

# HEART MATTERS

NON SCHOLÆ SED VITÆ

*Libraries of Hope Newsletter*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

--I hope you are enjoying your summer. The rotation schedule allows you to study anything you want in Months 11 and 12! You can go back and dig a little deeper in something that interested you, spend time in a topic you may have missed for some reason, or just explore whatever catches your eye.

Summer is a great time to declutter your house and organize it for the coming year. You may also consider going through Catch the Vision again. Your experiences will cause you to look at it through new eyes and you will pick up things you may have missed the first time through. I'm adding a few new presentations that I hope will be helpful to you. It has been moved to the new site at [librariesofhope.com](http://librariesofhope.com).

Speaking of which, I hope you have checked out our new streamlined site at [librariesofhope.com](http://librariesofhope.com)! Our old one will still be accessible--just click on Classic WEH in the footer of the new site and you'll be right back to the old one.

--The new Month 12 books will be released about mid month which means if you have been waiting for the 4 new series to be completed to purchase them as a complete series, they will be available as such in the [store](#).

This month's Imaginative stories come from China, Japan and India. These are month 1 topics, but there were too many to include them in one month. Month 1 has the most topic choices, so you can even get a head start in August with India and Asia topics if you'd like.

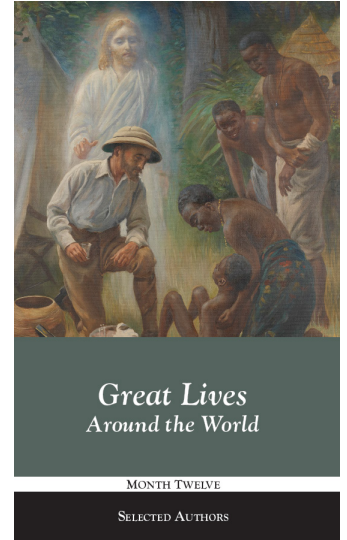
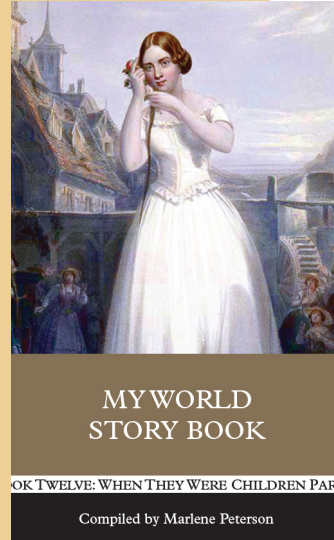
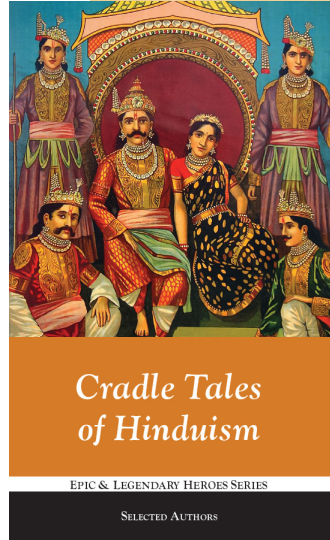
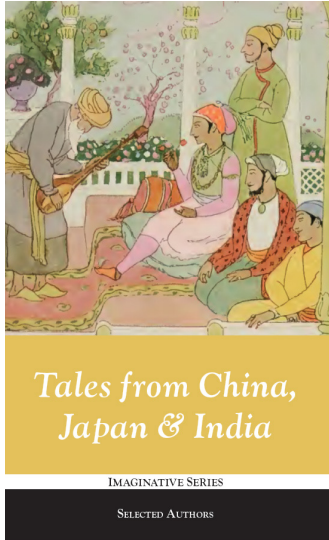
Epic and Legendary Heroes brings you introductory stories to the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. Did you know the Hindus have a Christ story in their legends?

*(continued on next page)*

MUSIC IS SO INFLUENTIAL  
ON THE BRAIN THAT THE  
TYPE YOU LISTEN TO  
ACTUALLY HAS THE  
ABILITY TO CHANGE THE  
WAY YOU THINK AND  
LOOK AT THE WORLD.

(Announcements cont.) My World Story Book continues to bring selections from Amy Steedman's *When They Were Children* so you can revisit some of the men and women you have been learning about and see what their childhoods were like.

The final Great Lives volume includes stories from the original series that weren't included in other volumes as we look at lives from around the world. But I also added the stories about fifty missionaries 'every child should know.' I can't think of a group of people who are more selfless, brave, faithful or loving. They have quietly been doing so much good without fanfare for a very long time.



