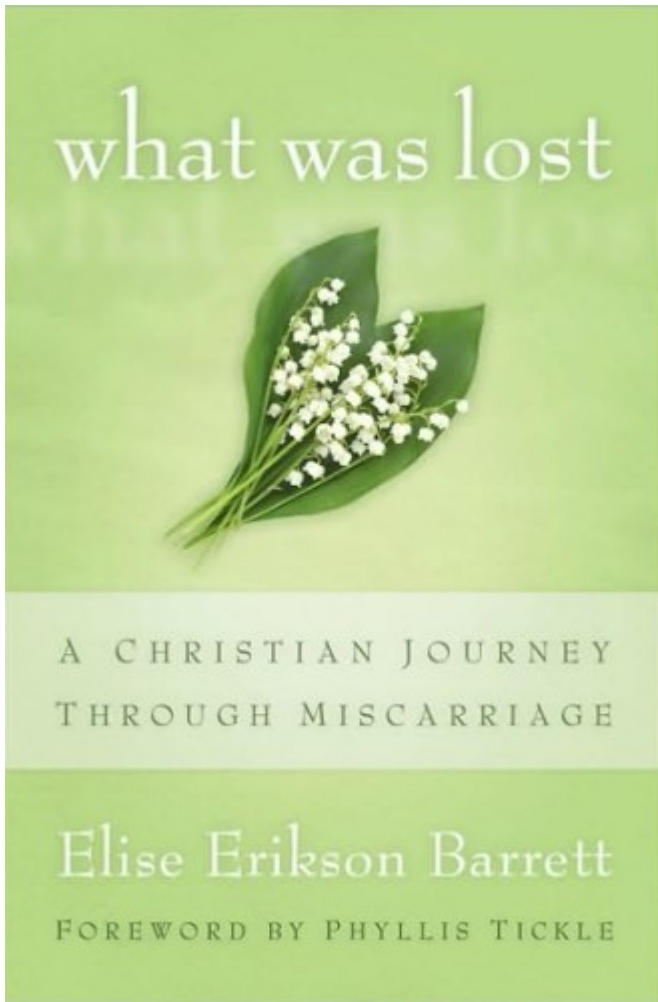


A review of What Was Lost

Books in the [September 21, 2010](#) issue

In Review



What Was Lost

By Elise Erikson Barrett
Westminster John Knox

United Methodist pastor Elise Erikson Barrett writes for women who have experienced miscarriage, pastors who help couples grapple with it and anyone who has helped a friend, spouse or relative grieve. She tells her own story, but not in a

distracting or self-indulgent way. Barrett grapples with the issue theologically, trying to answer the question of "what was lost." She really wants to know what her tradition has to say about miscarriage. She skillfully engages abortion literature, searches the Bible and turns finally to the possibility that personhood is a mystery known in community that is grounded in the love of God.