Islamic teachings encourage believers to maintain patience and gratitude (Sabr and Shukr), fostering a positive outlook even during hardships.
- **Hinduism:** With its diverse practices, Hinduism often associates faith with celebration and festivals, embedding joy within spiritual devotion.

While these traditions differ in theology and practice, the underlying theme of a faith that smiles appears universally significant. This demonstrates how positivity within faith is not confined to one culture or belief system but is a shared human aspiration.

The Psychological Impact of a Smiling Faith

Scientific studies exploring religion and psychology frequently highlight the mental health benefits of positive faith experiences. A faith that smiles correlates with:

- **Enhanced Coping Mechanisms:** Believers who maintain a hopeful and joyful attitude tend to navigate stress and trauma more effectively, using their faith as a resource for resilience.
- **Improved Emotional Well-being:** Positive religious emotions, such as gratitude and forgiveness, contribute to lower levels of depression and anxiety.
- **Community Support:** Faith communities that encourage joy and mutual encouragement create social networks that reinforce mental health.

A 2021 study published in the *Journal of Positive Psychology* analyzed over 3,000 participants from various religious backgrounds and found that those who identified with a joyful, optimistic faith reported higher life satisfaction scores. This suggests that a faith that smiles could be a meaningful factor in holistic health models.

Challenges and Critiques

Despite its benefits, a faith that smiles is not without criticism. Some argue that overemphasis on positivity may lead to “toxic positivity,” where negative emotions are suppressed or invalidated. This can prevent authentic processing of grief, anger, or doubt, which are natural components of spiritual journeys.

Furthermore, critics point out that not all religious experiences are conducive to joy; some traditions emphasize penitence, sacrifice, or suffering as necessary for spiritual growth. The tension between acknowledging hardship and promoting positivity is a delicate balance that faith communities must navigate.

Practical Expressions of a Faith That Smiles

In modern religious practice, a faith that smiles often manifests through tangible actions and community initiatives:

- **Joyful Worship Services:** Incorporating music, dance, and celebration to foster an atmosphere of happiness and gratitude.
- **Faith-Based Counseling:** Offering spiritual guidance that emphasizes hope and resilience alongside addressing life challenges.

- **Charitable Work:** Engaging in acts of kindness that not only help others but reinforce a positive, outward-looking faith culture.
- **Interfaith Dialogues:** Promoting understanding and cooperation based on shared values of hope and peace.

These practices demonstrate how a smiling faith can be both an internal attitude and an external expression, influencing personal spirituality and social action alike.

Technology and a Smiling Faith

The digital age has brought new platforms for expressing and cultivating faith that smiles. Online communities, social media, and apps focused on meditation or prayer often highlight positive affirmations and uplifting content. This accessibility allows people to connect with joyful spiritual expressions regardless of geographic or institutional boundaries.

However, the digital realm also presents challenges, such as misinformation or superficial engagement. Faith leaders and communities are increasingly tasked with ensuring that online expressions of a smiling faith maintain depth and authenticity.

A faith that smiles, therefore, represents a dynamic and evolving facet of spirituality that resonates with contemporary needs for hope, mental wellness, and community connection. By embracing positivity without negating the complexities of human experience, this approach to faith offers a compelling model for spiritual life in the 21st century.

[A Faith That Smiles](#)

a faith that smiles: [A Faith that Smiles](#) Helen Lowrie Marshall, 1972

a faith that smiles: So Hollow (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Seventeen)

Blake Pierce, 2024-09-21 When a trail of arcane murders threatens to expose alchemical secrets, FBI Agent Faith Bold and her canine partner must decipher cryptic clues that are tied to a quest for immortality. Can they prevent the killer from completing the final and deadly stage of an ancient ritual? "A masterpiece of thriller and mystery." —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone)     SO HOLLOW is Book #17 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn't believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she's been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other's backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night.

Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. "An edge of your seat thriller in a new series that keeps you turning pages! ...So many twists, turns and red herrings... I can't wait to see what happens next." —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ "A strong, complex story about two FBI agents trying to stop a serial killer. If you want an author to capture your attention and have you guessing, yet trying to put the pieces together, Pierce is your author!" —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ "A typical Blake Pierce twisting, turning, roller coaster ride suspense thriller. Will have you turning the pages to the last sentence of the last chapter!!!" —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ "Right from the start we have an unusual protagonist that I haven't seen done in this genre before. The action is nonstop... A very atmospheric novel that will keep you turning pages well into the wee hours." —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ "Everything that I look for in a book... a great plot, interesting characters, and grabs your interest right away. The book moves along at a breakneck pace and stays that way until the end. Now on go I to book two!" —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★ "Exciting, heart pounding, edge of your seat book... a must read for mystery and suspense readers!" —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★

a faith that smiles: Factory Smiles Marlon Katsigazi, Janaye Felder, 2014-01-28 Factory Smiles is an inspirational story that combines fantasy and true life, highlighting overcoming adversity and attaining triumph. Go into a journey and discover how people flawed in character turn into torches of hope that overshadow darkness in the world. Factory Smiles teaches us to be ambassadors of hope and love in order to turn a seemingly decaying world around. This fantasy tale is an avenue for healing and a story of triumph. People from all walks of life will enjoy this story, written from a clear and neat mind.

a faith that smiles: So Smitten (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Ten) Blake Pierce, 2024-01-02 When victims are found murdered in the vicious world and bad neighborhoods of street dog fighting, at first glance it appears to be gang violence. But as FBI Special Agent Faith Bold looks deeper, her K9 German Shepherd, Turk, at her side, she soon realizes that amidst this violent world a different type of killer is lurking, one more maniacal than any she could expect... "A masterpiece of thriller and mystery." —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone) ★★★★★ SO SMITTEN is Book #10 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn't believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she's been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other's backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night. Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. "An edge of your seat thriller in a new series that keeps you turning pages! ...So many twists, turns and red herrings... I can't wait to see what happens next." —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ "A strong, complex story about two FBI agents trying to stop a serial killer. If you want an author to capture your attention and have you guessing, yet trying to put the pieces together, Pierce is your author!" —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ "A typical Blake Pierce twisting, turning, roller coaster ride suspense thriller. Will have you turning the pages to the last sentence of the last chapter!!!" —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ "Right from the start we have an unusual protagonist that I haven't seen done in this genre before. The action is nonstop... A very atmospheric novel that will keep you turning pages well into the wee hours." —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ "Everything that I look for in a book... a great plot, interesting characters, and grabs your interest right away."

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a faith that smiles: So Scared (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Three) Blake Pierce, 2023-05-08 A new serial killer leaves a mysterious signature—the theft of his victims' wedding rings—and as the trail grows cold, FBI Special Agent Faith Bold knows she will be unable to solve it without the expert assistance of her K9 German Shepherd, Turk. But Faith still suffers from PTSD, haunted by her encounter with a serial killer, and it is only Turk who keeps her going. Together, they will stop at nothing to bring the next killer to justice—and to save the next victim before it is too late. "A masterpiece of thriller and mystery." —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone) ★★★★★ SO SCARED is Book #3 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn't believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she's been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other's backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night. Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. "An edge of your seat thriller in a new series that keeps you turning pages! ...So many twists, turns and red herrings... I can't wait to see what happens next." —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ "A strong, complex story about two FBI agents trying to stop a serial killer. If you want an author to capture your attention and have you guessing, yet trying to put the pieces together, Pierce is your author!" —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ "A typical Blake Pierce twisting, turning, roller coaster ride suspense thriller. Will have you turning the pages to the last sentence of the last chapter!!!" —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ "Right from the start we have an unusual protagonist that I haven't seen done in this genre before. The action is nonstop... A very atmospheric novel that will keep you turning pages well into the wee hours." —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ "Everything that I look for in a book... a great plot, interesting characters, and grabs your interest right away. The book moves along at a breakneck pace and stays that way until the end. Now on go I to book two!" —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★ "Exciting, heart pounding, edge of your seat book... a must read for mystery and suspense readers!" —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★

a faith that smiles: So Broken (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Twelve) Blake Pierce, 2024-03-07 FBI Agent Faith Bold must navigate a twisted game of cat and mouse with a cunning killer when victims turn up mysteriously drained of blood. As the body count rises, Faith races against time to uncover the chilling truth behind these surgical murders. Will she be able to stop the bloodshed before she becomes the next victim? "A masterpiece of thriller and mystery." —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone) ★★★★★ SO BROKEN is Book #12 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn't believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she's been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other's backs—even at the

