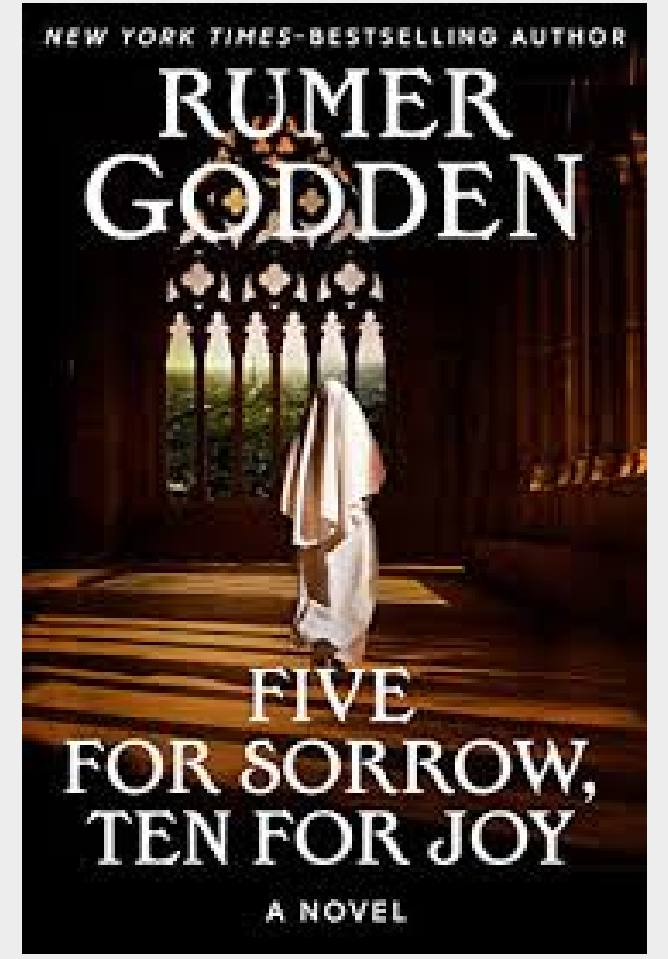
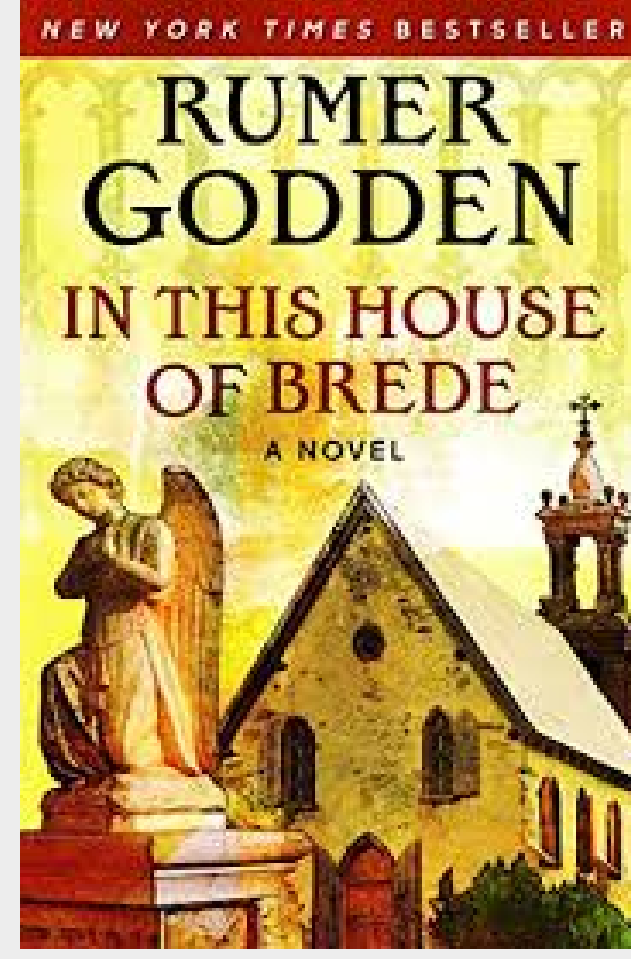
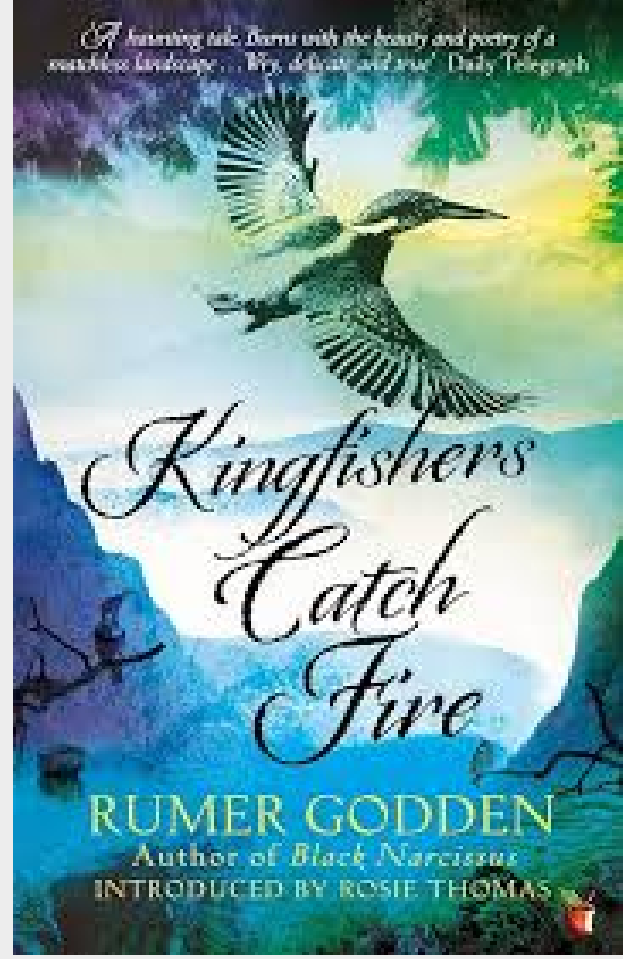
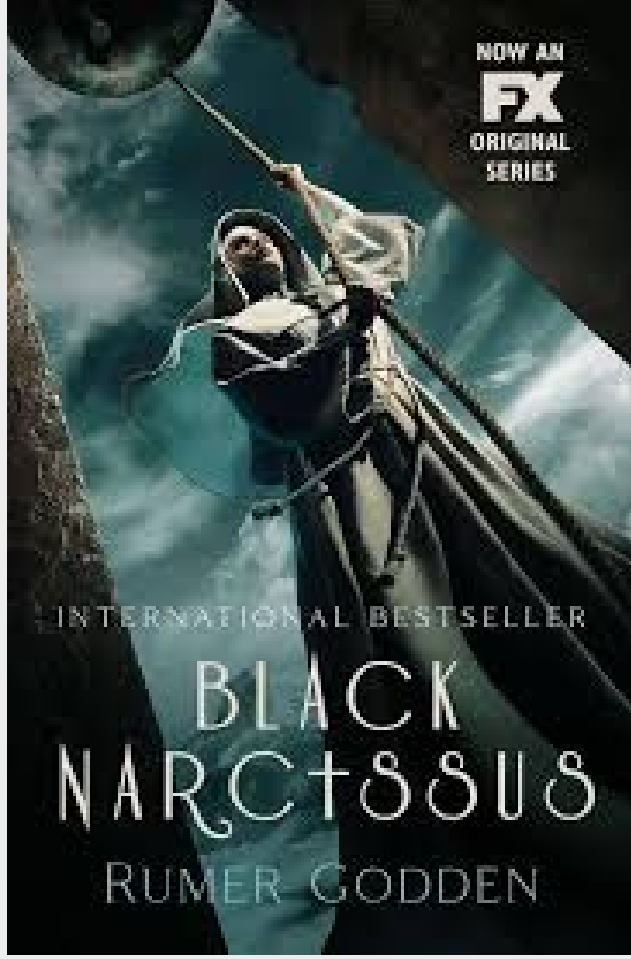


