

Shades of Blue

 By Karen Kingsbury | Zondervan | softcover | 336 pages | \$

Karen Kingsbury's *Shades of Blue* is the story of a young couple whose lives are forever changed by a series of unwise choices. The author explores the harsh realities of abortion through the lives of her characters.

Brad Cutler and Laura James are engaged to be married in only six weeks when a secret from his past suddenly begins to affect the prospect of his future.

Though he now follows Christ, Brad can no longer hide the truth about a previous relationship.

Emma Landon, his high school love, has now been living broken and alone for nine years. As a teacher, she shows her students love, but her sadness tarnishes every day she spends with them. With deep humility and strong faith, Brad seeks forgiveness from his first love for the worst decision of his life.

Kingsbury's bold handling of this difficult topic is fairly balanced, but it's charged with emotion. Some of the dialogue is heart-wrenching, but the resolution is full of hope. Mature readers will appreciate how God's grace and forgiveness are demonstrated in the context of a tragic situation.

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