

Dear Friends,

Many times when authors tell you a story about their cover art, it's because they were disappointed. Sometimes the models don't look like their characters. Other times the authors are not happy with the overall design. My story is different – no disappointment involved. Instead, I'm particularly excited about this cover, because I had a part in its design.

You may not be aware of it, but occasionally it takes multiple tries to get a cover just right. That was the case with *Summer of Promise*. The first version had a different background. Although it was eye-catching, the elegant sandstone building was reminiscent of a city, not an Army post like Fort Laramie, where the story takes place.

Normally the author doesn't get involved in cover design, but this time, Revell's art director asked me for a description of the fort. Rather than attempt to describe it, I sent her a number of pictures taken on various trips to Fort Laramie, including this picture of the cavalry barracks. I thought she'd use them as a general guide, nothing more.



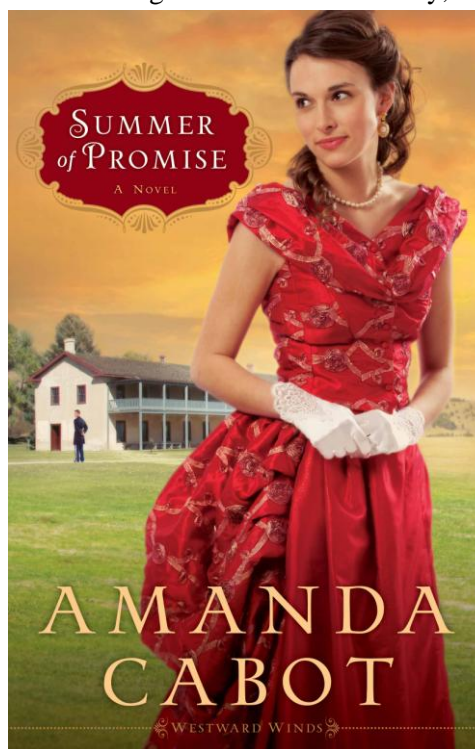
If you look at the finished cover, you'll see why I'm excited. My picture is now part of the background! It's not often that an author gets to say that.

There's more good news. I was honored when ChristianBook.com asked to interview me about *Summer of Promise*. If you'd like to learn a bit more about the book and about me, here's the link:

http://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/cms_content?page=330587&event=

And, as if that wasn't enough, I've received the first review of the book. Award-winning author Kathleen Morgan says, "*Summer of Promise* is an engrossing

story of love and adventure on the Wyoming frontier that is sure to capture your heart! Get ready for a cleverly concealed villain and a charming tale of life on an Army post, woven into an engaging, fast-paced, heartwarming read!" Needless to say, I was happy to



receive such a glowing endorsement from Kathleen.

Web Site

I've also updated my website to include information about *Summer of Promise*. I've even changed the banner to a picture from Fort Laramie. As you can probably tell,

I'm looking forward to the book's release. Although the official date is January 2, it should be available in stores and online around the middle of December, just in time for Christmas shopping.

Tomorrow's Garden

This time most of my news has been about *Summer of Promise*, but there's news about *Tomorrow's Garden*, too. It's continuing to sell well in both print and e-book format (thank you all for that!), and the large print version is now available from Thorndike Press. Since I know that many libraries are looking for large print Christian fiction, I'd appreciate your telling your local library about it.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you and wish you a joyous autumn.

Amanda