## WEH IN ACTION

**--This is how we WEH.** Month 5: French fairy tales in our front yard, My America Storybook on My Belmonde in the car, Childhood of Famous Americans on audiobook while drawing and painting, Stories from Nature all week on a camping trip, and a handful of math games. This is what I always dreamed our homeschool would look like! (A.K. 06.25.2022)

**--Wanted to share my experience** with WEH so far! First, huge shout out to Rachel for introducing me to WEH at a time when I was looking to grow.

I moved to the United States from Argentina in 2003 when I was in the 3rd grade. In my country I was attending "Los Ninos Cantores," a musical school where we would sing/play instruments for 4+ hours a day in addition to all the academics.

We then moved to a low income community in California... I didn't know English and was expected to immerse myself in a new culture and language. My love for learning was still there but I spent the majority of my public education years learning English & trying to understand teachers.

Finally, when I did understand the language, I spent hours in a classroom with 25+ students while my teachers tried to maintain class structure by yelling & asking us to be quiet and then gave up and just handed out worksheets. I learned absolutely nothing...

I started WEH less than a month ago and I have learned more in these few weeks than I did through my entire time in the public education system. I am clueless about US History, World History, about WWI or WWII... I am extremely uneducated.

I am so grateful I found WEH while my daughter is only 8 months old so I can spend this time educating myself. I am going through the "advanced" portion of the rotations along with the Mother's University and whoa! I love this about WEH--educating the mother. I am obsessed with all the material, I read ALL day long, have watched



(WEH in Action cont.) movies and listened to podcasts and I just can't get enough! I finally know what D-Day is... bless my heart. :)

Thank you Marlene for bringing my love for learning back to life! I have been yearning and looking for WEH and so grateful I found it! (C.S. 06.20.2022)

**-To have something fun for** the car ride, the other day before heading to The Met in NYC, I did a quick check of MyBelmonde to see if any of the artists' stories matched the art on display. YES! They have some from Raphael, Botticelli, Lippi, Giotto....and a sculpture by Michelangelo! I thought it must've been hidden in some gallery we've never been to because how could we miss such a masterpiece? BUT NO, we've passed this statue of Cupid at least a dozen times on every visit to the museum, never realizing what a treasure was right there in plain sight!

The Met kind of reminds me of WEH/LOH. There are so many treasures hidden in plain sight. I'd never walk into The Met and say, "Wow, this is too big and overwhelming. I'm gonna go ahead and go back home." Instead, we just take a little at a time. First time, we bought postcards from the Museum store and went on a scavenger hunt for the real pictures in the museum. The next time, we looked through some books of Met art and picked out some favorites we wanted to go find. This time, it was stories from My Belmonde (we actually only found Cupid, then spent the rest of the time sketching in a favorite section of the museum). Every adventure is different, but always rewarding.

It's the same with WEH/LOH. Try a little here, try a little there getting more familiar each time. Chances are, you'll never really see it all, but everything you experience persuades you to want to come back for more. (S.L. 06.18.2022)



**“ISN'T IT FUNNY HOW  
DAY BY DAY NOTHING  
CHANGES BUT WHEN YOU  
LOOK BACK EVERYTHING  
IS DIFFERENT.”**

--C.S. Lewis

By small and simple means...

Art credit: Corot

(WEH in Action cont.) --We could let the world set the pace for our kids, or we could give them the gift of an unrushed childhood.

A childhood that puts carefree play above smartphones and over-scheduled evenings.

A childhood that is filled with muddy fingers and grass stained knees.

Days of books read for fascination instead of deadlines, and problems solved for curiosity instead of assessment.

We've lost the purpose of childhood.

We've traded creativity for consumption, pushing our kids swiftly into adulthood.

We have laden their shoulders with burdens they were never meant to carry, instead of encouraging them to embrace the carefree days of their youth.

May we be the mother who let our kids live without timelines on their imaginations.

May we be the mothers who slow the pace.

May we be the mothers who let them live in the innocence of childhood a little bit longer.

--By Silo and Sage (R.H. 06.11.2022)



Art credit: Saebobbler by Hans Brendekilde

## MARLENE'S MUSINGS

--I love little surprises. I was putting away an original copy of a Sarah Bolton biography that had been gifted me, and I stopped to thumb through it. (Duh)

Out fell an old obituary that gave me new insights into this woman whose biographies I am reprinting as one of our new series next year.

She worked closely with Frances Willard, one of the founders of the Women's movement whose quote I

frequently share: "Mother love works magic on humanity."

She was very interested in the higher education of women and traveled extensively abroad to study it.

She "wielded a fluent pen and knew how to infuse life and spirit into history and biography... Like her husband, a devoted Christian, she was constantly interested in movements looking toward the uplift of humanity."

