

ROMANCE

An unrelenting snow fell as Angela Sanders pulled up to the cabin. Night was fast closing in when her car's headlights illuminated the painted wooden sign hanging above the porch: *Journey's End in Lover's Meeting*.

Ironic, she thought, reading the Shakespeare *Twelfth Night* quote. Angela wasn't meeting a lover here. She was fleeing from one.

"*A Soft Place to Land*," is a story of the high cost of sin and the search for the healing power of forgiveness. Annie flees to the small mountain town of Cripple Creek to escape her abusive boyfriend, Bruce. Her bruises will heal in time, but the shame and unforgiveness in her heart is the deeper wound. How can the God she's sinned against ever forgive her, if she can't forgive herself?

Other townsfolk carry their own wounds. A troubled past in foster care has undermined lumberman Hunter's sense of self-worth. Felipe, the teenage son of the town drunk, is beaten by the local gang. Recently-widowed, Maddie's grief is still raw. Gang leader, Twain, only reveals his softer side in his whimsical, wooden animal carvings. Bruce is determined to track Annie down... whatever it takes.

As the characters process their losses, the reader is invited along on the journey to find healing and wholeness by "loving your enemies and praying for those who persecute you."



Patricia A. Hartmann lives in Ojai, California in a 150-year-old farmhouse on a nine-acre farm, where she grows Pixie tangerines and feeds a wild rabbit named Honey Bunny.

She is blessed with a his/mine/and ours family of eight children, fifteen grandchildren and four great grandchildren. A farmer, teacher, writer and artist, Patricia's signature is to paint the artwork for each of her book covers.

Visit her website at:

www.patriciahartmannwrites.com

For other books by this author visit:

www.patriciahartmannbooks.com

COVER IMAGE CREDIT:
PATRICIA A. HARTMANN

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PRESS
A DIVISION OF THOMAS NELSON
& ZONDERVAN



6.0 x 9.0
229 mm x 152 mm

A Soft Place to Land

Patricia A. Hartmann

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12.73mm

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a Novel



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Content Type: Black & White
Paper Type: White
Page Count: 238
ISBN: 979-8-3850-8375-6
Trim Size: 6x9
File Type: InDesignIDML
Request ID: CSS5258376
Bleed Artwork Dimensions:
6.250 x 9.250 * 235mm x 158.8mm

