



# FINDING RUTH



And Keeping Her Happy

Michael LeMay  
LeMay Imagery Publishing

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*and keeping her happy..*



**Ruth and Boaz**  
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## About the Book:

[Finding Ruth](#) is the sequel to [Finding Boaz](#). It is a book that was developed from the Biblical story of [Ruth and Boaz](#), that explores their relationship and illustrates how two people from different lifestyles can come together and flourish. ([Ruth](#)).

The biblical story offers insights into the redemptive power of the Hebrew God, [Yahweh](#) and his intention to restore the broken relationship between the children of Israel and the nation of [Moab](#), which is where Ruth comes from. Ruth, is a widowed woman who has taken on the responsibility of caring for her widowed mother in law, [Naomi](#). Boaz, is a wealthy landowner who is Jewish that wouldn't normally court a woman from Ruth's background.

Ruth and Boaz have both been predestined by God himself to facilitate the redemption of their tribes through the marriage of Boaz and Ruth. As destiny and God's will would have it, Ruth and Boaz find themselves at an unlikely impasse that crosses cultural and patriarchal inhibitions and they become one, through marriage.

The book illustrates the perpetual state of preparation that a man goes through when he is in search of his life partner, comparable to the main character, [Boaz](#). To attract her and to be better equipped to facilitate him flourishing in a relationship, once he's married to her. Comparable to what Boaz would have done.

The book also examines some of the pervasive, patriarchal patterns and nuances of the day that were used by men to confine, to control and to marginalize women within their cultures. The book draws comparisons and evokes contemplation about the correlations between the practices that were used during Ruth's era and that are currently used throughout the Middle East and in the United States today, to exclude and to demean women of colour.

[Finding Ruth](#) offers tangible examples of how to allow yourself to become yielded to your prospective soul mate and to God's will as well. The book also shows the lengths that a man will and should be willing to go to when he believes that he has found the woman that he knows is the woman that God has predestined for him to be with. Despite their circumstances, [Boaz and Ruth](#) marry as intended by God and they become the ancestors of Jesus Christ.

## **Preface:**

In the year of 1283 B.C. Ruth the daughter of [Elgon](#) married Boaz the daughter of [Rahab](#). Through no fault of their own, Ruth and her Mother in Law Naomi, have now become widows, due to the destruction of [Sodom and Gomorha](#) where their husbands were. All of the men, with the exception of 48 of them including [Lot](#), were killed during the destruction. As a result, Ruth and Naomi are now destitute and they have been left to survive in a patriarchal world that has been designed to accommodate men only.

I wanted to pen a book that speaks to some of the behaviours of the men that lived in Ruth and Boaz's era, and show parallels of some of the men that lived then and some of the men of today's societies. Particularly in the Middle East and in the United States of America.

**Such as:** How in some churches in America, women aren't allowed to preach. In the Islamic religion, women aren't allowed to pray together alongside men. [In Saudi Arabia, women weren't allowed to drive until 2018](#). I wanted to show some of the correlations between the two cultures and also illustrate the power of God's intention and how he will control situations, so that his will is performed.

Many questions arose in my mind as I researched and gathered the information for the books; some that I may never derive the answers to. However, what I do understand and what is clear to me is that there is overt condescension toward women in the story of Ruth and Boaz. Not surprisingly, the same pattern exists throughout the rest of the 65 books; with the exception of Jesus's narratives of liberation and justice.

One particular instance stands out above all to me. It is one that describes how Lot's daughters got him drunk and had sex with him. In an effort to preserve their bloodline. [Moab and the Ammonites](#) are the results of these events.

**What is puzzling to me is how the women in the story are portrayed and made out to be the culprits and co-conspirators in this incestuous plot; but Lot isn't? The question is, how would a man not know that he was having sex with his own daughters? Lot had sex with not just one daughter, but both with both of his daughters. *It sounds a whole like [Eve](#) being blamed for eating the apple.***

Boaz is characterised and is called the redheming father. It is a name that is a metaphor for the redemptive plan of God to restore humankind back to himself from their broken relationship with God, because of their sin. And that is because sin entered by man, it must be paid for by a man. [\(Romans 5:12\).](#)

In the book, I draw the connection between the way that God shows his love for mankind through the sacrifice of his son Jesus Christ and that Boaz is viewed as the proverbial forerunner of Jesus Christ. [\(Romans 5:19\).](#)



One of the most remarkable things that I've discovered in the story and throughout the endeavour to write this book, is the nature of the relationships that God has with the people that he uses to perform his will in the story. Somehow or the other, they always seem to do better in life, than they were before they went through tribulation and trials. Or as I like to refer to them, as tests.

The other thing that really impresses me is Boaz's sense of responsibility and duty that Boaz assumes almost immediately towards Ruth and Naomi, once his spiritual eyes are open and when he becomes aware of the blessing that is before him through them. This is the mindset of a man who is looking for his God given Ruth. That he recognizes that his destiny and his blessings are tied to his wife, to be.

One thing is for certain and that is that the story of Ruth and Boaz is one one that demonstrates how two people can be used to perform God's will, no matter what their backgrounds are. It is the differences between Ruth and Boaz that makes them so perfect to be able to be used for God's will to be done.

I was also impressed with the concept that God never intended for there to be different religions. We see this theme displayed in the book of Ruth and throughout the bible. It is this sense of wanting to be reunited with his children, creation. It is the nature of God and his desire that all mankind be in good health and prosperity, and that we dwell together also.

As I extracted more and more content from the story for the formulation of the book it became blatantly obvious to me that God hates division and derision. We are not intended to be alone but as husband and wife. Neither were we intended to live without the presence of God being able to flow through our lives abiding within us.

It is God's desire to re established a relationship with him that is the recurring theme throughout the book of Ruth and it is my goal that through this book you will recognize that the posture of the man that would draw his God given Ruth to him, must see himself in the same capacity that Boaz did with Ruth. As the man that will cover her and bring her back into wellness, and wholeness.

Not that you are rescuing her, but rather functioning with the understanding that you are being used as a vessel and also as the earthly facilitator of her proverbial redemption. As Boaz was with Ruth. And as the steward over the blessing that is your wife, who is a gift from God to you. To nurture, to care for, and to cherish her until her return to her father.

For me the book of Ruth is the most compelling story in the bible, that demonstrates the love and desire of God to have fellowship with human kind. It is a story of sacrifice, obedience, faith and compassion. I hope that you'll recognize and see the value of the story and that it leads you to a greater walk with God and a more loving relationship with your God given Ruth.



## **Chapter: 1) Recognizing Ruth, when you find her.**

**At least 7 ways.** *(For better or for worse, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, till death do yee part).*

I was on a date months ago with a wonderful woman that I thought at the time had the potential to be my Ruth. I've been through so many now that I've lost count. None of which can be blamed on God. It's always been my bad judgement, bad decision making and rushing the process.

When seeking the love of a woman I've discovered that the way that I feel about money, isn't dissimilar to the way that I feel about women. I'm often enamoured by their external appearance rather than her heart and her emotional state, which should be first. Although I've preached about the dangers of this kind of approach, over and over again to my readers.

In any case, I asked the woman that I was interested in to go on a date with me, to watch a night service at church to bring in the new year together. She told me that she couldn't give me an answer right then. I didn't understand why she couldn't answer me then because it seemed like a simple enough question to me that required a yes or a now answer.

Later she told me that she couldn't just tell me her answer, because her church home is a place that she couldn't just show up with anyone at. Then she told me that she couldn't just show up at my church, either.

I was floored, speechless, disappointed and hurt too. I couldn't believe that this woman was being so territorial over bringing someone to church. I thought that it was very pretentious of her; but I didn't say it to her. I just remained quiet and waited for something else to say to come to mind.

**I wondered what Jesus would have said about taking someone to worship and I wondered why she felt that she had the right to take ownership over the church, to begin with? One of the criticisms of current church leaders is that the church is more about the leader, than the preaching of Jesus. *This woman had just epitomised that.***

Then, she commented on the fact that I believed that the church is a great place to meet singles. At that, she reprimanded me saying, "the church is to be used for the preaching of Jesus Christ." I replied. "Yes, I know."

I couldn't understand why she'd just contradicted herself, in that she'd scrutinise who she'd bring to the house of God and then say that the primary reason for bringing them or going to church is to hear the gospel message? I was totally put off by this from her. Yet, I didn't want to write her off, just yet.

**The preceding Friday of the New Years night celebration at church, we went to dinner together. I was still trying to get my head around how this woman was okay with being out in public with me, drinking wine and eating, when she wouldn't have me in church with her? It was baffling to me.**

Clearly, this woman was not going to be my God given Ruth. Ruth's spirit would never scorn or deny someone being led by her to the house of God. It just doesn't coincide with the natural order of being a disciple of Christ. What this illustration is a good example of is how people can be so enamoured and impressed with themselves, that they forget the mission of discipleship and intimate relationships.

I was so disappointed and hurt by this woman, but I knew that I needed to quickly get over it, because it was a lesson that I was supposed to learn. No matter how late in life it was, I was learning it. I realised then that some people are more interested in their appearances and what they perceive to be useful more than being the person who leads someone into enlightenment. This is hypocrisy and arguably, false doctrine. I'd never been with a woman who was too good for me to go to church with.