She was a 'sparkling, companionable woman, fully of vivacity, always at work and giving herself unsparingly to the pursuit of high ideals. She deserves a place of honor in the long roll of those who have served and blessed others through the ministry of the pen."

I'm excited to share her writings with you in the coming year.

--I've had conversations with several people in the last few days who





THE IMPORTANT THING  
IS NOT IF THE CHILD  
STARTS READING AT 4  
BUT WHETHER THE  
CHILD CONTINUES  
TO READ AT 40."

-- From Twitter @marcela.best

Art credit: Study at a Reading Desk  
by Frederic Leighton

(Marlene's Musings cont.) are feeling more and more hopeless...and helpless...over what is happening in our country and the world.

WEH offers a message of HOPE! There is a way through. Change can always be traced back to an individual heart. That heart may as well be yours.

I am reminded of this quote on our MOI page:

"Ten small discussional groups in a community will do more to create a new way of life than a hundred mass meetings with a thousand in attendance at each." (Delphian handbook)

My study of past events and lives of people confirms to me: By small and simple means, great things can be brought to pass.

You are a Mother of Influence! You are making a difference.

(I just tried to correct this image--it was supposed to have a white background. And then it hit me--no! let it stay. You will shine especially bright on a dark background, just like the stars.)

--May I offer this reminder again. WEH is about balance. Heart AND Mind. Art AND Science. Faith AND Reason. Play AND Work. Imagination AND Academics. Right Brain AND Left Brain.

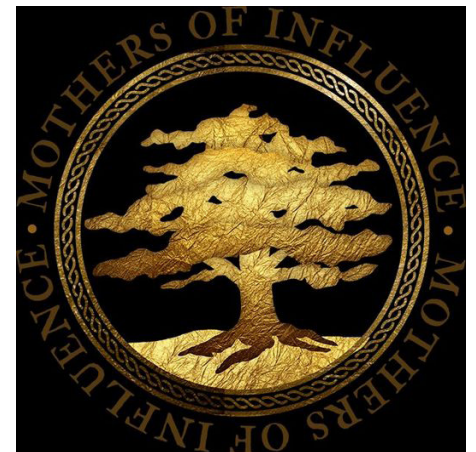
I'll add another one that I'm addressing in an upcoming podcast: Inspire AND Require.

I have heard people say that they don't 'use' WEH because WEH doesn't believe academics are important. Or because it isn't principle-based. It's just about puppies and rainbows and flowers or something like that.

1. Academics matter. It is when an academic focus gets out of balance that it poses a problem.

Your mind can learn to decode words, but it's your heart that will give understanding to the words you are reading. More important, it's your heart that will generate the desire to read.

Your mind can learn to construct sentences. But your heart will provide the ideas seeking expression. The heart gives life to the academics. It's the Pattern for Learning.



(Marlene's Musings cont.) The world is heavy in academic offerings. It's got it covered. There is no end to reading and math and writing programs. That's why I don't talk a lot about academics. I am trying to offer the balance-- that part that is harder to find.

## 2. Principles matter.

What do you think the gems are that you are copying in your notebooks? The principles are the things that sparkle in your reading. The kernels of truth around which fairy tales are built and which gave them their lasting power are principles of truth.

It matters how principles are delivered. Principles that are programmed into the mind will not have the same effect that principles embedded in the heart will have. And much of what we are learning to do is how to embed principles in the heart.

One of the reasons behind Einstein's genius was they found the corpus collosum between right and left hemispheres of his brain was unusually thick. In other words, the neural fiber network between the two sides was heavily traveled. He used his whole brain.

One of my great desires is that through our work here, we will actually raise fewer half-brained adults.

--A random thought just struck me:

Name one perfect problem-free family in the scriptures.

You are not a failure if you have imperfect children or find yourself constantly battling problems.

Your success as a mother will not be measured by how perfect your family is.

If that is the measuring stick, God is a failure. And I promise you--He is not.

Neither are you.

What God does expect--and that He sets the example for--is to never give up. And to never, ever stop loving.

Art credit: A Special Pleading by Charles Burton Barker





## MOI IN ACTION

Watch for some exciting announcements!!



Art credit: The Good News by Edward Portielje

“WE DON’T TALK ABOUT  
TREES GETTING OLDER,  
WE SAY THEY’RE  
‘GROWING.’ LET’S USE  
THE SAME TERM FOR  
OURSELVES. WE’RE NOT  
GETTING OLDER, WE’RE  
JUST ‘GROWING.’ THAT’S  
THE SPIRIT OF LIVING.”

Art credit: Monastery Ruin Eldena by Caspar David  
Friedrich

