



## Heal the Wounded

*Lynn Dove*

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Heal the Wounded by Lynn Dove is the 2011 Readers Favorite WINNER of the Bronze Medal in the Young Adult (Coming of Age) category! The second book in the “Wounded Trilogy” “Heal the Wounded is the much-anticipated sequel to Lynn Dove’s brilliant debut novel, Shoot the Wounded.

Heal the Wounded, like Shoot the Wounded, delves even deeper into the real world of teenagers trying to live out their faith in the midst of upset and struggle. Will these youth find God’s healing and hope in the middle of hurt and heartache?

"Brilliantly written, poignantly told, readers who loved Shoot the Wounded will not be disappointed with Heal the Wounded’s powerful message and the on-the-edge-of-your-seat storyline." Shellie Neumeier, Author of Driven.

## Heal the Wounded Details

Date : Published October 18th 2010 by Word Alive Press

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Author : Lynn Dove

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Genre : Young Adult

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## From Reader Review Heal the Wounded for online ebook

### Mandy Trouten says

When an aunt in Canada sent me these books, I opened the package and thought "Ok, teen books. Worse case, I'll read them to say I did." Now, I want to know what happens next in Leigh's, Jake's and Tim's lives. There was a wide, very realistic, array of personalities used for the characters. Even living a country away from Lynn, there were many times when I felt as if I was reading about people in my life. Page after page, I would feel as if a character was a near mirror image of someone I know. Leigh and Jake very clearly grow up in good, solid homes, raised by parents who are, with few exceptions, loving and firm in their actions. Even if you're not Christian, they are the kind of people you would want your kids to be around, simply because they are good role models. Even so, they're not perfect. They make mistakes. They occasionally jump to the wrong conclusions and make colossal mistakes.

As an anti-abuse advocate, I love that Lynn very specifically wrote dysfunctional families, domestic abuse and peer bullying into the lives of characters. Where some authors merely mention it with the occasional scene, Lynn made it a constant part of the story line, as it is in real life. A family doesn't become dysfunctional with an individual occurrence, then move on. Peer bullying isn't defined by an individual insult or physical assault. Abuse is an ongoing thing that takes hold of the victim's and perpetrator's lives, developing with time, warping their perspectives and, by their subsequent choices, affecting the lives of those around them. I plan on reading Love the Wounded as soon as it comes out.

--Mandy

[www.mandytrouten.com](http://www.mandytrouten.com)

[www.facebook.com/mandytrouten](http://www.facebook.com/mandytrouten)

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### Ingrid says

Overall this book was fairly serious, with several of the characters going through difficult situations in their life (cancer, death, depression, teenage years). On the bright side the majority of the main characters expressed a strong Christian faith that helped them to deal with these situations. Even though I usually enjoy reading books that a bit lighter, the positive theme of Hope kept me reading it until the end.

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### Lynn Dove says

"Heal the Wounded is the much-anticipated sequel to Lynn Dove's brilliant debut novel, Shoot the Wounded. Heal the Wounded won a Bronze medal in the 2011 Reader's Favorite Book Awards in the Young Adult - Coming of Age category, and was a finalist in the Christian Fiction Category.

After the death of their friend, Ronnie (in Shoot the Wounded), Leigh and Jake are trying to come to terms with the aftermath of Ronnie's death. As their love grows for one another, Leigh and Jake must face a series of devastating, life-changing events that will challenge their love and their relationship with God.

Tim, Ronnie's brother, a bitter and tormented young man after the death of his sister, becomes the target of bullies at his school. Feeling hopeless and alone, he cuts himself to find that emotional release to let go of the pain he deals with everyday.

Trying to embrace his newfound faith, Mike, Jake's best friend, lives in his own private nightmare dealing with the consequences of his parent's constant arguing and his father's alcoholism.

Heal the Wounded, like Shoot the Wounded, delves even deeper into the real world of teenagers trying to live out their faith in the midst of upset and struggle.

Will these youth find God's healing and hope in the middle of hurt and heartache?

Brilliantly written, poignantly told, readers who loved Shoot the Wounded will not be disappointed with Heal the Wounded's powerful message and the on-the-edge-of-your-seat storyline." – Amazon.com

Both of Lynn Dove's books, Shoot the Wounded and Heal the Wounded have been named as helpful resources on the world's largest anti-bullying site: [www.bullying.org](http://www.bullying.org)

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### **Tracy Krauss says**

HEAL THE WOUNDED is the second in a trilogy by Canadian author Lynn Dove. The entire series is aimed toward the YA market, but it is worth reading no matter what your age. In HEAL THE WOUNDED, we are introduced to several teenagers who are facing some tough problems. First, Jake, a Christian from a loving family, has to deal with the fact that his mother has been diagnosed with cancer. He is still reeling from the death of a close friend and wonders where God is in all of this. His girlfriend Leigh is also struggling. Her insecurity and an untimely fire force the two apart. Meanwhile, another teen, who happens to be the brother of the deceased friend, has turned his anger and confusion inward and begins 'cutting' himself to ease the emotional pain. I don't want to spoil the story by explaining what happens, but the author draws us into the emotional whirlwind that is the life of a teenager with skill and conviction. Her characterization seems very true to real life as she deals with some tough issues. In fact, the series has apparently been listed as a helpful resource for anti-bullying. My only negative comment, which in no way reflects on the author or the book, is that I think I may have gotten more out of this second book if I had read the prequel, SHOOT THE WOUNDED, first. Dove does a good job of explaining the back story, however, which includes teenage pregnancy, gossip, stereotyping and other issues about making choices. In the end, this is a solid book that is entertaining yet manages to pack a wallop in terms of its message to teens. I highly recommend this, and the rest of the series, to young readers everywhere.

