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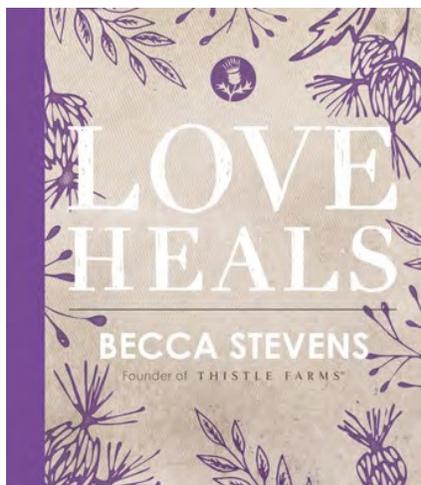


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LOVE HEALS
Becca Stevens, Founder of Thistle Farms,
Offers Wisdom, Healing in Latest Book

“Love is the most powerful force for change in the world.” – Becca Stevens



Nashville, Tenn.— *How do we change what is wrong in the world?* Vulnerable girls and women are trafficked and lured into prostitution. Sexual abuse and violence blanket our nation, as evidenced by the #metoo movement. Opioid use is skyrocketing, and drug overdose is now the #1 cause of death for Americans under age 50. The destructive cycle of abuse and addiction appears impossibly powerful – until you talk with Becca Stevens.

“Love is the most powerful force for change in the world,” Becca explains. “The women survivors who come to Thistle Farms have endured abuse, addiction, trafficking and imprisonment. They are loved, they heal, they grow stronger, they forgive, and they pass on the love.”

Becca Stevens is an author, speaker, justice entrepreneur, Episcopal priest and founder of Thistle Farms, a community of women healing from prostitution, trafficking & addiction.

Becca Stevens’ latest book reflects the guiding principle of her life: **Love Heals** (Thomas Nelson, \$15.99). Becca experienced the death of her father and subsequent child abuse at a young age, and as an adult she longed to open a sanctuary for survivors within a loving community. “Love heals” became the tagline for **Thistle Farms**, the nonprofit community she founded in Nashville twenty years ago. Since then, the Thistle Farms community has grown from one home for five women survivors to a survivor-led enterprise with over \$2M in sales revenue, a global market that helps employ 1,800 women survivors, and a national network of 50 sister communities.

Love Heals unfolds stories from Becca’s life and the survivors at Thistle Farms. Readers will be inspired to allow love to heal their own lives – and to make a difference in the lives of others. Becca offers encouragement, companionship, practical guidance, and the healing power of love. Chapters include:

- **Love Heals** through daily rituals (Practicing healing)
- **Love Heals** with compassion (Nourishing connections)
- **Love Heals** during the act of forgiving (Transforming brokenness)
- **Love Heals** past our fears (Overcoming anxiety)
- **Love Heals** across the world (Removing barriers)
- **Love Heals** from past mistakes (Letting go)

Becca Stevens has been featured in *The New York Times*, ABC World News, NPR, CNN and more. She was named a [2016 CNN Hero](#) and a 2011 White House “Champion of Change.” Becca and Thistle Farms were featured in the PBS documentary, “A Path Appears.”

All **Love Heals** author royalties are donated to Thistle Farms. Thistle Farms includes a two-year residential program, justice enterprises that employ survivors, and an international education and outreach program. Thistle Farms’ expanding line of home and body products generates millions of dollars in revenue for survivors around the globe.

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Becca Stevens is an author, speaker, Episcopal priest, justice entrepreneur, and founder and president of [Thistle Farms](#). Becca experienced the death of her father and subsequent child abuse at a young age, and as an adult she longed to create a sanctuary for survivors.

In 1997, five women who had experienced trafficking, violence, and addiction were the first to enter the Magdalene residential program. Twenty years later, women continue to heal as they are provided with two years of free housing, medical care, therapy and education. Residents and graduates earn income through one of four justice enterprises. Today, the Global Market of Thistle Farms helps employ more than 1,800 women worldwide through 19 global partners, and the Thistle National Network provides support to 50 sister communities in the U.S. modeled on the program.

Becca is a graduate of the University of the South and Vanderbilt Divinity School. She has been conferred three honorary doctorates and has received numerous humanitarian awards including being named a 2011 White House “Champion of Change” and a 2016 CNN Hero.

Becca Stevens and her husband, Grammy-winning songwriter Marcus Hummon, live in Nashville with their three sons.

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LOVE HEALS by Becca Stevens

www.ThistleFarms.org

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Review copies and interviews available: [pamela@ mmpublicrelations.com](mailto:pamela@mmpublicrelations.com), 615-294-5073

“I love Becca Stevens and love what she has created with Thistle Farms. Amidst all the noise and chaos of our world, Becca finds God in simple, beautiful, quiet places, and tells us we can too.”

– **Kimberly Williams-Paisley**

“I am a great admirer of Becca Stevens ... even things that are scary have their place in the exquisite order of the world she celebrates. Love Heals is true. And in this book I’ve found a beautiful place of encouragement and hope—a meeting point for us all to experience community, healing, and love.”

– **Amy Grant**