




Rainbows
for Rainy Days



By the same author:

God Knows Your Name

Broken Works Best

Under the Rainbow



Rainbows for Rainy Days

40 devotional readings that reveal God's promises

Catherine Campbell

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Dedicated
to
Mum and Dad,
who always encouraged me to
“trace the rainbow through the rain”



Foreword

The Christian book market today is filled with thousands upon thousands of volumes. I have no idea how one chooses what should be read. Occasionally, very occasionally, one comes across a volume that in reality is a must for everybody.

Rainbows for Rainy Days is one such book. As I started reading it, I was immediately attracted by the story. It begins by talking about Noah and his rainbow. I am writing from Baghdad, and without doubt we know that Noah was here in Iraq. So that was my first attraction.

The other attraction at the very heart of this little book is the concept of living in a broken-hearted world. Yet in the midst of this pain and suffering, a pain that Catherine knows not least because of the death of her daughters, the glory of God shines through. I sit here in Baghdad surrounded by suffering. Of the thousands in my congregation I do not know one person who has not endured great anguish and the death of loved ones. This book takes you to the Holy Bible and there provides both solace and great hope.

One passage that truly caught my attention was where Catherine says: "So when you go to worship this Sunday, don't be overwhelmed by a congregation of thousands, or disappointed by

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a congregation of dozens. Instead, be captivated by the One who is 'in the midst'." The Lord of Glory in the midst uniquely fills these pages. This is a simply wonderful book. Enjoy!

Canon Andrew P. B. White
Anglican Chaplain to Iraq

Preface

I had noticed her before she reached me, her thin frame bent over with age and arthritic knuckles stretched white as she leaned heavily on the walking stick. Her face was still hidden from view as she measured the floor between us with her eyes. Then, as this very elderly lady came up level with me, she stopped, and her gaze finally met mine.

“I wanted to tell you how much your little book has meant to me,” she said, a huge grin now adding to the landscape of her wrinkled face. Before I had time to reply she continued, “It sits beside my bed, and I have read a reading from it each night since it was given to me as a gift.”

Deeply moved, I soon realized from our conversation that she must have read *Rainbows for Rainy Days* at least thirty-six times!

“I think you need to put a request for a new devotional on your Christmas list,” I joked.

“Oh no, dear,” she replied firmly. “Not until God stops blessing me through this one!”

It’s humbling to think how a little book, which started its life as a small 6 x 4 devotional on the promises of God, could have blessed others in the way it has. That, I believe, has little to do with

me and all to do with the God who cares deeply about the storms that hit our lives.

Back in 2008, when I wrote the first edition of *Rainbows for Rainy Days*, I was simply sharing what God had already spoken into my own life. By the time it was finished I would not have worried had no one ever bought the book. I had had the most inestimable pleasure of God's ministry to my own soul during the six weeks that it took to write. That in itself was reward enough.

And now I am further privileged to have been invited by Monarch to revise and expand the original into this second edition that you now hold in your hands.

Special thanks go to Liz Young, and to my husband, Philip, both of whom encouraged me with words of wisdom and correction. Also a big thank you to Tony Collins of Monarch, who is allowing *Rainbows for Rainy Days* to have a second life in such a lovely format.

Don't worry, I don't expect you to read it thirty-six times! But I do pray that as you "wait upon the Lord" you will glimpse God's rainbow in His promise to "renew your strength" (Isaiah 40:31).

Catherine Campbell



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“I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth... Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life.”

Genesis 9:13, 15 (NIV)

The excitement on board was tangible as the *Maid of the Mist* headed for the American side of the great Niagara Falls. Gasps of both sheer delight and trepidation came from the crowd as the little boat seemed to reduce in size even further beside the magnitude of the white water cascading over the steep rock face. We felt like trespassers! Insignificant beside such grandeur.

The water beneath us was bubbling and swelling under the sheer force of its rival above. And then we saw it – right in the middle of all that turbulence, that persistent watery storm: a *rainbow!*

Transported back to the time of Noah, I could hear God make His covenant, not only with that great Patriarch of the faith, but with all generations to follow. “I have set My rainbow in the cloud,” said the Lord, as a reminder to Noah of His continued protection and presence. Noah was just emerging from his “dark night of the



soul”, having survived the devastation of the flood alone but for his family. Only the God who made him understood the fear that would overshadow his heart every time a cloud crossed the sky!

Only the God who made him loved him enough to put a visible sign of the promise of His divine presence into the very thing that frightened Noah most: the cloud!

And there, in that dramatically beautiful place, God was reminding me that He had a rainbow for *my* every cloud too. “I’ve set My rainbow in the cloud,” I could hear Him say. “If you look deep into every storm of life, you will see Me there. That is My promise to you.”