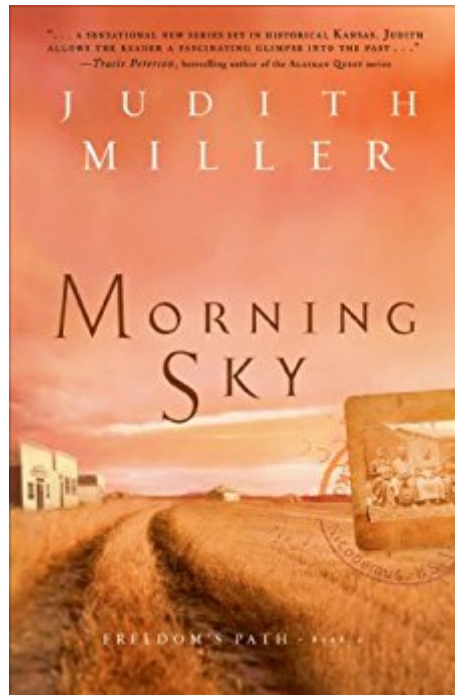


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Morning Sky (Freedom's Path, Book 2)



Synopsis

Freedom's Path Book 2 - Ezekiel Harban carries bitterness and suspicion toward his wife's half-sister. Lilly recently fled New Orleans and moved to his Kansas prairie. He is sure she is hiding something, but what?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Morning Sky is the second book in Judith Millers Freedom's Path Series about the Harban and Boyle families. Nicodemus, Kansas is settled by predominately African-American families while neighboring Hill City is mostly white. Ezekiel Harban is doing his best to keep his family together following the death of his wife. Then Lily Verdue, his sister-in-law, arrives from New Orleans. Ezekiel suspects Lily is running from someone, which doesn't surprise him one bit. A free spirited woman who makes her own rules, Lily is not the kind of person he wants living in the same house with his daughters. Before long, Lily starts to cause just the kind of trouble Ezekiel feared. She tries to break up Truth's engagement to Moses Wyman, because she feels he would be better suited to Jarena. Nevermind that Jarena is in love with Thomas, who is serving in the army, fighting Indians. Lily is a woman of the world and knows what is best for her sheltered nieces. Dr. Boyle asks Truth to travel to

New York to see about his daughter Macia, who is enrolled in an exclusive finishing school. Macia has been sick ever since reaching the city. Truth uncovers a diabolic scheme which could be fatal to her friend. The characters in Judith Miller's *Morning Sky* are so skillfully developed you will feel as if you know them as real people. *Morning Sky* is an intriguing story guaranteed to hold the readers attention from start to finish.

In historical fiction, it's key to fall in love with the characters and the setting. If the book is good, then you want to return to these characters over and over. *MORNING SKY* is one of these books. It is well-written and the characters spring to life from the pen of Judith Miller. I enjoyed the drama and the tension combined with a solid Biblical message about forgiveness. I recommend this *FREEDOM'S PATH* series and look forward to the next one.

The saga continues with an older African-American, Ezekiel Harban keeping his family all together and looking after some of the other families in Nicodemus. Ezekiel has been carrying bitterness for his sister-in-law Lilly for years. After his wife dies Lilly comes to Nicodemus, she can sure stir things up. Ezekiel raised his two twin daughters and Jenera his oldest daughter. The city of Nicodemus was settled by African-Americans and right up the road a city named Hill City was developed by Caucasian people at the same time. This book tells about the growth and expansion of the two cities and their cultures. This is a good novel with historical facts that was never taught in schools. For more about Nicodemus see 'Nicodemus Historical Site- National Park Service'.

Aunt Lilly Verdue traveled from New Orleans to Nicodemus and was desperate. Her situation was mysterious. She carries a rabbit's foot and evil eye...items of voodoo magic. Yet she seems afraid of something...or someone. The Harban's lives would change with Aunt Lilly there. Lilly's brother-in-law, Ezekiel, was not at all happy to see her. He felt bitterness towards her and hoped she would go back to New Orleans or anywhere else far away. She has a way of creating trouble for people through her manipulating ways. Truth continued to work at the Boyles taking care of Mrs. Boyle, along with the household duties. Moses wants to marry Truth soon but what does Truth want? With Macia sick at the school her mother insisted she attend, Truth is sent to bring her home. This becomes a difficult, and dangerous, task. Evil lurks at the school and Truth discovers that things are not what they appear. Jarena fills in for Truth at the Boyles while she is gone. She longs to see Thomas again. Will that be possible? She hasn't received a letter from him for a long time. Then she receives news about him. *Morning Sky* is Book Two of the *Freedom's Path* series by Judith Miller.

First Dawn is Book One of the series. Miller's detail of history and racial struggles in the late 1800's is accurate. She writes a suspenseful story that keeps the reader wondering what will happen next.

Book 2 is as good as book 1. I enjoyed learning more about the lives of the characters who were introduced in book 1 as well as reading about the new twists and turns in the story that I could not have predicted. The author is able to develop the characters and the story with just the right amount of details to keep it fast-paced without feeling rushed or leaving big gaps in the story.

This book was really great. I enjoyed reading about this time period of our American history. It gave me a new appreciation of how moving from the south to the west could be traumatic for those that were not prepared. It helped me to see how so many people were lied to about the conditions of the travel and towns where they were going. The first book of this series was free and after reading it, I was so involved in the story that I bought the second book. The characters were very complex and I felt as if I was there with them going through their struggles. The book was very descriptive of the troubles and trials that the African Americans went through after the Civil War and being freed from slavery. It gave me a new respect for these people that were willing to step out of the life they were living and move to a new and scary life to them. They had saved up their small wages to be able to afford a small piece of land, went across the country to live in Kansas and make a new life for their families. The men who were selling all this property neglected to tell them that there were not really towns there, just land, the small towns that were there had few people and very few supplies. The families were deceived by men who only wanted to line their own pockets. Fortunately, these people were survivors and managed to make their way by building dirt houses and pooling all their resources together to survive through the harsh winters of Kansas.

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