I could only think about the leper that would have come into the temple, or the person who was in the club all night and showed up at the church the morning after, looking for Jesus; looking for love. This woman didn't have real love to give and I suspect that her church doesn't either.

**The woman that lives this way, IS NOT YOUR RUTH! But she is rather a vain and a pretentious woman, that will end up hurting you and likely alone in life as well. Stay away from this kind of a woman, the odds are that she will end up alone ultimately, by their own choice.**

Ruth didn't look down on Boaz for him digging a younger woman. And Boaz didn't look down on Ruth for being in a destitute state, either. **I hear Jesus saying, "suffer the children."** Then, I began to think about service and what marriage is all about, which is service to your spouse and to your family. *My love for God is demonstrated by how I treat my family.*

**Our families are earthly and physical manifestations that are reflections of God's love for us, through the gift of a family. I thought to myself as I contemplated what she'd said to me and I wondered how much real service this woman had actually rendered in her life?**

I thought about my own service to my country and to my children and I thought about the sacrifices of Christ, who was associated with and loved by those who didn't look royal and those who weren't acquainted with the aristocracy of the day. Jesus was rather associated with the broken hearted and the downtrodden. Jesus never had a church to preach in and he never cast anyone out of his sight who asked for his help.

Ruth had been married before, she was a widow and now a servant to her widowed mother in law. She understood service, loyalty and compassion. She knew what it was to deny herself for someone else and for the sake of her relationships and for honour. Ruth demonstrated her love and her relationship with God, through the giving of herself to those whom she served and loved.

Ruth displayed the characteristics of a humble and loving servant, who'd had the blessing and she'd also had the blessing of having had a man, cover her as well. Another thing that jumps out to me in the biblical story of Ruth and Boaz is the age differences between Ruth and Boaz.

**The bible doesn't give a clear answer for their age differences. However I've ascertained from other data sources and various archaeological content that Boaz was 80 years of age and Ruth was 40 years old when they married.**

Given these unique circumstances and challenges pertinent to the sexual potency and the capacity of an 80 year old man to impregnate a woman, I have to assume that there would have had to have been substantial tolerances and accommodations by Ruth to facilitate copulation and conception. Ruth's behaviour coincides with one of the principle ways to know your Ruth, when you find her.

**Ruth presents herself to Boaz with the characteristics and the skills of being able to show Boaz an unconditional love.  
(AGAPE).**

**It is a love that supersedes age, race, creed, colour, gender, religion, sexual orientation, cultural backgrounds, disabilities, education, body type, etc.**



Ruth accepted Boaz's age and the challenges that come with it and she was determined to love and to serve him despite it all and not because of what Boaz could do or what he had to offer. She so eloquently and humbly states. "I am your servant Ruth."

Although Ruth is well aware of Boaz's ability to shift her life from a life of poverty into prosperity, she doesn't predicate her willingness to submit to Boaz, with the obvious age differences and hindrances to Boaz's physical prowess and or his stamina. (*In sickness and in health*).

The scriptures don't give any indication nor does it infer that Ruth was in any way moved and or discouraged by Boaz's age. But the implication is rather that Ruth was impressed with Boaz's maturity and that she perceived Boaz's age to be an asset and her also. I think that Boaz would've seen right through it had Ruth come on to him as being just an opportunist.

It is the example that Ruth had already shown and demonstrated to Boaz, by giving her life to her Mother in Law, for help and now Boaz was on the hook. Boaz is enamoured with Ruth's devotion to her widowed mother in law, and he recognizes that Ruth is a woman that understands and that can offer him unconditional love and that she can willingly share herself with him, without prejudice and without the necessity for performances that don't hold value. Comparable to a lifelong commitment, loyalty and companionship.

**Ruth doesn't put any unrealistic expectations on Boaz that could cause friction, stress and sometimes even the demise of their relationship if her expectations weren't met. Ruth gives us an example of a woman who has let go of all of the expectations that she's developed from cultural conditioning that sometimes have nothing to do with unconditional love.**

Which brings us to some other love languages that you'll recognize in your Ruth, when you find her. One of those is that your God given Ruth doesn't kick you when you're down. Ruth didn't ridicule Boaz for his age or the fact that he wasn't married. *(For better or for worse).*

**Ruth also doesn't say things to hurt you intentionally and she doesn't harm you with words and Ruth encourages and inspires you to be the very best that you can be.**

Your God given Ruth will trigger you to summon your inner strengths and your spirit to do your very best in life and in all of your endeavours and she also encourages you by her very presence. Ruth will encourage you to develop your existing skills and talents and she will also inspire you to sharpen and to reinforce them as well.

Boaz springs into action upon Ruth's offer. He is incentivised, due to Ruth's very presence and because of her request. Ruth has inspired Boaz, just by being in his field and by going about her day of labour. When Boaz sees her, he is smitten and now he has to show her that he is interested in her. Boaz gets her attention by having his servants leave extra sheaves in Ruth's path so that she wouldn't have to for it.

Boaz has become creative and crafty; he is using his mind's eye to conjure up a way to connect with Ruth. This is another way that you'll know your Ruth when you find her. Consider the spontaneity of Ruth. She responds to Naomi's advice and spontaneously shows up at Boaz's feet. She is not only creative but she's also full of surprises.

Your God given Ruth will trigger the necessity for you to become more creative than you have ever been, in your pursuit of her. You will have to employ methods that you may not have ever used before to get her attention and also to keep her mentally stimulated, sometimes as well. You'll have to think outside of the box and outside of your norms, to win the prize.

**Ruth is your help mate and she has the tenacity to help you to finish the projects that you'd left behind. By not being in contention with her, Ruth can show you how to work with efficacy and with precision.**

Just being around your God given Ruth triggers a certain kind of energy that is so inspiring that sometimes it makes you want to jump for joy or run around like an 18 year old who's experiencing puppy love. Ruth makes you feel as though there is hope for your future when she talks to you and she has this way of conveying to you that she has your best interest at heart also.

One evening I was alone awaiting the time that I'd be spending time with a woman that I believed was my Ruth, at the time. She'd been with her grandchildren all day, as it was a Sunday and her time to have them. Her youngest granddaughter of 2 years old, had insisted that she was staying over the night. As I watched the baby through the video chat, I felt this overwhelming sensation of loneliness take over me.

That night I was reminded of the pain that I'd felt many times before from being alone and without my family; and the woman that I believed was my Ruth was helping me to heal. I told her that I was going to let her go so that I didn't interfere with her time with her grandbaby and then I told her goodnight. The moment was awkward and I really wanted to stay on the video chat with her. Moreover, I wanted to be there with the two of them, *with her grandbaby set between us*.

So she let me go. Then about an hour later she called me back and said "I was checking on you, would you like me to pray for you?" I nodded yes and she prayed a very simple prayer for my peace and for my comfort while I was alone.

**She spoke to me that night with warm words of consolation and inspiration. She told me that I was a human too and that I needed to be cared for, just like anyone else.**

I couldn't recall a woman actually taking the time to pray for and over me. *I'm sure that my first wife had, at some point, but I just couldn't remember it then.* But that night, my Ruth to be, had stopped out of concern and compassion to pray for me and she prayed a simple yet heartfelt prayer for me.

I was so undone and humbled by her act of kindness towards me that I could hardly respond to say thank you. The tears welled up in my eyes and I was all choked up and I couldn't even muster up the ability to say thank you beyond a whisper to her.

**Another way that you know that you are with your God given Ruth,** is that she treats you with the love and the compassion that you don't even expect to receive but she renders the love, compassion and the spiritual covering that you need and just when you need it the most. Much like the Holy Spirit does; he comes just in the nick of time to remind you that you are his own and also that you're loved.

**Ruth is your sanctuary. Her bosom becomes a place of healing and of comfort for you. When you rest your head on her chest and you listen to her heartbeat you are immediately put at ease and all of your distress and discomfort becomes sedated by the flow of energy from her heart to your mind and to your body.**

**When you lay your head in your God given Ruth's lap and then she caresses your temples with her fingers, you're suddenly transported into another dimension and then your problems seem as far away as the moon. These are the kind of instances that are analogous to Ruth being your personal sanctuary and a place of rest.**

You realise then that your Ruth is your best friend and that she is the person that you enjoy being around and all of the time. She has shown you by her actions, which speak louder than words that she puts her relationship with you as a top priority in her life. Which triggers a sense of security and solidifies your identity as a husband, a father, a grandfather and as her priest. Now, you are certain that she is your God given, Ruth.

**Your God given Ruth will labour with you, just as Ruth of the bible did with Boaz.** We know from the story that Boaz had a flourishing real estate business. So, assuming that there would be ups and downs in the markets, what would Ruth's posture be, during the downturns in the real estate market's that Boaz could have experienced?

Would Ruth have left Boaz because he could no longer afford the lifestyle that he was able to when she married him? Would Ruth have divorced him because his portfolio lost significant value? (*For richer or for poorer*).

**Your God, given Ruth, will stay the course with you.** In the biblical story, Ruth tells her mother in law Naomi, “whither thou goest I will go.” Ruth shows her discipline, strength, loyalty and also her determination to serve others and these actions and characteristics demonstrate to Boaz that she has the capacity to stand with Boaz through the thick and through the thin of life’s challenges.

