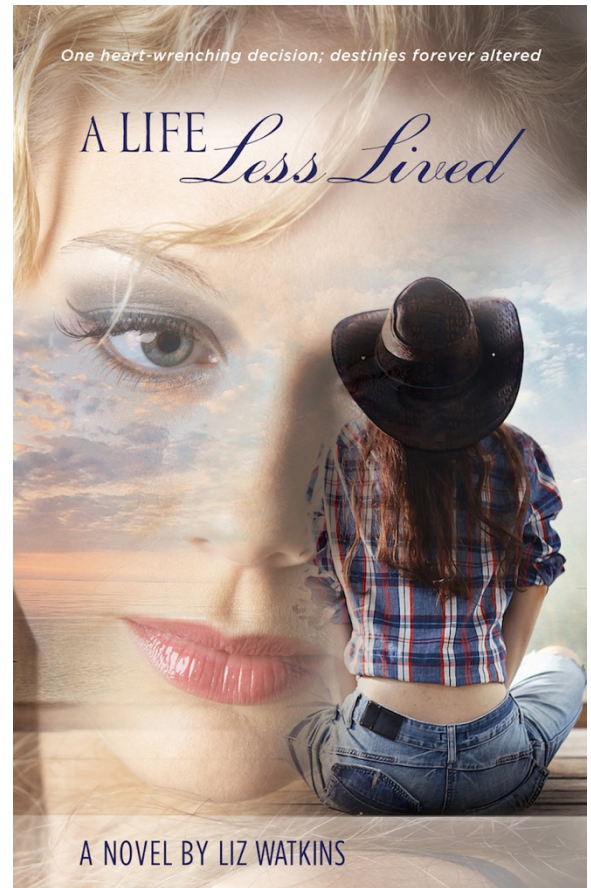


- **Release Date:** April 20, 2017
- **ISBN:** 9781632694409
- **Retail:** \$15.99
- **Pages:** 224
- **Category 1:** Fiction
- **Category 2:** Family Life
- **BISAC:** FIC042000
- **Format:** paperback



# A LIFE LESS LIVED

A NOVEL

LIZ WATKINS

*"I want you to know that there is nothing bad and ugly that happens in your life that Love cannot turn into something beautiful."* Young, pregnant, abused, and alone in the darkness of the LA acting scene, Poppy hears these words from an old woman who presses a porcelain

butterfly into her hand as Poppy stands outside a clinic. She's on the brink of a decision: to pursue her career or to take a chance on raising a child. Can she bear keeping her child and returning to Wyoming a failure? Is there another way?

Years after this fateful day, a beautiful young woman called Sarah reflects on a time when she battled for her very life. As she is envisioning these emotive scenes, it is clear that in the midst of her illness she was destined by her Creator to touch and change many others' lives, Poppy's included... a butterfly effect God had planned from her conception.

*A Life Less Lived* is a story that reveals God's heart and desire of a destiny for every child conceived. Author Liz Watkins, once herself an unwed pregnant teenager, speaks from experience about the fear of an unknown future when you discover you are alone and pregnant. Dealing with issues like abuse, abortion, and illness, this story will help bring healing and comfort to readers who have been in these difficult situations, and understanding to those who have not.

For more info please contact [media@deeperiverbooks.com](mailto:media@deeperiverbooks.com)

**Deep River**  
B O O K S



# About the Author

**LIZ WATKINS**

Liz Watkins is a gifted leader who has worked alongside pastors building small churches and speaking into the lives of women. Once an unwed pregnant teenager, Liz speaks from experience to young women who find themselves in difficult circumstances. Liz chose

to have her daughter Hannah, and a few years later met Carey, who became a wonderful husband and father to Hannah and their other daughter Rebekah.

Recently widowed, Liz's home is in Australia, but with two grown daughters who live in Canada and the USA, Liz now travels internationally to spend time with her family and also to speak and share the message of God's grace and His power to redeem any situation.

The impact Hannah has had on hundreds of people through her passion for missions is what inspired *A Life Less Lived*. As a speaker Liz is known for her prophetic and authentic down-to-earth messages, and her honest, upfront approach to women's ministry brings a fresh viewpoint and clarity to life's issues.

## Connect with the Author:

Website: [heirsofdestiny.com](http://heirsofdestiny.com)

E-Mail: [heirsofdestiny@gmail.com](mailto:heirsofdestiny@gmail.com)

For more info please contact [media@deeperiverbooks.com](mailto:media@deeperiverbooks.com)

*Deep River*  
B O O K S

# Suggested Interview Questions

For Liz Watkins, author of

*A Life Less Lived*

*A Novel*

**Q: Your book *A Life Less Lived* has an intriguing title. Can you tell us a little about the story and the meaning of the title?**

**A:** *A Life Less Lived* is a story that reveals God’s heart and desire of a destiny for every child conceived. In Psalm 139, David says to God, “You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.”

I just love this thought from God’s Word, that God records a beautiful life for each of us before we are even born, and just taking creative license in a fiction sense, the story explores the concept of “what would life be like if the children who are aborted actually got to live out the life that God originally planned and destined for them?”

We all love that verse in Jeremiah 29:11, “I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. Plans for good and not for evil. To give you a hope and a future.” *A Life Less Lived* explores this concept. What if God really does have a beautiful life planned for each child? What could be the fallout if that child isn’t born though? What is the “butterfly effect”? It really would be many lives impacted. Not just one life less lived.

