
THE LITTLE INSPIRATIONAL HOME SWEET HOME BOOK
Designs for Your Home and Devotions for Your Soul

BIGSCORE PRODUCTIONS
P.O. Box 4575
Lancaster, PA 17604

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Category:** General Interest/General Topics/House and Home
- Audience:** Female Christian homemakers, homeowners, and apartment dwellers
- Overview:** This first-ever combination interior decorating guidebook and Christian devotional gives busy homemakers practical and spiritual insights into making the most of their earthly home while preparing for their heavenly dwelling.
- Design topics include creating a peaceful environment through color, choosing furniture for children, coordinating patterns, accommodating aging relatives, lighting, working with craftsmen, seating that fits, and much more.
- Benefits:** Readers will learn the importance of building a biblical home as the foundation for their lives and relationships. They will gain practical design help to create a home of peace and love.
- Features:** Fifty 4-page units include the following features:
- A one-page devotional with Bible verse and six sentence-devotional thoughts that relate to the verse.
 - A three-page interior design segment with anecdote and application ideas for integrating the spiritual and physical worlds.
 - A bulleted list of practical interior design tips.
- Length:** Fifty 4-page units of 700–900 words each, totaling approximately 35,000–45,000 words (202 pp. total)
- Status:** Manuscript is half completed and can be finished 6 months from receipt of signed contract
- Authors:** Sharon Hanby-Robie and Deb Strubel

OVERVIEW

Today's fast pace allows little room for time consuming trips to decorating stores to furnish and redecorate our homes or for extensive Bible study to understand how to build and maintain a biblical atmosphere in our homes. Women want help integrating their Christian worldview with the practical issues of creating a peaceful home, entertaining with ease, living within their means, and helping children feel secure when home alone.

Designed to meet the unique needs of today's Christian women, *The Little Inspirational Home Sweet Home Book* is the ideal companion for women navigating the uncharted territory of life in the 21st century. It's a book women can take anywhere and everywhere. They will refer to it again and again.

Sentence devotionals are designed to take only one minute a day. They contain Scripture and daily thought-provoking questions or sentence prayers that relate to the week's design topic.

Coordinating interior design units are written in a conversational tone. Each unit integrates a thought from the verse that precedes it and shows readers how to apply the verse to their homes. Quotes and anecdotes from the authors and others show readers how to and how not to decorate their homes. Solid design advice wraps up each unit in the form of a bulleted list of tips.

Readers will benefit from this book three ways. They will learn the importance of the home as the foundation for their lives and relationships. They will be inspired to create a biblically based home of peace and love. They will gain practical design tips they may not have known, such as how color can influence moods.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

Sharon Hanby-Robie has been an interior designer and member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) for more than twenty years. She had her own interior design business, Town House Interior, for nearly ten years. Sharon is the author of *My Name Isn't Martha, But I Can Decorate My Home* and *My Name Isn't Martha, But I Can Renovate My Home* (Pocket Books/Simon & Schuster, 1998 and 1999). She is the national spokesperson for The Wallpaper Council with a full-time New York public relations firm promoting her to television, newspapers, and magazines on a weekly basis.



Sharon is as comfortable in front of a camera and microphone as speaking for women's luncheons and retreats. As a successful designer and author, she has been a regular contributor on NBC's *Later Today* show and has been featured on *The Today Show*; QVC Shopping Network; PBS's *Handy Ma'am*, *Creative Living*; HGTV's *Decorating with Style*, *Interiors by Design*, *Smart Solutions*; Discovery Channel's *Home Matters*, *Interior Motives*; as well as *The Maurey Povich Show* and *The Gale King Show*, in addition to hosting Scripps Network's *Ask DIY*.

Married with two cats, she is also a licensed real estate agent and a literary agent with BigScore Productions. Her website address is www.sharonhanbyrobie.com.



Deb Strubel is associate agent at BigScore Productions literary agency and a senior editor. As editor at Starburst Publishers, she developed and edited *Bible Seeds: A Simple Study-Devotional for Growing in God's Word* (2001), as well as edited many Bible commentaries in the *God's Word for the Biblically-Inept* series.

Deb is the coauthor of *Single, Whole and Holy: Christian Women and Sexuality* (Horizon Books, 1996), and her articles, book reviews, and devotionals have been published in such national publications as *Discipleship Journal*, *The Secret Place*, *Moody*, *Single-Parent Family*, *Christian Single*, *Teachers in Focus*, *Women's Touch*, *HomeLife*, and *Advanced Christian Writer*.

Deb speaks at Christian writers conferences each year and occasionally teaches a women's Sunday school or Precept Bible Study class. She is the married mother of two teens.

AUDIENCE

This book is primarily targeted toward busy Christian women. In the midst of today's confusing and chaotic world, every Christian woman wants to create a safe haven for herself and her family, if she has one. Single or married, apartment dwellers or homeowners, childless or child-rearing, working women or stay-at-home moms, newlyweds or marriage pros, Christian women from every rung of life can find something of value in *The Little Inspirational Home Sweet Home Book*.