**Ruth has experienced the loss of her father in law as well as her own husband. Ruth is acquainted with pain, loss and suffering.**

I’ve had two wives that have both given me children and also a grandchild, over a culmination of 30 years together with me. There are a few things that both of my wife's had in common and that is that they were both raised in a traditional nuclear family. They both knew their fathers intimately and they were raised by them also in the context of marriage and a traditional nuclear family.

**I do believe that there is a correlation between a woman who’s had the influence of a father and her ability to see it through, in their marriages. Through all of the ups and downs (*for better or for worse*).**

Your God given Ruth will not jump ship when the going gets rough. Your God given Ruth won’t run out on you when you get a bad medical diagnosis and your God given Ruth won't throw in the towel over money or for fear of you not being able to financially stable down the road.

**Your God given Ruth will not toss the baby out with the bath water,** because she's upset or disappointed with you. Your God given Ruth will weather the storm with you, no matter what comes your way because she's made the commitment to stay in God's covenant with you and unless there are things that you do to break the relationship, your God given Ruth will be with you, *till death do you part.*

**Ruth is also your partner,** this is the 7th way that you recognize your God given Ruth when you have her. She has the inherent capacity to pick where you left off and just handle things like the trooper that she is. This is another way that you know your Ruth. Her perspective on handling conflict, tasks, problems, etc., is that she's always willing to approach a situation, as your partner and not as your adversary.

*She is always there to lend a helping hand in all things, but the dynamic is her approach which is always as a collaborating contributing member of your team; analogous to her partnering mentality.*

*Your God given Ruth will support your efforts in business and in commerce and she will assist you in gathering information in the formation of your business and in furthering your education.*

*Your God appointed Ruth won't shy away from going to church, Mosque, Synagogue or Temple, with you, because she's ashamed of you or the way that you look.*





## Chapter: 2) The Redeemer

To give some context to the lineage of Ruth - Lot was Ruth's great great uncle and he was the proverbial father of the Moabites and the Ammonites. Moab is where Ruth was from. Ruth and Boaz were essentially from the same lineage which were the children of Israel.

*However, there'd been a great division between their tribes since the days of Abraham and Lot that was essentially started over disagreements about land and property. Which had led to wars between them and developed into different religions.*  
**Moab is the region that is currently Jordan today and it is predominantly Islamic.**

Ruth's father was **Eglon who was Lots' great nephew and Eglon was also the king of Moab. Elgon's son was named Balak**. The children of Israel had grown to become a very powerful and formidable nation and they were constantly at war with the Moabites and the Ammonites.

In a plot to defeat the children of Israel, **Balak** tried to curse the Israelites and he contracted **Balaam** who was a sorcerer, to do so. ([Revelation 2:14](#)). Balaam told King Balak how to get the Israelites to commit sin by enticing them with **sexual immorality and food sacrificed to idols**. The Israelites fell into transgression through these traps and as a result Yahweh sent a deadly plague upon them. ([Numbers 31:16](#)).

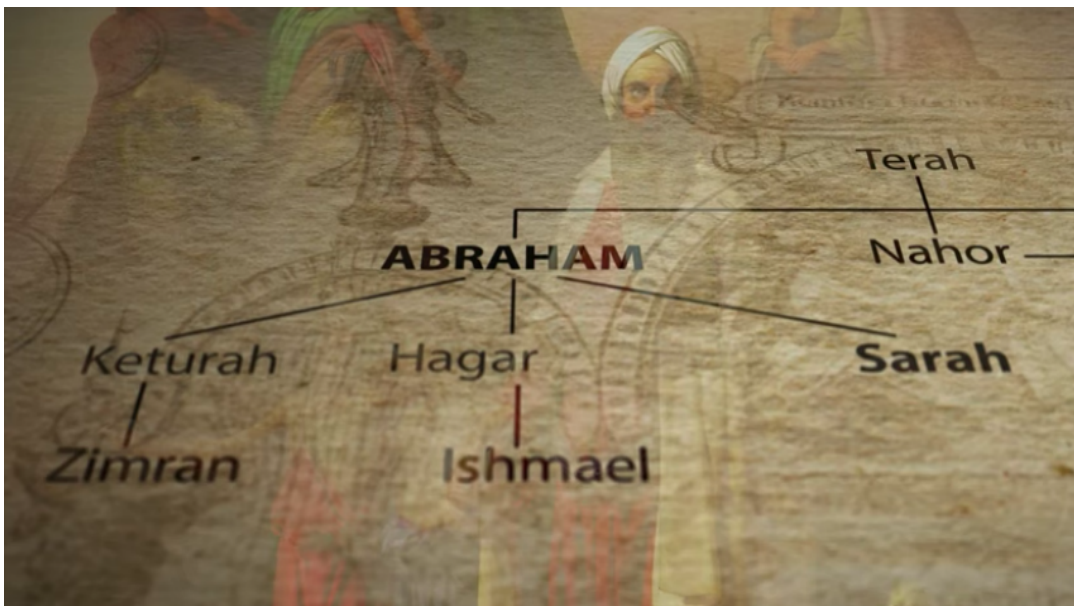
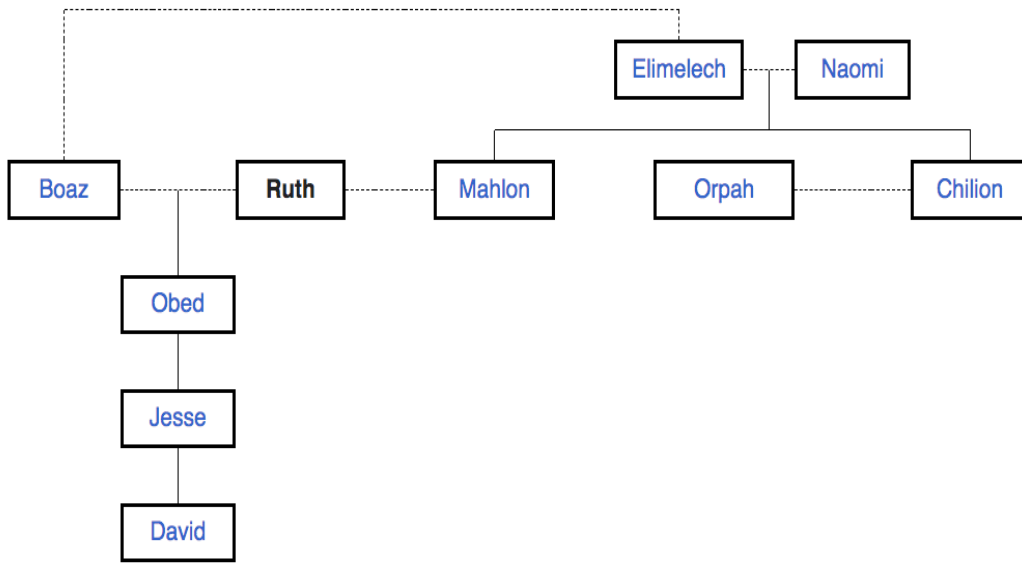
So Ruth's lineage itself was marred with distrust and disdain because of her cultural ties. However, in God's eyes her culture's curse wasn't sustained because of their ethnicity it was because of her worship of [Baal](#) (Canaanite-Phoenician god of fertility). Ruth, like many women of her day and today, suffered and endured racism, prejudice, exclusion, exploitation, objectification and misogyny because of her heritage.