**Q: You mention the “butterfly effect” of a child not being born. What do you mean by that?**

**A:** The butterfly effect is a really interesting scientific theory. The theory is that a butterfly could flap its wings and set air molecules in motion that would move other air molecules—which would then move more air molecules—eventually becoming able to influence weather patterns on the other side of the planet. In the 90s physics professors from several universities worked together and proved that the butterfly effect was accurate and worked every time. This is not just

For more info please contact [media@deeperiverbooks.com](mailto:media@deeperiverbooks.com)



limited to a butterfly of course. The whole theory shows that every person and even everything you do matters. Every action effects things around you. Your very life was created with a purpose and designed to make a difference. But what if you were never born? What things would not happen? It's an interesting thought. The story will leave the reader pondering this concept in a "sliding doors" twist.

**Q: The main character in your book, a young actress named Poppy, finds herself pregnant and alone with a big decision to make—whether to keep her baby or have an abortion. Is your personal story very similar to that of this character?**

**A:** Yes, 30 years ago, I was an unwed pregnant teen. I was also a Christian. My pregnancy, through my bad choices, caused me a lot of shame and it was an extremely difficult time for me, however unlike the character Poppy, I didn't entertain the thought of abortion. I was scared and alone, but I knew even though I had made a huge mistake and sinned, I could not abort my baby. At the time I thought my life was pretty much over. You think things like that when you are so young, but it is also one of the reasons I am committed to encouraging young pregnant girls, and educating women in the right to life of every child. My beautiful daughter Hannah has brought so much love and joy into my life and those she has come in contact with. She is passionate about the things of God and has just finished her ministry training in missions. She is making a difference in the world and I can't even imagine what it would have been like without her. My prayer is that *A Life Less Lived* will encourage young women and help them in their decision to keep their baby—even if they choose adoption, their child has a destiny to fulfill.

**Q: There are many women, even Christian women, who have had an abortion at some time in their lives. The right of a woman to choose is a very hot topic in the media at the moment. What are your thoughts on this?**

**A:** The two sides to this topic are being debated quite passionately in the media at present, with the push to defund Planned Parenthood. I truly believe that education is one of the greatest keys to ending abortion. When women are shown what really happens in an abortion they usually change their mind about their right to choose. I also understand that many are living with the pain, guilt and

For more info please contact [media@deeperiverbooks.com](mailto:media@deeperiverbooks.com)

regret of their decision to have an abortion. Often it is pushed down so deep. Covered over so they don't have to feel. God wants to bring healing to the deep wounds and hurt in these women. He wants these precious women to know that there is forgiveness, healing and redemption for their choices made often out of fear. I believe the deep message in *A Life Less Lived* will bring healing to this group of women. That's also my prayer.

**Q: In your story, Poppy is given a porcelain butterfly by an old woman who tells her that there is nothing bad and ugly that happens in your life that Love cannot turn into something beautiful. Is this something you've come to know by experience?**

**A:** Really that is my testimony. My life definitely has not been easy, but through every trial and hard season I have come to know in a very real way that God, who is Love, never ever leaves us or forsakes us. Even most recently with losing my husband to bowel cancer, I can honestly say God is good. He has been with me through it all. He promises to make something beautiful out of our ashes and I have seen Him do this in my life time and time again. He is the God of restoration and I hope that this message of love and restoration is echoed through the pages of *A Life Less Lived*.

**Q: This is your first novel. Can you give any advice to anyone who might feel they have a book in them?**

**A:** Yes. Pray!! I have always been a big reader. Even from a young girl I would be happy to sit somewhere and just read, and it had always been my dream to write a novel. But as is often the case life and insecurity gets in the way and you never start. So for me, the final straw came when I was listening to a TED Talk by the author of the book *Eat, Pray, Love*. You know the one that was made into a movie starring Julia Roberts? Well the author in this little talk was saying how because she often came up against writer's block she began to ask for a "creative muse" like the ancient Greeks had. To me this sounded kind of creepy because she said she would put a chair in the corner of the room and she would talk to this entity and feel inspired. This actually made me mad. Here I was not writing feeling so uncreative and here was this author being inspired by something that to me did

For more info please contact [media@deeperiverbooks.com](mailto:media@deeperiverbooks.com)

not sound like it came from God. I began to ask God who I knew was the most creative being in the universe to give me a story and flow through me with His creative ability. He did. Within a very short space of time the story just came to me while I was praying and over the next season I continued to pray hard as I started to write. If I came up against writers block, I would just pray some more. I believe if God has put a desire in your heart to write, you need to spend time with Him in getting His heart and His strategy for your story. He is faithful to lead and give you the ability.

**Q: Who would you like to see read your book?**

**A:** I really believe the message in the book is one of such hope and destiny and will minister to any woman but it is definitely a story you could give to someone who is struggling with a decision to keep their baby. It is also a story that will bring healing to women who have for whatever reason had an abortion. I also hope that young women who have made the brave decision to keep their children will read the book, as it will give them courage knowing that any present hardship they are facing will be so worth it in the years to come.

For more info please contact [media@deeperiverbooks.com](mailto:media@deeperiverbooks.com)

