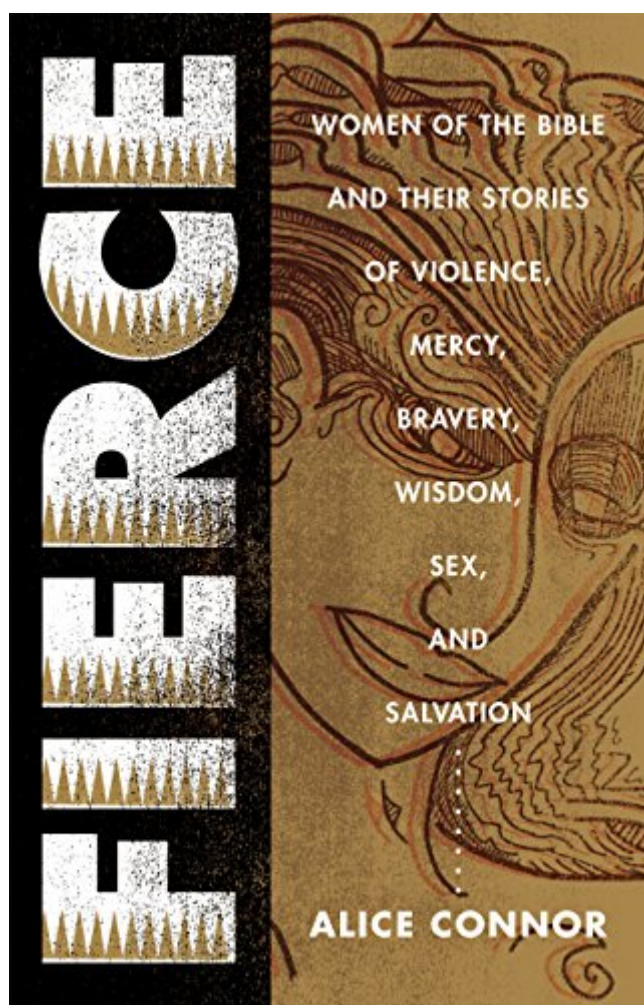


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Fierce: Women Of The Bible And Their Stories Of Violence, Mercy, Bravery, Wisdom, Sex, And Salvation



Synopsis

Women in the Bible "some of their names we know, others we've only heard, and others are tragically unnamed. Pastor and provocateur Alice Connor introduces these women and invites us to see them not as players in a man's story "as victims or tempters" nor as morality archetypes, teaching us to be better wives and mothers, but as fierce foremothers of the faith. These women's stories are messy, challenging, and beautiful. Fierce will provoke you, open up possibilities for you, invite you to imagine the inner lives of other women, even offend you at times, like the prophets did. Although separated by centuries and cultures, we aren't so different from these women; we share their desires and abilities. We are all part of the story that God is telling. We all "men and women" can be as fierce as these women of the Bible. Sometimes our ferocity is almost invisible, but it is not extinguished. When we read their stories, we can see not only their particular, fearsome lives but also our own.

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Customer Reviews

Alice Connor's *Fierce* is an examination of women in both testaments of the Bible, exploring their strengths, triumphs and failures. I am neither Christian nor religious in general, but I appreciate religion as folklore and as a guide for moral philosophy, and there's no denying the Bible's influence on world culture over the last few millennia. Despite my lack of belief, I greatly enjoyed *Fierce* and found valuable insight in Alice's interpretations of classical bible stories. In *Fierce*, Alice Connor retells the stories of many women from the bible—the well-known ones like Mary, the less famous ones like Hagar, and even the nameless women at various wells. She retells their stories and expands upon their meaning; comparing them to modern struggles faced by women and girls, as well as marginalized cultures like LGBTQ youth. The Iron Age wasn't an easy time for women, and Alice doesn't shy away from the oppression and lack of opportunity that biblical women faced. She shows how these women used the tools and gifts they had to make the best of their lives, to help their families and friends, and to promote goodness in their world. What's more, she does it with a conversational, quirky sense of humor that helps give these old stories relevance to the modern world. She compares the struggles of Mary Magdalene, Ruth, Susanna and others to the struggles in her own life and the struggles her friends and family face every day. Alice makes the stories real, finding strength in the familiarity of their triumph. Their stories are our stories. Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the artwork by Alice's husband Leighton Connor. His Dadaist-by-way-of-Kirby illustrations announce each chapter with heavily symbolic portraits of the women to be discussed. Good stuff!

Thank you Alice Connor for sharing your brilliance. Every page I read, I felt more and more emboldened. I have never had the opportunity to read a book so beautifully written and dedicated to women. This is a gift to every person that picks up this book. Thank you for sharing your voice and showing us the bible through a new lense, one we have not had the opportunity to experience. As soon as I completed the book, I reluctantly handed it to my husband...because I wanted to start it all over again.

Yesterday I finished reading Alice Connor's new book "Fierce" and it was wonderful! One of my favorite quotes is below..."When we start to remove the layers of our own stories, we are laid bare as Susanna in the town square. Maybe we should use a more brutal word like stripped, because being vulnerable and letting other people see who we are and what has happened in our lives is

unpleasant. When we cry out for help, we are showing our own nakedness, and that is as heroic as the people coming to our aid." (Pg. 125)

This book is a good read... insightful, engaging, and entertaining, peppered with personal stories--scholarly yet easy to understand bringing Biblical personalities to life as the remarkable and inspiring people who they are--all happen to be women. As told, their sensational stories are about ordinary people who do extraordinary things: especially relevant to current culture and events. In a word, the book is Fierce.

This is an easy read on a topic most of us think little about. Fun, edgy, quick-witted Alice Connor delivers the rarely told stories of biblical woman in a way that can be related across all history (as relevant now as ever). While her prose borrow from an educated, theological background, there is context and value for even the most secular reader. It's a light book that packs a heavy punch.

I cannot recommend this book enough! I haven't even finished reading it yet but I freaking love it. It is honest, informative, witty, and fierce. I just got through the chapter on Deborah and Jael, two badass ladies of the Bible. I imagined author Alice Conner dropped the proverbial mic at the end of writing this chapter. Put this one in your queue.

interesting take on some of the women in the Bible. Would be a decent discussion book for a group. Some of the ideas about a few of the women seemed a bit "out there" but that is what leads to good discussion. since there is not information on the few women noted in the bible then really, the ideas could be all over the place

If you want a new way to think about women in the Bible, and if you like your theological reading to be insightful, accessible and relevant, read FIERCE.

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