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a faith that smiles: *So Far Gone (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Five)* Blake Pierce, 2023-06-16 When the coroner can't decipher the mysterious plaster residue on each of a new killer's victims, FBI Special Agent Faith Bold know she is up against a diabolical and mastermind killer—and that she will need her K9 German Shepherd, Turk, to help crack the case. But Faith, still reeling from her own demons, is fragile, and even with Turk's strength and loyalty, Faith knows that this just may be the case that pushes her over the edge. "A masterpiece of thriller and mystery." —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone) ★★★★★ SO FAR GONE is Book #5 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn't believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she's been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other's backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night. Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. "An edge of your seat thriller in a new series that keeps you turning pages! ...So many twists, turns and red herrings... I can't wait to see what happens next."

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a faith that smiles: Faith Fairchild Series Volume 1-3 Katherine Hall Page, 2025-02-04

Enjoy the first three volumes of Katherine Hall Page's long-running New England cozy mystery series featuring amateur sleuth Faith Fairchild. In *The Body in the Belfry*, Faith discovers a dead body in the church. After the victim's recent engagement ended poorly, the police have zeroed in on her ex-fiance. Faith is determined to find the truth, but the small town has too many sordid secrets. In *The Body in the Kelp*, Faith and her family are spending their summer on Sanpere Island. Faith decides to participate in a harmless treasure hunt. When she stumbles across a dead body on the beach, her investigation is forced into something much more dangerous. In *The Body in the Bouillon*, Faith works to uncover the mysterious doings of the local retirement home after a resident falls face-first into their bouillon. And when a drug dealer turns up dead, Faith must work fast to reveal the murderer.

a faith that smiles: So Lost (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Six) Blake Pierce, 2023-08-04 FBI Special Agent Faith Bold needs her K9 German Shepherd, Turk, to help her when victims of a new serial killer are found buried alive in graveyards, a mysterious string tied around their finger. Only Faith and Turk can save the next victim before her time runs out—but this killer is always one step ahead and they may have finally met their match.... “A masterpiece of thriller and mystery.” —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re *Once Gone*) ★★★★★ *SO LOST* is Book #6 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller *Once Gone* (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn't believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she's been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other's backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night. Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. “An edge of your seat thriller in a new series that keeps you turning pages! ...So many twists, turns and red herrings... I can't wait to see what happens next.” —Reader review (*Her Last Wish*) ★★★★★ “A strong, complex story about two FBI agents trying to stop a serial killer. If you want an author to capture your attention and have you guessing, yet trying to put the pieces together, Pierce is your author!” —Reader review (*Her Last Wish*) ★★★★★ “A typical Blake Pierce twisting, turning, roller coaster ride suspense thriller. Will have you turning the pages to the last sentence of the last chapter!!!” —Reader review (*City of Prey*) ★★★★★ “Right from the start we have an unusual protagonist that I haven't seen done in this genre before. The action is nonstop... A very atmospheric novel that will keep you turning pages well into the wee hours.” —Reader review (*City of Prey*) ★★★★★ “Everything that I look for in a book... a great plot, interesting characters, and grabs your interest right away. The book moves along at a breakneck pace and stays that way until the end. Now on go I to book two!” —Reader review (*Girl, Alone*) ★★★★★ “Exciting, heart pounding, edge of your seat book... a must read for mystery and suspense readers!” —Reader review (*Girl, Alone*) ★★★★★

a faith that smiles: Finding Faith Niki Hershey Knisley, 2019-10-02 Faith Brooks, prodigal daughter, has returned, attempting to put the past year of rebellion behind her. Remarkably, she's been restored into the loving arms of her family and her old life. But past decisions have consequences—she is now a mere shell of herself—pregnant, penniless, and heartbroken. Choosing her baby's life over Gabe, who she thought was her soulmate, was the right thing to do, yet she cannot easily relinquish her love for him. Faith must decide whether to raise her daughter or give her up, while struggling to move on without Gabe. And what is her true calling now that the hope of a musical career has also been sacrificed? She may have crossed the bridge to get back on the right

path, but she can't help looking back and wondering if Gabe will ever be part of her life again. And if the daughter they created will ever know her father. Finding Faith, the second in the Faith Brooks Series, is a story of overcoming. Faith proves what the love of family, friends, and especially God can do for one who feels hopeless and defeated. It is inspirational, thought-provoking, and evidence of the power of a faith-based life.

