

Interview Questions for Shellie Arnold regarding *The Spindle Chair*

Interview Questions:

Your passion is to help Christian marriages. Why write fiction?

How did helping marriages become your passion?

What is the Barn Church series?

How did the idea for this novel come to you?

Is the wife the only main character in the story?

What is the couple's big problem in *The Spindle Chair*?

Have you dealt with childhood trauma in your life? If so, how did you see the effects harm your marriage?

In *The Spindle Chair*, the husband is the one dealing with a painful past, not the wife. Why did you write it this way?

What's the wife's main issue in the book?

Tell us a bit about the story.

What's your background? Are you a counselor? A therapist?

What would you say to someone God is prompting to deal with hurt from their past?

What would you say to someone whose spouse is dealing with past hurts?

What kind of ending can readers expect from your novels?

Your website offers ways to help Christian husbands and wives think strategically, work with God, and transform their marriages. Can you explain?

How does *The Spindle Chair* demonstrate this?

SPECIFICS:

Title of the Novel: *The Spindle Chair* (Book One in The Barn Church series)

Genre: Contemporary inspirational fiction

Other books in series: *Sticks and Stones* and *Abide with Me*

High concept: After suffering a miscarriage, a young pastor's wife finds her previously happy marriage shattered when her husband's repressed memories of childhood trauma surface, and he withdraws from her and God.

Scriptural inspiration: He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts (I Cor. 4:5 NIV).

Theme: Emotional healing depends on God, our obedience to Him, and His provision in our lives, not the apology of the offender nor our understanding of God's ways.

Synopsis: *The Spindle Chair* is the story of Laurie and Pierce Crane, a young couple who love each other and long for a child. Shortly after suffering a miscarriage, they move to Rowe City in southern Alabama to take over the church founded by Pierce's adoptive parents. Prior to the miscarriage, Pierce had shared with Laurie his few memories from preadoption years. But after the miscarriage when Pierce begins having flashbacks, Laurie senses the change in him and feels distance growing between them. After Laurie conceives again, Pierce's memories torment him with overwhelming fear for his wife during childbirth and haunting questions about his birth mother's death. He withdraws from Laurie, from family, and from God. Their marriage in tatters, Laurie believes she must face delivery and parenthood, alone. Then Pierce returns, determined to reconcile. But rebuilding is more difficult than either of them imagine. To save their marriage, Laurie and Pierce must listen to God as never before, right up until delivery.

Back cover blurb:

What happens when the miracle God gives you threatens to destroy your marriage?

Laurie Crane is happily married. And she is usually able to overlook her husband's moments of quiet sadness. If only God would give them a child ...

Pierce wants a child as badly as Laurie and has spent years praying alongside her. But he has no idea that a "yes" from God will unearth long-buried memories and bring their marriage to the brink of catastrophe.

In The Barn Church trilogy's first novel, *The Spindle Chair*, Shellie Arnold explores what happens when "happily ever after" becomes more than one couple can handle.

Shellie Arnold is an author, speaker, and Biblical Marriage Strategist. She is a sexual abuse survivor and spent twenty-two years as a homeschool mom. Shellie believes Jesus died to redeem every part of our lives, and we can experience that redemption in every part of our marriages. Visit her at shelliearnold.com or find her podcast *Christian Marriage Uncensored* arriving Valentine's Day 2024 on your preferred platform.