



The Touch

Randall Wallace

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2012 Christy Award finalist, Contemporary series category.

Andrew Jones was once one of the few surgeons in the world to have that rare, God-given ability called *The Touch*. But after failing to save his young fiancée, Faith, at the scene of a car accident, Jones abandons his gift and shuns the operating room.

Lara Blair owns a Chicago-based biomedical engineering company developing a surgical tool that will duplicate precisely the movement of a surgeon's hands, reducing or eliminating failed surgical procedures. Lara has pursued the best surgeons in the world to test this surgical tool, and all of them have failed.

As Lara pursues Jones's skill for her project, Jones's stubborn resistance cracks, and he begins to open up to her about the wounds that still haunt him. But when Jones discovers the urgency behind Lara's work, he must choose to move beyond his past. As each is forced to surrender secret fears, they are bonded together through the lives of the people Jones serves and by the healing secret that Faith left behind.

The Touch Details

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Author : Randall Wallace

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From Reader Review The Touch for online ebook

Regina Spiker says

Jones has an amazing gift - he has the touch - hands for surgery and saving people. He also has fallen in love with Faith, a woman who lives up to her name and who inspires Jones. When both are involved in a tragic accident on the way to their clinic in the mountains - Jones hangs up his own personal surgical instruments and teaches his fellow doctors to use their hands instead. At the same time a young woman named Lara Blair, who owns a biomedical engineering company, has been searching for a surgeon to operate the special tool she has designed to save lives. Jones, when discovered by Lara's team, wants nothing to do with surgery again and instead shows Lara the clinic in the Blue Ridge Mountains and the people who desperately need doctoring. When Jones also tells of Faith's anonymous acts of love, Lara begins to understand and believe in the selflessness and freedom of such an action.

An amazing novel of faith, belief, and the inner goodness of men. This author/producer/director is also the screenwriter of Braveheart and We Were Soldiers.

Lisa says

Dr. Andrew Jones has a gift -- a gift he's reluctant, unwilling really, to use because of a traumatic event in his past.

Lara Blair is in search of a solution -- a solution she thinks only Dr. Jones can give her.

The Touch is a moving and masterfully written novella by Randall Wallace. That should be no surprise. If you've seen Braveheart, you know what kind of storyteller Wallace is. This story read like a movie would play. Each character was clear in my mind and deeply developed with the use of only a few words. Wallace knows how to convey much with little.

Jones struck me as a kinder, gentler Dr. House from the FOX TV series. And although the story revolves around advances in biomedical technology, Wallace uses little jargon or techno-speak.

The Touch is captivating. A must-read.

Tima says

Dr. Andrew Jones, a gifted surgeon, suffered a horrible tragedy. Now he works in the ER and teaches. But he refuses to do another surgery. Several years have passed and a Ms. Lara Blair is asking him to join her biomedical engineering company. She and her team are developing a special set of robotic hands that do not shake for difficult brain surgery. But they need a human hands to model the robot after. Dr. Jones clearly the surgeon for the job. But Ms. Blair can't seem to convince him to join her company.

The book started off with the touching tragedy and then moved on to the current time. When I started the book I had the thought that this book was going to profoundly affect me. The author had the characters

expressing some deep and contemplative thoughts. But about half way through the book it took a slightly confusing turn and ended very cheesy and predictably. So while I absolutely loved the first half, I'm still not sure what to think about the last half. Overall, I would have to say I enjoyed the story and definitely enjoyed the spiritual thoughts and process of the characters and their lives. So if you enjoy medical stories, romance, and thought provoking spiritual thoughts than you might enjoy this book.

I received a copy of this book by Tyndale. All thoughts expressed are my own.