a faith that smiles: *Salvation with a Smile* Phillip Luke Sinitiere, 2015-11-13 Joel Osteen, the smiling preacher, has quickly emerged as one of the most recognizable Protestant leaders in the country. His megachurch, the Houston based Lakewood Church, hosts an average of over 40,000 worshipers each week. Osteen is the best-selling author of numerous books, and his sermons and inspirational talks appear regularly on mainstream cable and satellite radio. How did Joel Osteen become Joel Osteen? How did Lakewood become the largest megachurch in the U. S.? *Salvation with a Smile*, the first book devoted to Lakewood Church and Joel Osteen, offers a critical history of the congregation by linking its origins to post-World War II neopentecostalism, and connecting it to the exceptionally popular prosperity gospel movement and the enduring attraction of televangelism. In this richly documented book, historian Phillip Luke Sinitiere carefully excavates the life and times of Lakewood's founder, John Osteen, to explain how his son Joel expanded his legacy and fashioned the congregation into America's largest megachurch. As a popular preacher, Joel Osteen's ministry has been a source of existential strength for many, but also the routine target of religious critics who vociferously contend that his teachings are theologically suspect and spiritually shallow. Sinitiere's keen analysis shows how Osteen's rebuttals have expressed a piety of resistance that demonstrates evangelicalism's fractured, but persistent presence. *Salvation with a Smile* situates Lakewood Church in the context of American religious history and illuminates how Osteen has parlayed an understanding of American religious and political culture into vast popularity and success.

a faith that smiles: *A Personal Journey of Faith* Lynn A. Simpson, 2011-12-13 *A Personal Journey of Faith* takes the reader through a collection of 100 inspirational poems that are meant to inspire, uplift and encourage them in their own personal journey. The author wants to show others through her own challenges and celebrations that we're not alone. There is a poem that everyone can relate to in this book. When you read this book find a quiet place to sit back, reflect and enjoy the journey. Love and God Bless! Lynn Simpson

a faith that smiles: *Grounds to Believe: A faith-based domestic suspense novel of forbidden love* Adina Senft, 2022-11-26 "A brave and talented author who looks at the darkness as well as the light." —Mary Jo Putney He'd find Kailey some day. One assignment at a time. One prayer at a time. A cult took Ross Malcolm's ex-girlfriend and baby daughter six years ago. He's never stopped looking for his little girl ... and now he has a sidearm, a badge, and a soul-deep commitment to protect the innocent. When the state's elite Organized Crime Task Force assigns him to Smoke River, Washington, to find out why the death rate among children belonging to an obscure religious group is so high, he's sure it's going to be one of the toughest cases of his career. But first, he has to find a way in ... Julia McNeill is the daughter of an Elder and the almost-fiancée of a prospective Deacon in the plain church known as the Elect of God. Her future position is secure ... except that she's not sure she wants it. She's never quite been able to fit in, to measure up in comparison with her dazzling sister, who married an Elder and produced two beautiful kids. It breaks Julia's heart that her nephew Ryan is so close to death and no one can figure out why ... but when she asks questions, the church leadership shuts her out. And then a biker with eyes that have seen too much walks into the bookstore where Julia works, and everything about her life begins to change ... including the definition of forbidden ... and her belief in God's ability to keep her and her nephew safe. "Suspenseful and intriguing, *Grounds to Believe* starts off running and never slows down." —RT Book Reviews *Grounds to Believe* is the first novel in the inspirational Breaking Faith domestic suspense series. The books can be read as standalones, though the characters all know one another and appear in each other's stories. No strong language, just a dollop of suspense, a loving kiss, and a guaranteed happily ever after. If you like books by Sage Parker, Christy Barritt, or Charles Martin, you're in the right place. Enjoy!

