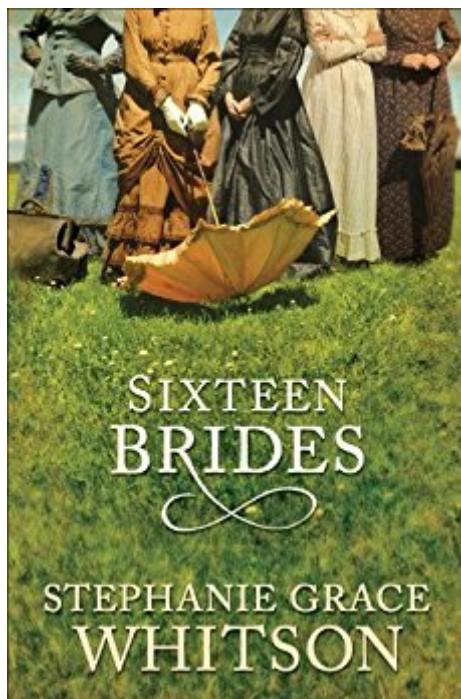


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# Sixteen Brides



## **Synopsis**

Sixteen Civil War widows living in St. Louis respond to a series of meetings conducted by a land speculator who lures them west by promising "prime homesteads" in a "booming community." Unbeknownst to them, the speculator's true motive is to find an excuse to bring women to the fledgling community of Plum Grove, Nebraska, in hopes they will accept marriage proposals shortly after their arrival! Sparks fly when these unsuspecting widows meet the men who are waiting for them. These women are going to need all the courage and faith they can muster to survive these unwanted circumstances--especially when they begin to discover that none of them is exactly who she appears to be.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

It took a few chapters for me to get into Sixteen Brides...but once I did I loved it. I think the title is a bit misleading as the story is not about 16 women but rather eight courageous, strong and determined women. Eight ladies are brought together under the misrepresentation that they would be traveling to a different state to obtain land under their own name. The book, set in 1871, is a

wonderful example of how women were not considered equals during this era. As women we were meant to be seen and not heard....so for a woman to even think about owning land was almost unheard. Needless to say when the opportunity arose for these ladies to claim their own homestead...they were eager to do so. Each lady had her own reasons for signing up and as the stories progress you learn more about their choices. Along the route to the original destination the sixteen ladies discover that they are not going to their planned destination to claim homesteads but were rather going to be offered as Widow-brides. Apparently a practice that was very common in the early 1800's. Of the 16 original ladies...8 chose to stay in Plum Grove, Nebraska rather than make the trip to become a strangers' bride. They came for land and land they intended to claim. This unlikely group of women quickly formed a bond and became a makeshift family. As the story unfolds so does each of the ladies' personal life stories and you find yourself drawn to each one. I loved each of the colorful personalities of the 8 ladies that chose to forge their own destiny rather than waiting for a man to do it for them. But, I was most drawn to the beautiful Southern Belle, Caroline, and the pretty and gutsy, Ruth.

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