Susan says

Wallace's The Touch was an amazing read that I was lucky enough to win through Goodreads. It was a moving story that touched the heart and made you think. It really reminded me of books that I had read by Nicholas Sparks and really enjoyed, but Wallace has a touch of his own giving the reader a powerful story of two people brought together by science and drawn together by love and faith. Wallace does a great job of building two love stories in The Touch by showing the reader a glimpse of Andrew's love with Faith as well as a look to a future without Faith. Lara finds herself at a crossroads as well as she sees the possibilities of a life outside of her work. Overall this was such an amazing read that I would definitely recommend.

Robert says

I received this book as part of a Good Reads giveaway so thank you first to the author for allowing me to read this book.

I started this book knowing that I was excited to read it. I knew the premise of the story from the description and knew it was something I wanted to enjoy. I found the story not only touching, but real and engaging. Andrew Jones was the tortured soul who needed saving and Lara was the savior he was looking for after the death of his wife. Jones never got over the death of his wife, even in the marriage he shares with Lara later on in the book. I have to say there were times where the book dragged and there were times I just kept turning the pages in anticipation of what was going to happen next. I gave it 3 stars because of the slowness of the book at times and the "tortured soul" character is something that we see all too often so it was not entirely new which dragged down the book a bit. I found the author's writing to be easy and not too outlandish. Overall, a nice read. Thank you again goodreads for the chance to read this book and review it!

Glenda says

An absolute must read!

This book is magical if you read no other book in 2012 read "The Touch"

Randall Wallace with his amazing talent and his ability to bring characters to life, hands us a book that will touch your very soul!

This will be the book that you will buy copies to share with family and friends, Randall Wallace shares with us a beautiful book that shows his faith and how he was raised and the truth that each of us "know in our

depths that something in each of us comes from God".

In this story you will travel the road with a gifted man referred to as Jones, you will feel his happiness, his pain and his loneliness and the denial of God and his God given gift.

You will be witness to God's healing love that gives Jones back his passion for healing, love, and faith.

Jessica Buike says

My first impression of the book had to do with it's appearance. I know that they always say "Don't judge a book by it's cover," but as all true bibliophiles know, there is something breathtaking about finding a book that has a cover that draws you in. This cover is gorgeous!! I found myself lovingly touching the cover as I read, with its thin papery feel. The content matches the cover, with a beautiful faith message stated in a way that all faiths can appreciate. I loved the quote on p. 45, "And yet, Lara thought, if we spend our lives trying so hard to hold on to life that we never live, never really allow ourselves the chance to dance and sing, what is the value - the wisdom, the use, the purpose, the importance - of that?" There were so many truly moving and touching moments throughout this book, and it was lovely to read. Highly recommended!

Noran Miss Pumkin says

This book is from Goodreads free give away. This book reminded of Nicholas Sparks books..... you can see the ending from the beginning, but you still go down the path. I liked the path at times-set in the Virginia mountains-but Doc no one would have waited 2 weeks for their hillbilly stroke patient to finally show up, driven to the hospital farmer buddy.

I liked the books design. I am an avid book design addict, This book's color, weight, paper selection, font, and slip cover were all marvelous. The cover is translucent-for the blue to come through. The cover and book felt great in my hands-something Kindle/Nook can never replace.

I learned a could things from this book, sappy as it was at times. If you like these type of books, I highly recommend this one. I cried when I read A Walk to Remember by Sparks-even though I saw the ending in the beginning pages....

Victoria Bylin says

What a joy to find a book with a unique story, lyrical writing, and thought provoking ideas. I thoroughly enjoyed every word and would love to find more Christian fiction written in the same vein. There's a mystical aspect to the story that touches the heart, and the relationship between Jones and Lara is both poignant and heartwarming.

I'll remember this story for many years to come, treasure it, and reflect on it.

Recommended for readers of Christian fiction, medical fiction, and anyone with a heart and soul :)

Bri says

I didn't think I was really going to enjoy this book as tear jerkers aren't usually my thing.....but I loved it actually! The roller coaster my emotions rode was exhilarating as these types of books aren't a staple upon my shelves. I even said, as I read the last chapter..."ohhh man don't tell me she...aww how cute and awesome! OMG thats just adorable can basically feel the love!"

