

Softly & Tenderly

✖ Sara

Evans with Rachel Hauck | Thomas Nelson

Taking

a long road trip often means friends and fun, but not for Jade Benson, who is traveling with her mother, Beryl, who is battling leukemia, and her mother-in-law, June, whose husband was caught having an affair. Jade's mother is the real reason for the trip from Tennessee, having decided she wants to die at home in Prairie City, Iowa.

Beryl

wasn't much of a mother when she left Jade and her two siblings with their grandparents, while she sowed her wild oats as a long-distance truck driver. But that doesn't stop Jade from wanting to be there for her—after all, Jade is a Christian—and though she is running two boutiques and trying to start a family with second husband Max, she wants to help.

Sadly,

Jade discovers that Max is dealing with a drug addiction and also that he had a child with his ex-fiancée. When the child's mother dies in a plane crash, Max wants to take him in and raise him.

Through

it all, the women have their faith tested, but in the end they do what is right

for all involved. Fans of Sara Evans' music or previous novel, *The Sweet By and By*, are ready-made readers for this work, the second in the Songbird series.

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