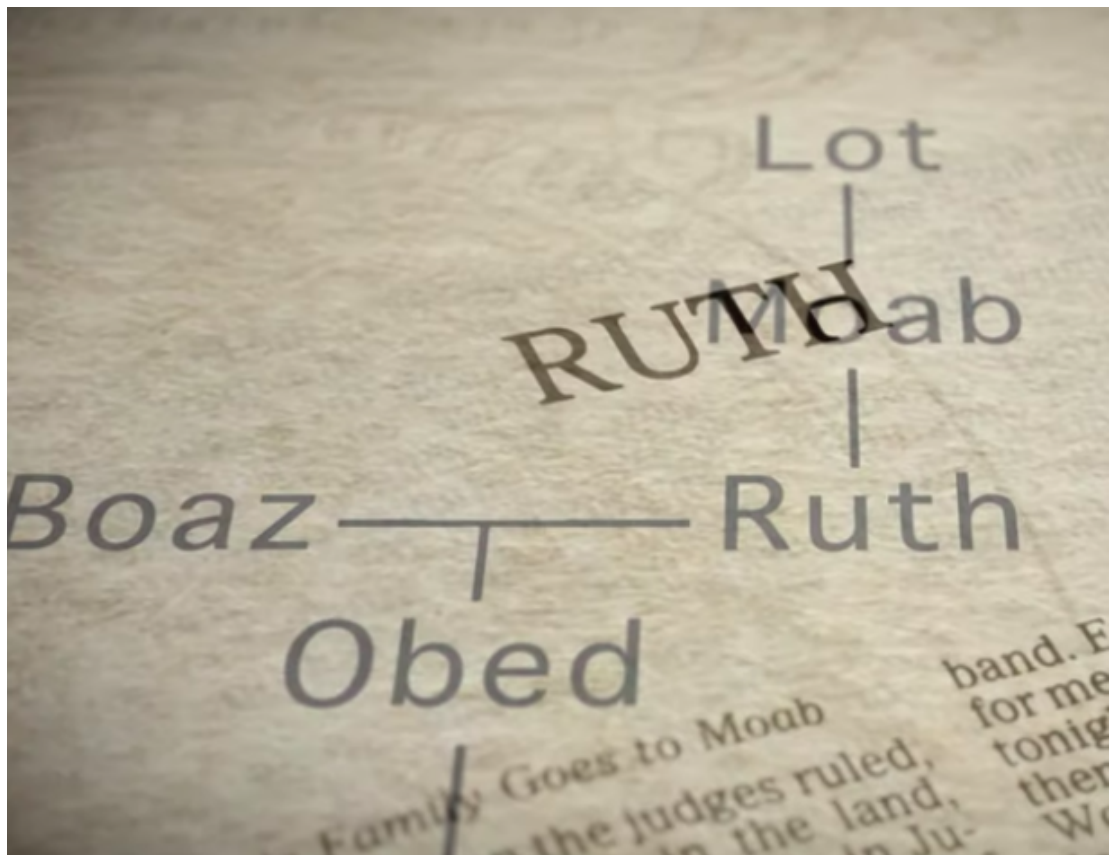
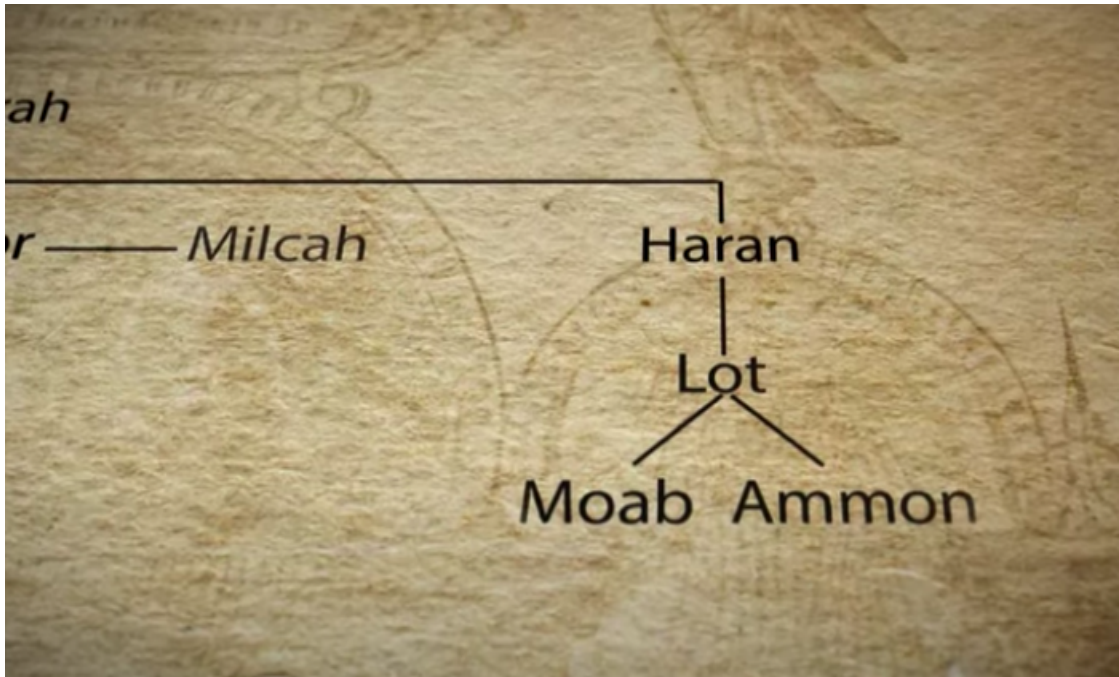
**The incestuous origins of the nation of Moab and the split between Abraham and Lot, triggered the curses that fell upon Moab. The question should be, why were the men of Sodom and Ghamora where Ruth and Naomi's husbands were killed, killed to begin with and not Ruth or Naomi? Is it because God had a purpose for them as well as a lesson to teach us?**

**The socio and economic trials and tribulations that Ruth found herself in had nothing to do with Ruth herself. The challenges that she and her mother in law faced were not dissimilar to the ones that many women of colour contend with today. Ruth was simply a byproduct of her birth.**

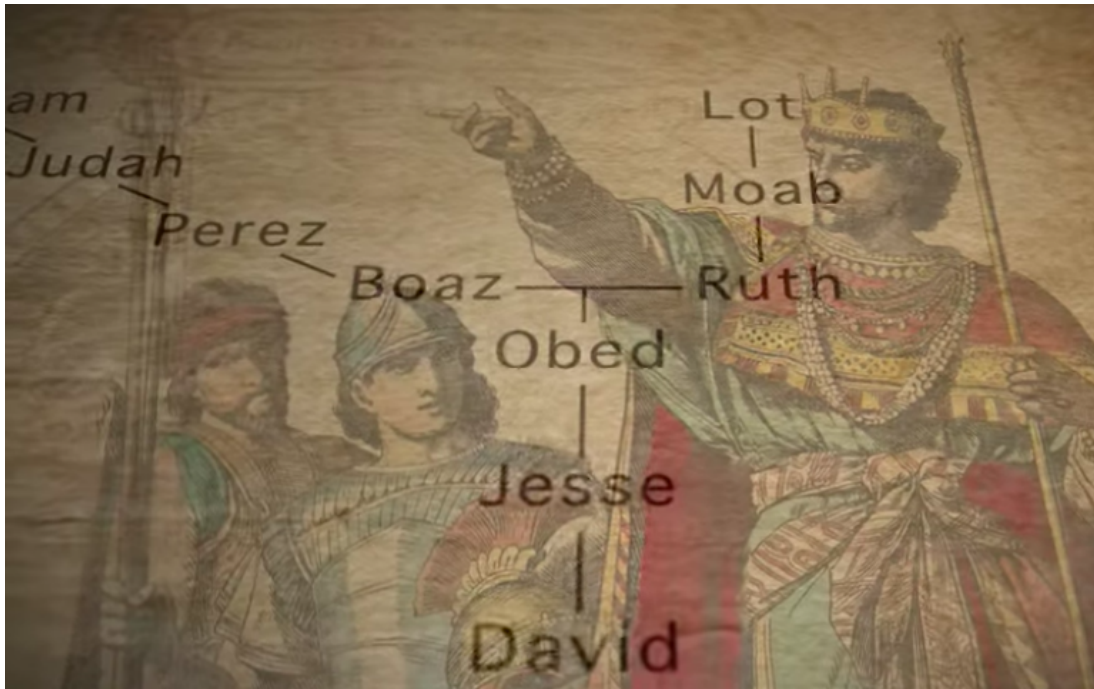
Her story reminds of the plight of many single moms in the U.S., today who are women of colour who experience similar disparities that are often no fault of their own, but have everything to do with cultural traumas that have transcended into generational curses that often times manifests themselves as breast cancer, hypertension, type two diabetes, etc.

## Diagrams of Ruth's Genealogy.









Nearly two centuries after the split between Abraham and Lot happens, Ruth finds herself at the mercy of the patriarchal culture that is viewed by the children of Israel as cursed and their enemies. The inhabitants of Moab were seen as the enemies of the children of Israel. Yet, Boaz finds it in his heart to look past the labels that had been put on Ruth, for the sake of marriage. Boaz and Ruth, cross cultural and racial tensions to formulate a marriage that will ultimately lead to the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Could Boaz have known the significance of their union?  
 Could Ruth have anticipated the importance of her marriage to Boaz, beyond his capacity to provide for her financially?  
 And could Boaz have known that he would be characterised as the Redeeming Father, by God?**

The reality is the region that was being fought over and still is today is due to disagreements between two family members over a plot of land. (Abraham and his nephew Lot). The land and their property became so overwhelming that the two had to separate. The land that had been promised to Abraham by God, which was [Canaan](#). Canaan was designated for the offspring of Abraham. (The promised land). Abraham's inheritances were the rightful heirs of the land, according to the bible.

The step children ([The Moabites](#)), were viewed as those who were outside of the inheritance of God's promise and were called those who almost inherited the promise. So now there's a labelling of a culture who are of the same lineage being ostracised and marginalised due to their origin. **Sounds a whole like a modern day caste system and racism to me.**

The argument of the chosen ones, (the Children of Israel), reminds me of the rift that happened between Abraham's wife and their servant, the Egyptian woman Hagar. [Hagaer](#) was forced out of the protection and covering of Abraham, because of the jealousy of his wife, Sarah. Who was barren. In the end, God provides safety for Hagar and her son [ismhel](#), who is known as the father of Islam.

I cannot help but notice the correlation between the two stories. Both depict marginalised women of colour who are ostracised and later brought back into harmony with the elitist male figure who, essentially redeems them.

**This is patriarchy and misogyny, personified. The irony and the hypocrisy of the notion that a woman needs a man to rescue her, when the situation that she's in is a man's doing, to begin with.**

However, and notwithstanding when we look deeper into the narrative of redemption; it is an example of grace afforded by God. When we consider the Gospel message at its core, it is a love story. One that depicts God in the form of a man, giving himself as propitiation for the sins of humankind. And, he is the only one that could stand in the place for humankind, because he is God.