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### **Deborah Malone says**

Heal the Wounded is a sequel to Shoot the Wounded. Don't let the title's deter you from reading these books. I read both books in three days. I could not put them down. Lynn has taken the characters in Heal the Wounded and brought them to life. Although these books were written for Young Adults the lessons learned in these two books can be applied to anyone. I've to read since I was a child and I would have given anything to have been able to read books like this when I was in High School. Lynn addresses the unique challenges that teens and young adults will inevitably face. As adults sometime we forget what it was like during our teen years and find it hard to relate to our teen children. Lynn has found a way to do just that through her books Shoot the Wounded and Heal the Wounded. If you have a teenager or no of someone who is in their teen years then this is a must have book to give them as a gift.

## Tabitha (Bows & Bullets Reviews) says

The review is also available on my blog, Bows & Bullets Reviews

I must say that I am thoroughly disappointed with this book. I was more than a little nervous to start this novel because it is a Christian novel and I am...well let's just say I'm not. Though the Christian elements were always present, it's not what bothered me the most. There were several things that bothered me much more and that is what I will discuss here.

I found that the author didn't seem to really know how to write a believable teen voice. This novel follows 4 families on their journey to get over the death of a loved one and varies other issues that arise and while the adults sounded very real, the teens sounded fake to me. They all felt very forced. Leigh, if we assume is a believable character, is very shallow and selfish, claiming to love Jake with all her heart and yet she dumps him just because she thinks he is going to leave her. After this, she completely avoids him. She has to leave town for a few months and blatantly refuses to respond to his calls or texts or emails. As soon as she arrives at her grandparents, where she is to stay, she falls head over heels for another guy. She does claim to feel minimal guilt about Jake, but has no issues blazing on in this new relationship. In real time, she is only out of town for a little over a week before she comes back to help out a neighbor, but in that time she has managed to get over Jake and "fall in love" (read lust) with Dylan. Poor Jake was the only teen character that seemed believable to me. He's struggling with depression and doubting his faith because bad things just keep happening to him. First his best friend gets pregnant and dies in childbirth, then his mom gets breast cancer, and finally Leigh dumps him just because he has been a bit distant lately. For all you wondering, by the end of this novel, he's back to being confident about his faith, but I enjoyed seeing him struggle with it.

I also felt like this novel was much too short to follow so many characters. It isn't even 200 hundred pages yet it attempts to follow 4 different families (each with 2 or more perspectives) through a death of a friend, a house fire, and a cancer diagnosis. Plus, the story doesn't even end. It just does stop. Nothing is resolved beyond a surgery removing all of the cancerous cells in the cancer victim. Leigh and Jake still haven't talked, the house that burned isn't rebuilt, and so many other issues haven't really been touched on. I hate books that stop rather than end, but I hate it more when that is the end of the story. I realize life doesn't tie everything up in a neat little bow for you, but some things do get resolved. It looks like there is a sequel planned, but as I could barely tolerate this novel, I won't be reading the next.

Now for the one religious element that I can't ignore. This novel almost felt like an attack to those people who don't follow the Christian faith. In this entire novel, there are 4 characters that are not Christian. One is a teen boy who has lost his faith after the death of his sister. He cuts himself and enjoys watching graphic videos online showing animal cruelty. Two are a married couple with a son who just recently found Christ. They are both abusive towards the son. The father is also a drunk who apparently killed 2 people in a drunk driving car wreck. The fourth person is a doctor who shows a considerable urge to convert after praying with a family. The message this sends me is that everyone who isn't a Christian with no intent to convert is evil and I don't like that message. Oh and there was one questionable character. Dylan makes no comments either way. My thoughts on Dylan are this, he's a bit creepy. He's related to the 2 people who were killed in the drunk driving accident and the ending felt very much like a set up to see him go a bit psycho. Now that is pure conjecture, but that was the impression I got from him.

All in all, I disliked this book intensely.

\*\*\*\*Thank you to Lynn Dove for providing me with this book in exchange for an honest review\*\*\*\*

## Shellie Neumeier says

Heal the Wounded, sequel to Shoot the Wounded by author Lynn Dove, is an action-packed tale of tragedy and God's redemption. When one family's home burns down and another is struck by cancer, their teenage children must decide how to face the life-changing moments that are thrust upon them. The care they thought they shared is tested and found lacking as Leigh and her family move away. Especially when Leigh discovers a special friendship in Dylan, a boy from her new hometown. But when Leigh returns can Jake Taylor let her go?

As Leigh and Jake face events that turn them away from each other, Tim Weber faces his own demons as he deals with his grief over the loss of his sister, Ronnie and the ever-present torment the school bullies force upon him. When his grief takes him to angry places filled with self-loathing and destructive behavior, the Weber's must learn to work together or face losing another family member.

Lynn Dove weaves contemporary teen issues with excitement and action around every corner. She'll leave you breathless for the final installment of this three-part series.

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