a faith that smiles: Sounds in the Night: A faith-based domestic suspense novel of forbidden love Adina Senft, 2022-11-26 "Readers will appreciate that things are a little topsy-turvy, with spiritual insights coming from unexpected places." —Publishers Weekly Who do you listen to when every word might be a lie? Brought up in a strict religion in the small town of Smoke River, Washington, Chloe Montoya has seen the leaders she trusted disgraced and watched helplessly as her best friends rejected their faith. When radio evangelist Luke Fisher is invited to headquarter his ministry in town, Chloe is drawn to him. Against her church's will, she joins the staff at the station as bookkeeper and, while she's totally behind Luke's vision for the community, she begins to realize that under the message is a sound that frightens her ... Fresh out of the state police academy and assigned to the Organized Crime Task Force, Ray Harper is sent to Smoke River to investigate an underground church that seems to attract the criminal and the predatory. What he finds is a town prospering in its religious fervor—and a dark-haired, dark-eyed innocent who he'd bet his first year's salary has never been kissed. Ray has no use for religion. She's forbidden even to speak to him, never mind love him. But Luke Fisher's growing power threatens what they both love—and sometimes you have to listen to someone ... and hope that they hear you ... Sounds in the Night is the third novel in the inspirational Breaking Faith domestic suspense series. The books can be read as standalones, though the characters all know one another and appear in each other's stories. No strong language, just a dollop of suspense, a loving kiss, and a guaranteed happily ever after. If you like books by Sage Parker, Christy Barritt, or Charles Martin, you're in the right place. Enjoy!

a faith that smiles: So Simple (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Eleven) Blake Pierce, 2024-01-30 Victims of a new killer are found dead, the only thing linking them that they are dog owners. As FBI Special Agent Faith Bold navigates the world of dog shelters, her K9 German Shepherd, Turk, at her side, she realizes something is awry—and that, as she heads into a trap, she just may need Turk to catch the killer—and to save her life.... "A masterpiece of thriller and mystery." —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone) ★★★★★ SO SIMPLE is Book #11 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn't believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she's been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other's backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night. Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. "An edge of your seat thriller in a new series that keeps you turning pages! ...So many twists, turns and red herrings... I can't wait to see what happens next." —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ "A strong, complex story about two FBI agents trying to stop a serial killer. If you want an author to capture your attention and have you guessing, yet trying to put the pieces together, Pierce is your author!" —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ "A typical Blake Pierce twisting, turning, roller coaster ride suspense thriller. Will have you turning the pages to the last sentence of the last chapter!!!" —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ "Right from the start we have an unusual protagonist that I haven't seen done in this genre before. The action is nonstop... A very atmospheric novel that will keep you turning pages well into the wee hours." —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ "Everything that I look for in a book... a great plot, interesting characters, and grabs your interest right away. The book moves along at a breakneck pace and stays that way until the end. Now on go I to book two!" —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★ "Exciting, heart pounding, edge of your seat book... a must read for mystery and suspense readers!" —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★

a faith that smiles: So Cold (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Two) Blake Pierce, 2023-04-18 When victims of a new serial killer are found in backyards, the FBI knows they will need the assistance of a K9 to unravel the mystery. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold, haunted by her encounter with a serial killer, is ready to retire—until Turk, a K9 German Shepherd comes into her life, ready to walk into the depths of darkness beside her to protect Faith—and to help save the next victim—before it is too late. “A masterpiece of thriller and mystery.” —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone) ★★★★★ SO COLD is Book #2 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn’t believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she’s been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other’s backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night. Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. “An edge of your seat thriller in a new series that keeps you turning pages! ...So many twists, turns and red herrings... I can't wait to see what happens next.” —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ “A strong, complex story about two FBI agents trying to stop a serial killer. If you want an author to capture your attention and have you guessing, yet trying to put the pieces together, Pierce is your author!” —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ “A typical Blake Pierce twisting, turning, roller coaster ride suspense thriller. Will have you turning the pages to the last sentence of the last chapter!!!” —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ “Right from the start we have an unusual protagonist that I haven't seen done in this genre before. The action is nonstop... A very atmospheric novel that will keep you turning pages well into the wee hours.” —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ “Everything that I look for in a book... a great plot, interesting characters, and grabs your interest right away. The book moves along at a breakneck pace and stays that way until the end. Now on go I to book two!” —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★ “Exciting, heart pounding, edge of your seat book... a must read for mystery and suspense readers!” —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★