RUMER GODDEN, AN AUTHOR TO BE REMEMBERED, YET IS FORGOTTEN:

How Godden's Novels can Impact our Lives and our Theology



"CATHOLICISM SUITS ME BECAUSE I LIKE THE WAY EVERYTHING IS CLEAR AND CONCISE. YOU'LL ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN, BUT YOU MUST KNOW THE RULES"

SINCE BECOMING CATHOLIC, "MY WRITING SELF, WHICH IS THE MORE TRUTHFUL, ANSWERED: BECAUSE NUNS ARE DRAMATIC. THEIRS IS THE GREATEST LOVE STORY IN THE WORLD."

"STANBROOK BECAME PART OF RUMER'S LIFE AND DAME FELICITAS, IN PARTICULAR, ONE OF HER MOST VALUED FRIENDS. THROUGH HER, RUMER WAS ABLE TO SHARE A POWERFUL SPIRITUAL AND INTELLECTUAL TRADITION, WHICH SHE CAME TO ADMIRE GREATLY"

"RUMER CONSTRUCTS A SEQUENCE OF INTERLOCKING STORIES OF HOW WOMEN OF VERY DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS AND TEMPERAMENTS DECIDE TO BECOME NUNS AND WHAT DIFFICULTIES AND TRIUMPHS ENSUE" PARTICULARLY THE CONTINUED PROCESS OF CONVERSION WITHIN EVEN THE MOST PIOUS.

"She has great gifts and one can't deny it. But one day I think she'll learn to know herself. I have always found it is wiser to let God teach His own lessons in His own time" (*Black Narcissus*, 94)

Humility learned through suffering / Attempts at self-conversion can fail as often as we revert

"As the candles caught their light from one another, Cecily had a vision of the flame running in the same way from one church to another throughout Christendom, far around the world: new light, new joy, fresh hope" (*In This House of Brede*, 282).

The cycle of conversion alighting conversion in others / virtues acquired through work



"It was as if she had broken the sheath of her last self and emerged--as I did, thought Sophie, like the snake from its skin" (*Kingfishers Catch Fire*, 218)

New life does not mean divorce from the old / The old is very much alive within the new, but becoming a new creation is possible.

"I am sure there are sisters who, at one time or another, have had times of longing--almost burning. Then the only thing to do is work, physically hard work.--And you can always pour it all out to our Lord. He was human too" (*Five for Sorrow, Ten for Joy*, 108)

Spiritual battle is combated with physical discipline / The incarnation is the realest example of humans overcoming the conversion cycle.