The similarities between Boaz and Jesus are intentional and they have God's thumbprints all over them. It is God's method of demonstrating his love for humankind and in the story of Ruth and Boaz, he uses a man to show how love, honour and the mission of God supersedes some men's narrow and perverted agenda to marginalise and to control women. God shows us his love for humankind through Boaz's willingness to look beyond Ruth's current situation, her past, her religion, etc., and he chose to marry her.



God also shows that he is no respecter of persons. Through Ruth's tenacity, bravery, determination and her will to push through the pervasive practices that would've prevented her from marrying Boaz. God's will is always performed. The challenge is the same for a man today. And that is, will he perceive that his potential Ruth is the same woman who has been passed over and beat down by life as Ruth had been.

I'm not suggesting that a man seeks to save the world. I'm not suggesting that one man ought to go out and seek to rescue a woman from poverty, either. That's not the point that I'm making here. Neither am I contending that a modern day successful woman needs the help of a man to pull her out a fire. However, if we separate the rhetoric and the religious elements of the story, we see people being able to get together for a greater purpose. And that is to share love, to procreate and to perform God's will.

**This is God's plan for humankind. This was his agenda for Ruth and Boaz; that Boaz provide a soft place to land for Ruth and that they would facilitate the entrance of Jesus. Who knows what the significance of the one that is intended to be your God given Ruth is to have in your life?**

The redemptive plan is here in this story and it is inherent in you as a man; we are exercising it whenever we allow ourselves to step out of our comfort zone, and allow the process to happen. No matter what the crowd says, so matter what our political affiliation says, no matter what our religion says.

### **Chapter: 3) Where to find your Ruth**

I remember when I'd gotten very very ill once, and had to have physical rehabilitation. My life was falling apart and I was basically living in a rehab centre to convalesce and going through a divorce and at the same time. It was a time of great transition in my life, but I knew that I would bounce back. I also believed that I'd find a new Ruth during that season. But I didn't know how and I didn't know when or where to find her.

But all of the nurses that took care of me would just tell me daily to keep looking and to be prayerful and faithful and then Ruth would appear. I'd ask them where to meet Ruth, and they'd give me different responses.

**But the one place that they'd always recommended was always the same, and it was at the Church.**

The nurses used to always tell me that I'd meet another woman and marry her, but at the time it just seemed too easy for them to say, and harder for me to manifest it. They'd always suggest that I go to the church to meet a woman. Jokingly, the main Doctor would say "go to the church." I'd say, "you mean the church?" "She'd say, no I mean the church."

So one morning I got up early Sunday morning, and heard the voice of the Lord saying, "go to church!" I asked, "did you say, go to church?" The Lord said, "no I said go to church!"

So there I was early that morning at the church that was next door to the rehab centre. Not knowing that this was historic Ebenezer Baptist Church. And there she was, sparkling and shimmering. I knew that she was my Ruth.

She stood there inanimate as I approached her. Long story short. We were together for 5 years, before she passed away. Churches, synagogues, Masques and other places of worship are excellent places to meet someone of the opposite sex.

To be fair, years later my Ruth at the time, [Mia](#), told me that she'd thought that I had some nerve pushing up on her, at church. But I knew that I was in the right place and at the right time. So, I pushed the envelope.

Now this might not be the right approach for most men, but do suggest that you do at least do consider it. The thing about a place of worship is that you're encountering a person when they are open to the spirit and they are humble.

The conditions create the opportunity for a spiritual connection to happen and the person's mind's eye is open and *their spidey senses are alerted*. Also, the person is in the posture of looking for something new, something deeper and something substantive to grasp and to embrace. They are looking for hope and stretching out their faith for it to happen.

**An online platform is also an excellent way to meet your potential Ruth, for a number of reasons.** For one, when you read a person's profile, you're reading a snapshot of who they are and how they articulate their ideas. The information in their written profile gives you insight into who they are, how they express themselves, and what they are looking for in a soul mate.

We can ascertain a lot from the information about them, just from reading their profile. You can gather valuable information about them, just from examining what they are conveying through their profile. You can also discover where they were educated, their marital status, how many children that they have as well as where they live. A picture is worth a thousand words.

**One other great yet unorthodox place to meet your Ruth is believe it or not, is in a grocery store.** The food market provides a wonderful backdrop for meeting a woman who may convey intentionally or unintentionally what she puts into her temple to you.

The grocery store can be a wonderful place to connect with your Ruth also because the space allows you the opportunity to recognize her spending habits in food; as well as if she's buying for children or for someone else, such as a partner.

**Rule of thumb:** If she's wearing a wedding or an engagement ring in the grocery store, then she's obviously not your Ruth. But, if she's all alone in the fruit and vegetable section inspecting Avocado's, there's a possibility that she's single.

If she has a minimal amount of items in her cart, there is a high probability that she isn't shopping for a large family. If she's buying pet food items that appear to be less abundant, that's also an indication that she's a single lady.

But the best way to find out if she's single is to approach her and one of the best ways to do this is to ask her a question about something that's in close proximity to you and her. Like saying, *"have you tried this before?"*

Finding a connection of food items can be one of the most intimate and endearing experiences you'll ever have. I'm sure that Ruth, being a *Moabite* (a sister, lol.), could cook too.

There is so much to be said about two people planning a meal together from the food that they've bought together from the store earlier that day. There is a unique and a transformative kind of energy that is created just from sharing that kind of space together. There is a special form of intimacy that is triggered from spending time together, shopping for a meal.

Invaluable and endearing memories can be created from the tender moments spent together in the grocery store, that can only be experienced by becoming a part of the magic that comes from gathering groceries with your God given Ruth.

Ultimately, the best place to meet your Ruth is the place where God has appointed for you to meet her. If you're as fortunate as I have been, it will be through circumstances that seemed unfortunate on the front end but later were actually events that God used for his providence for us to meet.

**But that is my perspective; and I believe my insights and intuition are what allowed us both to walk into our destiny to be together.**

## **Chapter 4:) Defending Ruth's honour. (Loyalty).**

Given the circumstances that Ruth had been in when she met Boaz we can assume that she'd experienced her share of pain, anxiety, depression, loneliness, loathsomeness, etc. Not to mention the fears that coincide with the uncertainty that she'd found herself in. Having become a widow and also without a son to help her to labour for income.

In chapter 3 of the story of Ruth and Boaz, Boaz is presented with the opportunity to take the lead and to become Ruth's husband; by indicating it through the custom of wrapping his garment around Ruth. This symbolic gesture would have sealed the deal and conveyed to Ruth his intention to marry her.

**However, as Boaz was a man that followed tradition, laws and courtesies, he advised Ruth to elicit the same request from her fellow Kinsmen who were closer to Ruth's age.**

In any case, the very next day of their meeting under the moonlit sky, Boaz leaps into action and purchases all of the property that belonged to Naomi and Ruth's husbands, previously and essentially takes on the responsibility of caring for both Ruth and Naomi. ([The Kinsman Redeemer](#)).

This power play, put's Boaz in the driver's seat against all of the others who would be competitors for Ruth's hand in marriage. The effort of Naomi and Ruth triggers what is to be the further fulfilment of biblical prophecy and the establishment of the lineage of Jesus.

Upon Naomi's guidance and direction; Ruth's obedience to and the recognition of Naomi's wisdom leads her on a path to a paradigm shift in her existence. Ruth realises that marriage to Boaz will change her life and her circumstances, forever.

Ruth is also aware of the cultural and religious differences between the Moabites and the Jews and that she must follow their protocols. But she also knows that she has to take the risk of being rejected by Boaz; by lying next to him as he sleeps. But rather than reject Ruth's advances, Boaz perceives Ruth's cunning and ambitions as being expressions of her character and of her virtue.

I allude to Ruth's ambition and desire in the setting. Ruth knows that Boaz can provide all that she needs to feel safe, secure and loved, in a relationship. Which are the basic needs of any human, according to [Abraham Mazlow's Hierarchy of needs](#). Ruth is relentless, determined and motivated to continue pursuing Boaz. She has been inspired by his kind words and by his actions, that he is impressed and enamoured of her.

Ruth sets the stage for Boaz's response and triggers a result, by uncovering Boaz's feet. When Boaz discovers Ruth at his feet, he immediately realises that this young woman is in need of more than just his acceptance, companionship and affection. He recognizes that she needs a husband; (a redeemer).

In patriarchal Jewish culture a woman who was alone and without a husband to protect, to defend and to care for her was in precarious circumstances, to say the least. Left without an advocate, her lot was likely to be in poverty and at Ruth's age she would probably remain single and childless.

**(The kinsman-redeemer is a male relative who, according to various laws of the **Pentateuch**, had the privilege or the *responsibility* to act on behalf of a relative who was in trouble, danger, or need of care).**

The Jewish custom of the eldest Kinsman in the tribe automatically being the assumptive man to take on this role, was one that Boaz was fully aware of. So, Boaz immediately understood that Ruth was asking him to take her as his wife, through her actions that night when she laid at his feet.

**The brave and strategic act of Ruth uncovering Boaz's feet is the metaphorical offering of herself to Boaz, to become his wife. The garment is being used to be the covering for her; symbolising marriage.**

When we look more deeply into the 3rd chapter we discover the spiritual and cultural significance of Ruth's strategic moves toward getting Boaz's commitment to marrying her. Ruth takes the bull by the horns; but she does it with respect, courtesy and she conveys admiration and respect for Boaz as well.



