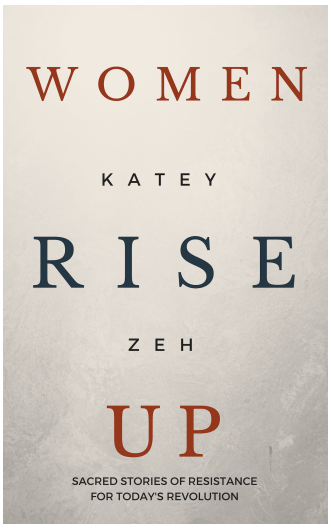
ENDORSEMENTS



Women Rise Up
Sacred Stories of Resistance for Today's Revolution
by Katey Zeh

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Sarah and Hagar are caught in the crossfire of human trafficking. Ruth and Naomi are migrant farm workers who labor across lines of difference. Mary crosses borders during an unplanned pregnancy to give birth. These may sound like headlines ripped from our round-the-clock news, but in fact they're a timely take on the tenacious women of the bible from gender justice advocate and ordained Baptist pastor, Rev. Katey Zeh in *Women Rise Up: Sacred Stories of Resistance for Today's Revolution*.

"Reading Women Rise Up felt like the first time in thousands of years of sacred storytelling, women are finally being believed. Accessible and relatable, rich and nuanced, Katey speaks the truth of the abuse, oppression, and erasure women have endured in the stories told about us. Faithful to the best of hermeneutical practices, she weaves contextual biblical stories of women with urgent concerns of today's global women so we can benefit from the wisdom and solidarity of our sisterhood through the ages. This book transforms stories of women that have been used to oppress, into ones that liberate—I'm here for it." – **Cindy Wang Brandt**, author of *Parenting Forward*

"Katey Zeh takes the Bible seriously—so seriously that she is willing to acknowledge its complexity and ambiguity while looking to it for wisdom. She brings biblical stories and issues of women's health together and invites readers to do the same. Zeh's approach does not produce a list of "musts" and "shouldn'ts," but rather a model of intelligent faithfulness attentive to the full humanity of women." – **Rev. Dr. Shannon Craigo-Snell**, Professor of Theology, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

"This is the book the Church needs for such a time as this. Katey Zeh has created a book that is moving, convicting, and empowering. It is an invaluable resource for pastors, small groups, women, and men who yearn for liberation. For far too long, the Church has treated the women in these Biblical stories as interesting side notes at best; and antagonistic instruments of manipulation at worst. No more! Drawing on her own experience as a mother, an advocate for women's health within the global church, and the best of modern scholarship; Zeh has reclaimed these stories with forcefulness, boldness, and a remarkable amount of vulnerability." – **Rev. Robb McCoy**, Pastor of Two Rivers United Methodist Church, Rock Island, Illinois and Co-Producer of the Pulpit Fiction Podcast

"I don't know anyone who more seamlessly marries her scriptural imagination with an activist sensibility than Katey Zeh. She is a reliable, skilled, and (thanks to be God) altogether human teacher who is not afraid to trouble the waters of some of our most beloved (and forgotten) readings of biblical women—and their enduring witness in our modern lives. If you are looking for an easy bake women's book study, you won't find it here. But if you dare to go where few have willingly gone into this study

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of what it means to be a female follower of God, you will come out the other side just as Zeh hoped: more resilient, more compassionate, and better able to rise up in the face of injustices near and far. I recommend this book to any girl beginning to wonder what relevancy the biblical stories have in her life—and any pastor, counselor, parent, or mentor who cares enough to walk into the complexity with her." **— Erin S. Lane**, author of *Lessons in Belonging from a Church-Going Commitment Phobe*

"Katey Zeh weaves together familiar biblical stories with her personal story. Giving birth, everyday family life, trying to live in solidarity in unjust times are all themes with biblical echo. Lots of people will resonate with her direct, accessible approach to women rising up." **— Dr. Mary E. Hunt**, Co-Founder of the Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics, and Ritual

"Katey Zeh has embarked upon a sober, brave accounting of the Bible's stories of women. Even as she notes their rarity among the more well-known stories of male characters, she finds in these women the kind of strength and compassion that might fuel our struggles for justice today. This book is recommended reading for those who hope for a better world, and I'm grateful to her for writing it." **— Jim Winkler**, President of the National Council of Churches

"Women Rise Up will inspire you with its thoughtful and eloquent explorations of women in biblical stories—some familiar; some less so—braided with contemporary stories of women the world over. If you have felt stifled by the narratives of womanhood offered to you by religious texts and communities, Katey Zeh's words will bring you a fresh infusion of oxygen, and will inspire you to press on, to reach out, and to rise up." **— Rachel Marie Stone**, author of *Birthing Hope*

"Part memoir, part bible study—in this volume, Katey Zeh walks the reader through familiar bible stories, offering rich food for thought for women seeking spiritual guidance and reflection." **— Rev. Dr. Rebecca Todd Peters**, author of *Trust Women*

"Stories have the power to change lives and shift political and cultural ideologies. When we excavate the untold stories or the invisible stories that have been pushed to the margins of the margins and silenced, we not only unearth, literally, our own lifeblood, but we also re-story ourselves in deeply embodied ways. Katey Zeh does this very thing of re-storying the women of the Bible in ways that brings together today's pressing social concerns of reproductive justice and visibilizing the stories that have been excised and silenced from the Tradition. The work of re-storying is also the work of re-telling our own stories in ways that brings to life what has been been buried by the dominant culture." **— Dr. Robyn Henderson-Espinoza**, theologian and activist

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#WomenRiseUpBook

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