I also enjoyed the writing by telling one story simultaneously with another and t Rollin into each other without being way weird or complicated.

Marianne says

The Touch by Randall Wallace

I really enjoyed the book more than I thought I would. Throughout the novel it was hard to actually get inside the head of Andrew Jones (or Jones, as his colleagues call him) Faith Thomas or Lara (Laura without the u) Blair. So why did I like it in spite of that fact? Or why did I not really connect with them? All three of these characters were wrapped up in their professions as doctors, Lara being a researcher. They were well developed, but I seemed to miss that part that brought them into my life for me.

The story line was well written, and flowed rather like a river, but I am thinking that it could have had more depth, and the suspense could have been more developed. Actually, on second thought, perhaps it just was that it is a short story, easily read in an afternoon. As that, it was clearly a great little book.

Having said that, I am not criticizing the author or the editors...and the surprises were there. Randall clearly shows "The Touch" from the time Jones and Faith see the painting by Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel until the end of the novel. It is understood that The Touch is the touch of God's hand to man's hand, as the artist portrayed it. Both Jones and Lara grow from being rather reclusive and selfish to learning more about God's great love and plan for them.

I will definitely be telling others about Randall Wallace and The Touch, and will be looking for more novels by him.

The opinions stated in this review are my own, and this is an honest review.

Nicki says

This is an excellent audio all round. The story is very well crafted with characters you can believe in and a plot that is full of different emotions. This is not surprising coming from the man who wrote the screenplay for 'Braveheart'!!

The narration is perfect. Paul Michael does a wonderful job of bringing the different characters to life, and knows how to stir your emotions with the perfect pitch of his voice.

Its not a fast paced audio but it will definitely keep your attention, if you like well developed characters with a medical setting.

Thanks to christianaudio.com Reviewers Program for this copy.

Keryn says

I picked this book up firstly because of its unusual size and cover sitting on the library shelf - as a novella it is a hardcover small book but fairly thick and good quality; it probably cost a lot to publish due to its non-standard presentation.

Then I was captivated by the first few paragraphs. I have been looking closely at opening paragraphs lately as they need to capture my attention - and just how many variations can you do on an opening paragraph? This one starts: "When Michelangelo finished painting the Sistine Chapel, neither the Pope who hired him nor the glorified artists of Rome took particular notice of the depiction in the centre of the ceiling, where God, whom Michelangelo had the audacity to depict as a Being representing a human, stretches His divine hand toward the first man, Adam, who is lolling in beautiful yet limp perfection, awaiting The Touch that will bring him Life." One long sentence, but catchy and interesting, full of word pictures, leading into the story with a clear and powerful setting.

Then of course I recognised the author's name Randall Wallace but not as an author, and then I realised he was the well known screenwriter, director, producer and songwriter, which also caught my attention - what would his novella be like? Well, I really enjoyed it. I found it inspirational and well written, with strong imagery and messaging congruent with someone who works in film. I especially liked the references to Jones' surgical personality, which added comic humour to the human drama of the book.

Overall, a worthwhile read with a valuable life lesson, and the interview with the author at the end is a nice touch...

Bachyboy says

Others have remarked on how attractive the cover and size of this book is and that is what tempted me at the library. Perhaps the fact that this book also deals with operations on the brain also attracted me! Well crafted, sympathetic characters and a good story kept me really interested in this tale of courage and fear.

Karen says

Andrew Jones, a young doctor with amazing gift/abilities abandoned his gift and gave up surgery when he could not save his fiancé in a fatal car accident. Lara Blair, owner of a biomedical engineering company is determined to persuade him to work with her. He resists until he discovers the urgency in her request. I enjoyed this author's writing. He is an American screenwriter who wrote the screenplays for Braveheart, We Were Soldiers, The Man in the Iron Mask, Pearl Harbor and Secretariat. In addition to directing, producing and song writing.