The garment, in this context conveyed in the book of [Ezekiel 16:](#), where God speaks metaphorically regarding Israel: **“Later I passed by, and when I looked at you and saw that you were old enough for love, I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your naked body.**

**“I gave you my solemn oath and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Sovereign LORD, and you became mine.”** The context here denotes God’s role as a husband for Israel. The relationship between God and the children of Israel is characterised as the bride groom and Jesus. This is the highest of all covenants that God has instituted with man. And that is the covenant of marriage between a man and woman.

According to the [Midrash](#), Boaz was 80 and Ruth was 40 when they met. It is feasible and plausible for a woman to marry a man 40 years her senior. However, it is unrealistic in our current society that an 80 year old man could still be able to impregnate a woman; unless we consider the miraculous and God’s ultimate plan for redemption.

Rendering miracle after miracle, is God’s (M.O.). There is always one miracle after another, with God and always something for us to wonder about and to give him glory for. In this narrative we see how God has provided for a cover for a widow in the form of a husband. This is indicative of the plan of redemption laid out by God before he created the heavens.

The question becomes, how could a man marry a woman who was in those circumstances and having barely known her? These are big shoes to fill for any man. To step into the role the way that Boaz did. It is an example of God's providence and of God's redemptive plan as well a demonstration of great faith on the part of Boaz and Ruth, also.

So, how could a man see himself as being capable of fulfilling the role that Boaz did? And how would a man be able to cover a woman and to protect her the way that Boaz would have been able to? And how could a man perceive that he will be equipped in the future to manage all of the challenges that may arise in their lives?

### **It is all by faith.**

It is only accomplished by faith. The power, the ability, the strength all comes from God! And when we learn to trust and to depend on him, through our frailty and through our sense of insecurity to handle our God given Ruth, then we become endowed with the supernatural power to step into the role the way that Boaz did. Then we gain the education and the experience, as a result of applying ourselves.

**When we embrace the reality that our steps are ordered by God, then we become empowered and sustained to be able to handle and to maintain our families; by the grace of God.**

It is a tough pill to swallow; the notion that a woman could cross your path who is your God given Ruth, that may require the same kind of help that Ruth did. It would be easy to simply look for the woman who is agency, corporate and refined; one who's pedigree matches your requirement.

But what if your God given Ruth is in the same and or in a similar space in life that the Ruth of the story is? What if she has 5 children? What if she is living in public housing? What if she is between jobs? What if she's just gotten out of prison? What if she's a recovering substance addict? What if she suffers from P.T.S.D., from being abused? What if she's Bipolar?

What if she's obese? What if she's trying to complete her G.E.D.? What if she has terrible credit? What if she doesn't drive? What if she doesn't dress the way that you like? Or, what if her religion is different from yours, as with Ruth and Boaz?

I'm exploring the possible lifestyles of your potential Ruth in comparison to the woman that Boaz was presented, by God. Boaz took into account the fact that Ruth had been caring for her mother in law, with agricultural methods and her agrarian skills.

**Boaz was impressed by Ruth's compassion for her mother in law and also moved by her commitment to her wellbeing.**

Boaz gives men a perfect demonstration of what God calls us to be as leaders and as husbands. This is the kind of man that God requires of us to become able to be to cover your Ruth. Boaz is the forerunner of Jesus and he is the chosen man to pull Ruth out of poverty.

But who knows the future; but God? And who knows what his plans are for your family with Ruth? God's agenda for Ruth and Boaz was to be the forerunners of Jesus. ***Who knows what yours is?*** In any case, God equipped Boaz and he can equip you for the life that you'll share with your God given Ruth, too.

God wasn't asking Boaz to give up his plans for his life, he was inviting him to share in the fullness of his plans for him as well as for humankind. Yet, there would have been no way for Boaz to know this; he would only have been cognizant of the wife that he was gaining.

Boaz was wealthy and had the means to take on a new family, on the fly. However, just because you don't have the financial resources that Boaz did, doesn't mean that you can't cover and provide for your God given Ruth, with what you have at your disposal already.

The point that I'm making here is that when we leverage what we have, we are creating the opportunity for the miraculous to happen. And when we step out in faith and obey God's will for our lives he steps in and provides the tools that we need to cover our Ruth and our families. Sometimes, help comes from the most unexpected people and sources.

I wonder what I would have done had I'd been Boaz? I pray that I would have had the courage to act with compassion and the grace that Boaz did. I pray that I would've stepped out in faith and moved with the spirit of God to allow Ruth to come into my life and to accept her and her challenges.

I pray that I wouldn't have been stuck in my own ideas of what Ruth is supposed to look and be like in her physical attributes. I hope that I wouldn't allow my own perceptions of my future wife to be; compared to the way that the church did upon Jesus's arrival.

This is the requirement that God has for us, to be able to cover our God given Ruth. Which doesn't require great wealth. But what it does require is our commitment to the relationship, our love and our time.

**The requirement that Ruth has for Boaz is that he will pick up the slack and that he will take things off of her plate.**

The requirement that God has for us is to give our all to the relationship and to apply ourselves to it, fully. You don't need a million dollars to teach your new son to drive. You don't need money to walk with your God given Ruth in a park. We don't need money to sit and to listen to your Ruth, without judgement and without interruption.

What is required to flourish in our relationships with Ruth, is the love and patience that only God can give when we humble ourselves. This kind of generosity and kindness comes from having the presence of God in your life.

There is no price that can be put on quality time spent with Ruth and supporting her in all of her needs. There is no way to equate the value of what is derived from giving your life to Ruth in marriage symbolically, in the way that God gave his life for humanity's sake.

When we consider the things and the circumstances that have culminated in Ruth's life we must be mindful that there may be trauma that she has endured as a result of them. The loss of her husband and now the added responsibility of caring for her mother in law, must've been devastating for her to manage.

However, in the story Ruth does take on the challenges that she is faced with, like most black women of colour have had to and have also stepped up to the plate. This is the reality of many women of colour; in that they have to endure so many pains and heartaches and disappointments that are oftentimes associated with a man that was close to her.

Special care needs to be considered, as well as the engagement of counsellors and support professionals to assist in her perpetual healing process and growth in your relationship.

In Boaz's case he would've inherited her pains as will you. Rather than avoiding and dismissing her pains and ghosts, the charge and the election as her husband is to lead her into mental and sometimes physical wellness. Each coincides with the other. Her mental wellness is also directly tied to her capacity to function as your wife.

## Chapter: 5) Responsibility

I've met many women who've been single for many years and for a number of different reasons. Some divorced, some widowed and some had just never been married ever. And they all had one thing in common and that is that they felt that they were ready to meet and to invite someone into their lives.

They all seemed to have grown old of being single to the point that they'd realised that there was a void in their lives that wasn't fulfilled and they have come to the conclusion that marriage is what they're missing in their lives.

Unfortunately, and more often than not they've come to this conclusion years after solidifying a lifestyle that doesn't and won't allow them to easily merge into a life with their potential husband. Because they've not cultivated one that will.

In the context of the story of Ruth and Boaz, we learn that Boaz was qualified financially to be able to assume the role of a redeemer and husband, immediately. The bible cannot convey to us the emotional disposition of Boaz, aside from him being single. But we can assume from the story that he was a compassionate man.

**So what about the emotional and psychological wellbeing of Ruth, Naomi and her extended family? Boaz had taken on the responsibility of providing and for covering all of them financially but how about their needs as women and as human beings?**

Clearly Ruth lived in an era when the emotional and psychological needs of a woman weren't prioritised. And I can only imagine the mindset of those [Midianite](#) women, who'd lost their husbands in the destruction of Sodom and Ghomoraa. I can only wonder about the thoughts that went through their minds, knowing that God had destroyed them.

So how does a man care for a woman that has been traumatised? Well, money does help. ([Money answers all things](#)). But money doesn't take the place of good old fashioned T.L.C. There is no comparison to simply being present with a woman and assuring her of your loyalty to her and of your concern for her wellbeing.

I can only assume with Boaz's age, that he would have had some idea of what it's like to care for someone although we don't have data to suggest that he had children prior to [Obed](#). Who was Boaz and Ruth's son.

In any case, what you don't know about women's wellness shouldn't be a hindrance to you trying to step into the role of a provider and as shepard over your God given Ruth. But rather the things that you don't know can serve as incentives for you to learn all that you can about how to care for your Ruth.

This is part of the responsibility of taking care of your family. The financial aspects of it are tremendously important but they don't negate the need to care for your woman's soul and her mind. Spending quality time with her is invaluable and it can help to ease the pain when things aren't going as well as they have been in the past.



**One of the simplest things that you can do to make her feel appreciated, valued, loved, adored and desired can go a long way sometimes, when the going gets tough is to offer your assistance and willingness to receive counsel. This is very beneficial to promote cohesion in the relationship.**

I reckon if the children of Israel would've had counsellors, there'd would've been less divorce then. I'm also guessing that the rate of divorce among them, was only after they'd come out of captivity and after they'd experienced the kinds of financial freedoms that often coincide with divorce.