a faith that smiles: So Twisted (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Nineteen) Blake Pierce, 2025-02-04 FBI Agent Faith Bold faces her most beastly case yet when former zoo employees start turning up dead in animal enclosures. With her loyal companion Turk by her side, Faith must separate the human scents from the wild to catch a cunning killer. “A masterpiece of thriller and mystery.” —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone) ★★★★★ SO TWISTED is Book #19 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn’t believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she’s been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other’s backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night. Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. “An edge of your seat

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a faith that smiles: So Savage (A Faith Bold FBI Suspense Thriller—Book Twenty-One)

Blake Pierce, 2025-05-14 When military dog handlers meet untimely deaths beside their unharmed canine partners, it's up to FBI Agent Faith Bold and her loyal sidekick Turk to fetch justice from the clutches of deceit. In this high-stakes game of cat-and-mouse, Faith must bite into military secrets before the killer strikes again at the heart of America's heroes. “A masterpiece of thriller and mystery.” —Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (re Once Gone) ★★★★★ SO SAVAGE is Book #21 in a long-anticipated new series by #1 bestseller and USA Today bestselling author Blake Pierce, whose bestseller Once Gone (a free download) has received over 7,000 five star ratings and reviews. FBI Special Agent Faith Bold doesn't believe she can ever return to the force after the trauma she's been through. Suffering from past demons, she feels unfit for duty and content to retire—until Turk walks into her life. Turk, a former Marine Corps dog, wounded in battle, suffers from his own demons. But he never lets it show as he gives everything to Faith to get her back on her feet. Each are slow to warm up to each other, but when they do, they are inseparable. Each is equally determined to hunt down the demons chasing them, whatever the cost, and to watch each other's backs—even at the risk of their own life. A page-turning and harrowing crime thriller featuring a brilliant and tortured FBI agent, the Faith Bold series is a riveting mystery, packed with non-stop action, suspense, twists and turns, revelations, and driven by a breakneck pace that will keep you flipping pages late into the night. Fans of Rachel Caine, Teresa Driscoll and Robert Dugoni are sure to fall in love. Future books in the series are now also available. “An edge of your seat thriller in a new series that keeps you turning pages! ...So many twists, turns and red herrings... I can't wait to see what happens next.” —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ “A strong, complex story about two FBI agents trying to stop a serial killer. If you want an author to capture your attention and have you guessing, yet trying to put the pieces together, Pierce is your author!” —Reader review (Her Last Wish) ★★★★★ “A typical Blake Pierce twisting, turning, roller coaster ride suspense thriller. Will have you turning the pages to the last sentence of the last chapter!!!” —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ “Right from the start we have an unusual protagonist that I haven't seen done in this genre before. The action is nonstop... A very atmospheric novel that will keep you turning pages well into the wee hours.” —Reader review (City of Prey) ★★★★★ “Everything that I look for in a book... a great plot, interesting characters, and grabs your interest right away. The book moves along at a breakneck pace and stays that way until the end. Now on go I to book two!” —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★ “Exciting, heart pounding, edge of your seat book... a must read for mystery and suspense readers!” —Reader review (Girl, Alone) ★★★★★

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a faith that smiles: Royalty of Luna Crystal Brothers, 2023-11-14 About the Book On a faraway planet, there lies the kingdom of Luna Heart, ruled over by a queen mother and her five daughters. Long ago, the king, the girls' father, and their brother died of mysterious circumstances. Now young adults, the three eldest girls are set to be married off, while the youngest twins have the freedom to fall in love and marry whomever they wish. On the night of her twenty-fifth birthday,

Diamond, the eldest, and her other two sisters, Galaxy and Selene, begin to unravel the truth about their mother and twin sisters, and their diabolical plan years in the making. Each with powers of her own, the sisters must now gather together to take down their mother and save not only themselves but their entire solar system. About the Author Crystal Brothers is a stay-at-home mom. She enjoys drawing, painting, writing, cooking, and spending time with her beautiful three boys and amazing fiancé.

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