Secondary markets could include two groups of buyers. First, this book would make a great gift for bridal showers or for newlyweds. Second, a Christian woman could feel comfortable giving this book to her non-Christian neighbor or friend as a tool to introduce her to the Christian view of home and family while benefiting from sound design advice.

ANALYSIS OF COMPETITION

After thorough research we are confident that *The Little Inspirational Home Sweet Home Book* is one of a kind. Very few existing interior design resources are targeted toward Christian women. Those books are four-color, coffee table books or focus only on hospitality and not decorating. In addition, we found no books that combine practical interior design ideas with quick devotionals about the home. The competition below is divided into two categories: books about design and devotionals.

INTERIOR DESIGN, HOME, OR HOSPITALITY BOOKS

- ***It's About Home, Creating a Place to Cherish* by Patsy Clairmont (Servant Publications, 1998)**

This is the closest book to *The Little Inspirational Home Sweet Home Book* in that it relates the text to Scripture. However, this book is just about the author's home and her personal Christian walk. It is not a guide for interior design or decorating. *The Little Inspirational Home Sweet Home Book* combines a daily devotional with advice for making the readers' homes meet the needs of their families and budgets.

- ***Making Room: Recovering Hospitality As a Christian Tradition* by Christine D. Pohl (Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1999)**
- ***Homemade Hospitality: Opening Your Heart and Your Home to Others* by Barbara Sims (Barbour & Co., March 2001)**
- ***A Christian View of Hospitality: Expecting Surprises* by Christine D. Pohl (New Life Publications)**
- ***The Personal Touch: Encouraging Others Through Hospitality* by Rachael Crabb, Raeann Hart, Larry Crabb (Navpress, February 1991)**

Although these books consider the home, they focus mainly on home as a place for hospitality and entertaining.

The Little Inspirational Home Sweet Home Book, on the other hand, is about all aspects of the home. Since the home is the first world we experience, it is critical to the development of character and personality. *The Little Inspirational Home Sweet Home Book* is truly a guidebook with advice and applicable principles for creating an atmosphere of love within the home.

- ***Silent Witness: The Language of Your Home* by Georg Andersen, James McAlister (Self-Published, July 1999)**

This is the only book by an interior designer. It describes how any home can be aesthetically pleasing, hospitable and speak about our beliefs. However, it is a four-color picture book with no devotional aspect and no bulleted lists of design tips.

DEVOTIONAL BOOKS RELATING TO HOME

- ***Welcome Home: Scripture, Prayers, and Blessings for the Household* by S. Torvend (Augsburg Fortress Publishers, June 1995)**

Although the title includes “Home,” this book doesn’t focus on the home. It is a devotional and prayer book for personal or family daily readings. It provides insight into dealing with daily life and faith.

The Little Inspirational Home Sweet Home Book combines a daily devotional with advice for making your home meet the needs of your family and your budget.

RELATED OUT OF PRINT BOOKS

Welcome Home by Emilie Barnes (Harvest House)

Decorating Your Heart and Home by Brenda Gay Shumaker (Harvest House)

PARTIAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Unit Title</u>	<u>Design Topic</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
Firm Foundations	Where to start	Isaiah 33:6
Big Change for Small Cost	Decorating within your means	Isaiah 1:9
Patterns for Living	How to coordinate patterns	2 Timothy 1:13
A Woman of Influence	Making a house a home	Proverbs 14:1
Designing a Peaceful Place	Creating a peaceful ambience	Isaiah 32:18
A Proper Place for Possessions	Unpacking a packrat	Proverbs 15:16
A Moving Experience	Dealing with a move	John 14:2–3
Light and Shadow	Light and shadow	Revelation 21:23–24
Viewing Your Blessings	Displaying Mementos	Psalms 48:12–13
Get Organized	How to get organized	1 Cor. 14:33, 40
A Safe Haven	Safety and security	1 Samuel 25:35
The Challenge of Little Blessings	Childproofing	Proverbs 22:6
Space for Temporary Residents	Guestrooms and stepchildren	2 Kings 4:9–10
Happy Entertaining	Easy entertaining	Hebrews 13:2
Designs for Caregiving	Family caregiving	John 19:26–27
Peaceful Boundaries	Dealing with neighbors	Proverbs 15:25
Goldilocks and the Three Chairs	Seating	Revelation 3:21

**PARTIAL TABLE OF
CONTENTS
Continued**

<u>Unit Title</u>	<u>Design Topic</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
From One to Two	Beds	Hebrews 13:4
Happy Hideaways	Creating personal space	Matthew 6:6
Let Your Light Shine	Using candles	Luke 11:33
Family Friendly by Design	Family-friendly rooms	Psalms 127:3
The Wonder of It All	Pet-friendly home	Luke 12:6-7
All in a Day's Work	Dealing with subcontractors	Exodus 31:1-6
Appraise This!	Caring for heirlooms	2 Timothy 1:14