One of the many mistakes that I've made in relationships is not recognizing the long term emotional effects that trauma has had on my woman and that I am the one that can or should fix them. Oftentimes, my woman and your Ruth are in a place where she just needs to be understood or just heard and not made to feel like she has a problem, and that it's your job to solve it.

Unless there is a professional credential to qualify you to do so, I suggest that you take a more passive posture of listening rather than suggesting answers, unless she asks for them, when there's something going on with her, that you just don't understand or can't put your finger on. Remember, we are trying to use our own wisdom which just doesn't always translate to a solution that works or that's adequate sometimes.

I have assumed that Boaz's wisdom would have served him well in his relationship with Ruth. That said, seeking the counsel of those who are wise and experienced is wise and it also shows your willingness to embrace the responsibility of serving and loving your Ruth. Had I understood this basic strategy of dealing with the emotions of my wife's, I'd likely not be divorced today.

**Throwing money at a problem is good if you can, but being in the moment and listening to her when it's the wee hours of the morning costs nothing but sleep.**

So getting back to the earlier paragraphs on the woman who now discovers that she's ready to settle down and you've had the good fortune to find yourself within her peripherals.

**Rule number one! Don't move her cheese!** Remember, this woman has built a life that is centred around her lifestyle, not a man's and not yours. I made that mistake so many times; of trying to change her into who I believed that God told me she is going to be.

**Rule number two: Allow her flourish within her special gifts.** Boaz was smitten by Ruth's ability to extend herself, selflessly to her mother in law. She'd denied herself and had given herself to the care and wellbeing of her mother in law. This is truly a gift. If your potential Ruth demonstrates these characteristics, for God sake don't get in the way of it.

Let her do her thing and learn to celebrate her special gifts without being threatened by them. Especially if she makes more money than you do. Don't be intimidated by it, but allow her to carry on with her way of doing things. In time, you'll learn to flow with her.

**Although Boaz had taken on a tremendous responsibility, yours may be comparable in some other capacity. Get in where you fit in and don't rock the boat.**

**Thirdly and above all, remain consistent:** Of all of the complaints that I've ever heard from a woman is about not being consistent. A woman needs to be able to trust that she can depend on her man to get things done and without having to remind him about it. Whether it's a financial matter, or planning an event. She wants her man to take the initiative to follow up on deadlines and family agendas as well.

## **Chapter: 6) Accommodating Ruth's children**

The biblical story of Ruth and Boaz doesn't make any mention of her having children from her widowed husband and I'm assuming that she didn't. So this chapter isn't about the Ruth of the bible, but it is rather a narrative about the needs of your God given Ruth, who has children and is in need of a partnering parent, in you.

I recall my step dad, who would often give me rides to and from my job when I was 17. I worked across the city and didn't have a car then. My step dad was in the position to accommodate me getting me to and from work in retail at Carson Pirie Scott, on the far north side of Chicago. I didn't realise it at the time; I thought that he was just being cool and just wanted to help me out.

Looking back at the man that he was, I realise that this was one of the ways that he served our family. This is precisely what my mom needed for him to do and it was just the thing to do to leave an indelible and endearing impression on me about his character and his servitude.

It was his persistence and relentless focus on his personal goal of being the father and the grandfather that we needed him to be. And it was a perpetual standard that he'd set in motion and that he walked into and lived out day by day.

What I realise now is that my step dad was inadvertently showing me various patterns and characteristics of a father, grandfather that is engaged with the emotions and the pulse of his new wife and family and that he was also in love with the children of his new wife.

My step dad demonstrated to me what a dad looks like functioning and flourishing real time and in real life, over 40 years. Whether it was a big event or a relatively small matter it was always the same with his approach to managing them. He would apply his wisdom and experience to the challenge quietly and with a kind of elegance that he would employ intuitively when addressing a problem.

The irony of that is that he wasn't a man that had come from a regal background or from wealth at all. In fact, he had a modest upbringing and he was the son of a coal miner. Figuratively speaking, he was actually a little rough around the edges. And when it came to his speech, diction and articulation it was always simple and with limited words. His delivery was always direct yet gentle. And his statements were short and generally straight to the point.

**It was his willingness to go out of his way to do the things that the family needed and his dependability, is what stands out to me the most about him. As does Boaz.**

One thing for sure was that we could always count on him. Whether it was a big or small matter my step dad was always willing to help out where he could. And he also took on the responsibility of ensuring that we made it through our teenage years.

**His relentless pursuit of him trying to accommodate the needs of his family over his own needs was the constant, persistent and the norm with him.**

My step dad set the standard for me for what a father should be. He raised the bar for what a committed and dedicated father acts like, and comparatively speaking; *my eldest son has taught me what a great daddy looks like as well.*

**My step dad's dependability, his persistence, his love, his kindness, his willingness to serve and his rejection of the temptation to entertain other women to infiltrate his family were some of his greatest characteristics.**

To some men it may seem easy to assimilate the characteristics of my step dad given their upbringing. But for some of us that didn't have the good fortune of the benefits of a father son relationship as a child this may be challenging, to say the least. But it's no excuse for not trying to live up the expectations of God and the needs of your family.

Sometimes it can be intimidating for a man to try to live up to the expectations that were imprinted in the subconscious of your new wife (your Ruth), by her father. However, we have to learn to push through the kinds of negative ideas about our capacity to lead a family that were embedded into our D.N.A. by our slave masters and then further perpetuated by the West.

When you disembowel your heart and your mind from the pervasive ideologies that may have encumbered you, you will begin to recognize your true nature and your abilities as a *Cosmic Nubian Super Man* and father. Then you can take hold and charge of your family and then become empowered to lead and nurture your God given Ruth to her full potential, unfettered.

No longer hindered by the mental scars of the past and the sometimes-distorted perceptions of black men in the mind of the woman who is to be your Ruth, you can move forward in service to her children without the emotional impediments and the potential feelings of inadequacy that you may struggle with, from them.

**Service is job one. You have been assigned to cover your new family. You have been blessed to be the man who will lead your God given Ruth, and your new children into God's will for them. As was Boaz.**

The goal is to not permit the ghosts of your past relationships and or what you don't know about managing children to deter you or to influence your relationship with them. You have an opportunity to build a flourishing and a loving life with your new children and nothing or no one from your past should be allowed to interfere with that process.

**These efforts will also trigger a response in the universe to create opportunities to heal and to further the relationships with your existing children as well.**

But, there will be tests and there will be pitfalls that are designed to trip you up and to get you off track. There will be trials and tribulations that can distract you and that may discourage you too. Some interruptions in your harmony may be self-inflicted or beyond your control. God knows that I've made some of the dumbest mistakes ever in my current and in my past relationships.

There will be proverbial land mines that you'll sometimes unknowingly and innocently walk into. Things will sometimes just come up that you had no idea were coming your way. But then there will also be circumstances that are totally avoidable; if you are listening and paying attention to the still small voice of God (which is always communicating to you, through your mind's eye, your third eye), you will not foolishly fall into those traps.

Some of the landmines that you'll find yourself having stepped on will be manifested as mistakes that would seem to be irreparable and that a relationship couldn't recover from. But time and time again, and mistake after mistake, Ruth will find a way to forgive you and let you back into her heart when you come to your senses and repent. **This is the dynamic of God's grace and his will being greater than our foolish mistakes.**

There is a kind of wisdom that is gained from making mistakes that cannot be obtained without having felt the pain of loss from making them. There is a certain knowledge that can only be derived from making mistakes that hurt. There is tenderness that is developed from what may seem on the surface to be wasted time that can actually turn out for your good. [\(Rom. 8:28\)](#).



Looking back, I recognize is that the foolish and selfish things that I did that hurt my love were used by God to strengthen and to teach us invaluable lessons. That season of my stupidity, the foolish choices and poor judgement served to make me even more appreciative of my God given Ruth's love for me and of Gods mercy and grace.

One other very important thing that I learned during those particular times of my recklessness was that my intuition for avoiding traps and land mines was increased. I became much more aware of my own frailties because many of my secret sins came to the light. I learned to be much more aware of the pitfalls that were ever present for me to fall back into my old ways. I became much more aware of recognizing the attempts of the enemy to disrupt and to desatroy my family through my own mistakes. The oldest tricks in the book. The oke-doke. The same temptations that Jesus was tempted with are the same things that men are tempted by today. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

**Merging into a second marriage with children from a former marriage presents many challenges for a man that cannot be anticipated. But by embracing those very challenges for the sake of love, the benefit of the experiences that are set before you will become revealed to you through the journey.**

But with the help of God, counsellors and the guidance of other men that have formal experience in dealing with the tests that come with the merging of a blended family you can become the driving force behind the successes of your inherited children.

And although you're working as a servant to your family, the gratification that you'll experience from your contributions

will equate to some of the greatest joys that you'll ever have, personally.

So, do not allow the past to impede your participation and application to the lives of your new children. **Become engaged!** Ask the questions that need to be asked to learn all that you can about what was going on in their lives before you entered into them.

**Your life is new now and you have a fresh opportunity to live and to learn how to love again and on a whole new level. The journey itself is what you must see as the most valuable part of your existence. The space that you are in right now is where you are supposed to be.**

The challenges that lay before you are opportunities for optimization. The tests that you're going through are tools to develop you for the future and for you to have a testimony of God's grace and blessings over your life.

Not all of us will be able to live up to the example that my step dad set for me. Not everyone will be able to demonstrate the kind of legacy that my fathers in law did. But we can strive for the perfection that God has called us to.

This greatness is achieved not through the accolades that we acquire professionally. Your greatness is derived through the simple day to day efforts that you make with the new blended family that God has blessed you with. They way that my dad did, the way that Boaz did.

**Your greatness is measured by your connection with the children in your life that you've inherited from your God given Ruth.**

We can't all be the greatest dads that have ever lived. We won't all write books on the subject of parenting, but this is no excuse for not applying yourself to the journey that is yours to embrace and to see this as your personal growth opportunity. And as a celestial pathway for your development and spiritual enlightenment.

When you listen to and obey God's voice the likelihood that you'll make the dumb mistakes that I have will be minimised. When you are paying attention to the signs and the signals that your mind's eye is giving you through the Ether you will be resistant to the temptations that are laying in wait to entrap you.

**When you are focused on the business of managing and loving your family, you will be open and receptive to the changes that are presented to you by your God given Ruth's children.**

And when you're walking in the love, grace and in the favour of God you will become flexible and pliable to the needs of your God given Ruth's children; that is now your responsibility, with pleasure.

But when you're not paying attention to the voice of God through your third eye, you will be less able to anticipate and to perceive the risks and the pitfalls that are laid for you to fail and to lose your new family. And there is a high probability that you will miss the information that you need to avoid the mistakes that could lead to the various perpetual problems that may arise.

But when you're listening to the voice of God, through your mind's eye, you are ready to jump into action to serve with willingness and with a cheerful heart. Not expecting anything in return but rather seeing your time as an investment in your new children's wellbeing.

**Fast-forward 35 years;** I'm driving the young man of the woman that I loved, son to work. And in that moment I remembered my step dad 35 years before, driving me to work across town. I remembered how he willfully made the time to do so for me, without expecting anything in return and without complaining.

I remember now how my step dad helped me then and how I felt as though I had an advocate in my corner and I recognized him as my dad. I knew that I could depend on him and I knew that I could trust him.

This is the dynamic of God's grace. This is the organic way that the universe unfolds. You just never know what's coming your way; but the one thing that you can predict is that as long as there are children in your life there will be times that you get the chance to serve and to respond.

**Rise to occasion and make yourself available!** This is how you build trust in the mind of your God given Ruth and in the minds and hearts of your newly inherited children. Embrace and enjoy the journey of being a father to your new children. Who knows, you may be planting the same seeds that my step dad did, when he'd drive me to and fro, to work when I was a teenager.

## **Chapter: 7) Don't rush the process**

I had the good fortune of commencing a relationship with a woman who lived in another state than mine; so I was engaged in a relationship with a lady that I was mad about who lives in a different state, not extremely far away but 5 hours away.

I thought to myself, God is this some kind of cruel joke? I have been through the pain and loss over and over again, then I meet a lady who seems to have just connected to me on a subconscious and conscious level that I'd never ever experienced before, but I can't put my arms around her at the end of the day when I want to or as per usual in an intimate relationship.

But not being in close proximity to her was starting to hurt. Night after night, day after day I realised how the distance could cause us challenges that I'd never encountered in a very very long time. I hadn't had to deal with this kind of dilemma in some time; not since I was in the Navy, over 30 years ago.

Now, all I could think about and ask God was why? Why have you given me this wonderful woman whom I know that I could love and care for and merge my life with, when she's in another state? And how do I manage this new kind of a relationship; the distance kind?

The thing that I realise now is that there is tremendous value in the season of waiting for the woman that's your Ruth. So, I asked my quote on quote lover to be, about the period of waiting and what she thought about it all.

She said the value in waiting until you've spent time with someone is that once you get to be close to them; make love to them is that your responses will be more intense and influenced by the rich dialogue that you've built from communicating, before being intimate with them.

I thought deeply about what she'd said. I was so impressed by it and I realised that it was God himself that had ordained her to say this. It was profound and I knew that it was a Ramaih and a message that was sent just for me and that was designed to be delivered by her and at just the right time and at just the right season.

**Then I considered what Boaz had done when Ruth presented herself to him. She'd sat at his feet awaiting a response from him when he woke up. It could have gone either way. Boaz could have consummated the marriage when he woke up and found this attractive young woman at his feet. But he doesn't do that.**

**Boaz didn't jump the gun!**

Boaz was poised to receive the blessing of his bride to be. He was postured to embrace the new found love, joy and sanctuary that is found in Ruth's bosom. He knows that he can afford to give the process the time to play out; although Ruth has made it clear of her intention to give herself to him, as his wife.

Clearly Boaz was caught off guard. Clearly Ruth had given Boaz much to consider. Boaz must've realised that he'd made quite an impression on Ruth to have her land at his feet. He must've understood the effect that he'd had on her. He must've recognized that he could have had her sexually in that moment and also forever as his wife as well.

The expectation that Ruth has is that Boaz will respond to her by accepting her proposition for marriage. Analogous to her requesting that he respond to her by covering her with his garment.

**But Boaz waits!** He doesn't take what he knows is his for the claiming and the woman that is destined to be his wife. What Boaz doesn't know is that he is to facilitate the propagation of the direct bloodline of Jesus Christ. How could he have known that? How could Boaz have known the will of God for his life and how do we know when someone comes into our lives that they are our God given God and appointed Ruth?

Then, the very next morning, Boaz beats everyone to the punch, by buying all of the would-be competitors out. Boaz purchases all of Ruth and Naomi's debt and essentially buys the two of them and in doing so, he takes full responsibility for both of them.

**Boaz tells Ruth to go and to inquire with her fellow countrymen. He responds to her with the advice that she needs to consider her peers who are closer to her age and that are also more closely aligned with her, culturally and socially.**

So now Boaz has the gift of a wife and a family. All as a result of some strategic and well thought out moves; although they were unanticipated ones. Boaz demonstrates the kind of self control, discipline and candour that we all could learn from. Boaz shows us how we can receive the things that we desire by faith and by waiting for it to manifest, in due season.

If I'd understood this kind of discipline in my youth, I might still be married. It is a firm and steadfast awareness that what is for you, will come to you in due time and in due season in God's time and for God's purposes. Now the sweet nectar that God has preserved just for Boaz, has been sanctified, fortified and consecrated.

The planets were aligned for Boaz and Ruth and when you wait until the appointed time to receive your Ruth, she will be sweeter and better than you could've ever imagined. Also, all the things that you thought about and discussed sharing with her can be approached relaxed and without anxiety.

This may be a crude comparison between what we call waiting on the Lord and or waiting to exhale. However, Boaz's actions do correlate to the narrative. Boaz tells Ruth to go and to inquire with her fellow countrymen. He responds to her with the advice that she needs to consider her peers who are closer to her age and that are also more closely aligned with her socially.

When you've waited for the arrival of your Ruth and then you have to wait some more it can be very challenging and impatience can take up space in your mind. However, when we find a way to relax and to allow the time spent apart in anticipation to be used productively in planning and building your relationship with your God given Ruth, the time that you've spent apart waiting, will be magically restored by God, himself.

And the conversation that you've had during the waiting period will be referenced as the framework and the scaffolding for all of your plans together and not as time just waiting to be together.



This is the magic that happens between you, when you've taken advantage of the time that you waited to make love to your God given Ruth. Now you are able to immerse yourself into your love for each other. And it will be so much sweeter and memorable because you've had that pause before you have sex with her.

So what happens during that season of waiting? You are being prepared emotionally and you're learning all that God has for both of you to learn about each other. So that you can gain insight into how the other person handles circumstances and the various challenges that the human experience brings with it.

You have a divinely appointed opportunity to show your God given Ruth, how you perform under pressure and how you communicate your emotions when you're longing for her. Although the pain of longing for her may be great, it will all go away the moment that you've wrapped your arms around her and when you're able to do those things that you'd only imagined with her.

It is the quietness. It is the still small voice. It is learning to wait and to trust in the Lord for your sustenance, guidance and fortification. It is the things that you profess to yourself that the universe responds to. It is the higher level of supplication that you make in your waiting.

It is the presence of God that you commune with during the season of fasting and prayer when you present yourself to him, through his spirit that you are being aligned with to render the kind of passion filled experience together, that the God himself has ordained for you and your Ruth to partake in and to enjoy.

# Yin and Yang

The emotionally connected, tender and affectionate husband breaks down emotional barriers within his wife's heart and mind that may have been established by the lack of attention given to her. The emotionally connected husband who shows love and affection towards his wife, builds walls of trust and feelings of safety, within his wife. And as a result of his tenderness and affection, his wife becomes loyal to him and their relationship becomes solidified, stabilized and flourishes organically.





[Shango and Oshun](#)  
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Boaz. The Wealthy Landowner

The real Boaz is a Jewish man that lived over 3000 years ago. I wanted to depict him as a man that any woman could relate to, culturally, socially, class, etc. Boaz represents a paradigm shift in Ruth's life and similarly so does your God given Boaz, in your life as well. I wanted the character to be desirable and relative to any woman. Hence all of the cultural, religious and fraternal nuances and symbols that I've incorporated in the drawing.

**He is an ancient Cosmic Nubian Super Man!**





## Finding Ruth

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