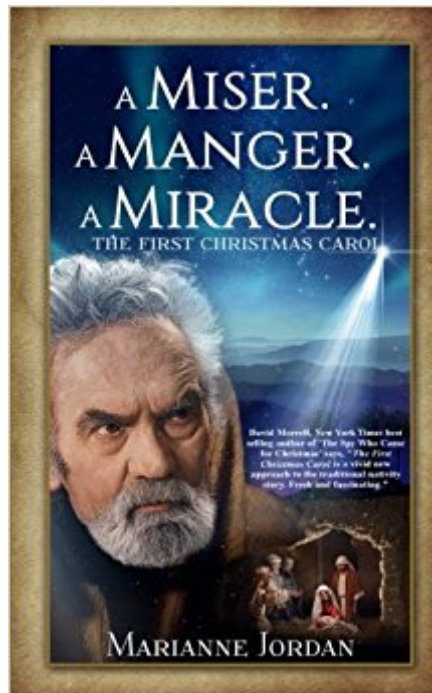




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# A Miser. A Manger. A Miracle.



## Synopsis

Winner of the Director's Choice Award In an interpretive retelling of the Easter and Christmas stories, *A Miser. A Manger. A Miracle.* weaves Biblical events into the timeless work of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." Darkness cloaks the hills of Bethlehem, but pales in comparison to the black heart of a greedy, unscrupulous innkeeper, who unknowingly sets into motion a night of miracles the world will never forget. David Morrell, New York Times best selling author of 'The Spy Who Came for Christmas' says "*A Miser. A Manger. A Miracle.* is a vivid new approach to the traditional nativity story. Fresh and fascinating.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Author, playwright, and public speaker, Marianne Jordan graduated from Radford University and began a career in radio, teaming up with partner and now husband of thirty-two years Bill Jordan. She was the first director of development for SW Virginia Public Radio and is co-founder of the popular Christian Devotions SPEAK UP! Through the daily program, she has interviewed such guests as Nicholas Sparks and Jeff Struecker. Her writing career is varied, including newspaper articles, marketing copy, and children's stories. *A Miser. A Manger. A Miracle.* is her debut novel. Marianne lives with her husband in North Carolina.

I find it difficult to imagine any review of this book to be less than 5 stars, however such is the nature of readers. One may see the story as wonderful while another may not. The author has completed

what I hope will become a classic. She takes the classic, 'A Christmas Carol' by Dickens and combines it with the Biblical truths of Jesus' birth, death and resurrection that will put the Christmas spirit back into any 'Scrooge.' This is the first book written by Marianne Jordan. I hope it isn't the last. Her knowledge of the subject matter shows brightly along with her ability to convey her thoughts to the reader. Postpone your shopping, your Christmas card list, your preparations for guests, your meal planning and your stress that the commercial aspects cause, relax and treat yourself to the beauty and magic of the season shared wonderfully in this great book.

**A Miser, A Manger, A Miracle** by Marianne Jordan

We all know the story of Charles' Dickens "A Christmas Carol"...but do we know the first Christmas Carol? This Christian fiction story includes familiar characters including Ebenezer, a sister who passed away, a charming nephew, a hard-working assistant, and an enthusiastic but sick little boy ...angels rather than spirits ....and Jesus. Instead of taking place in London, we find ourselves in the little town of Bethlehem. Light was expensive. Darkness was free. Innkeeper Ebenezer, who unhappy and grumpy, is thrilled that his town is jam-packed with people, thinking of the money he'd make. 3 angels take him on an unforgettable journey that changes his life's view ... thanks to the baby who was born in his stable. "Love is stronger than hateful words." "Jesus doesn't want you to die for Him; He died for you .... He wants you to live for Him. Heed the lessons you have learned this night, Ebenezer!" Dickens might not have cared for this version, but I loved the way that Jesus' story was woven into the familiar classic. Hard not to fall in love with these characters. It was easy, medium-paced reading with a pleasant writing style. I enjoyed reading this book and looking forward to reading others by Marianne Jordan. (I put "some violence" because of the slaying of the boys in Bethlehem and the Good Friday story. No swear words or other bad language were actually used in the story, but strongly implied.)

I wondered how both stories could be blended so that you kept both intact but when you read it, of course (head slap), it is so easy. This is a great story and keeps true to the first Christmas story and also keeps the spirit of A Christmas Carol throughout. I had a good time trying to guess which character was which from A Christmas Carol. If you are familiar with both stories then it is a joy to read, I giggled throughout and was awed by the message when it was over. Well Done. I bought it on Kindle and then ordered a hard copy after I read it. I also told everyone who I know reads that this is a great book.

At first I was reluctant to read this book because it almost sounded like heresy to mix the story of the birth of the Savior of the World with a Dickens tale from centuries later. But I'm glad I overcame my reluctance because the pairing of the two stories made me see the Christmas story from a different perspective. The greedy, selfish, evil innkeeper, Ebenezer, travels with three different angels on journeys to the past, present, and future. His assistant Isaac (as Dickens' Cratchit) allows Mary and Joseph to use the stable; Ebenezer had already turned them away earlier in the day. Ebenezer's visit to the future took him through Jesus's adult life, and it is through his encounters with the Savior that he was saved. The story is so well-written that the reader feels like he or she is hearing Mary's cries when she is in labor. We can almost feel Jesus's eyes upon us as He looks at Ebenezer and into his heart; we see the miracles and hear the Lord's words. We cringe when the Messiah is scourged, and we watch His last moments on the cross. Every time Jesus asks Ebenezer, "Do you believe in Me?" we feel compelled to answer. May everyone who reads this book answer, "Yes, Lord. You are the Messiah, the Savior of the World, the only Way to the Father."

An amazing story written from two very different stories: the life of Christ from the Bible in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; and the classic 'Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens. The author wove the two stories together creating a wonderful, entertaining Christmas story. The entire book was incredible with Ebenezer, the angels, the Inn with Mary and Joseph, the life of Christ and the Resurrection. This is an inspiration, fun read for everyone.

This is a wonderful retelling of the Christmas story. I love the way the author took a well-known classic and adapted it to tell the story of Jesus' birth, life, and ministry in a fresh, new way. I read nearly all of it in one sitting as I waited in the dentist's office with one of my children, and, even though I know the Gospel accounts very well, this story was so well-done that it kept my attention all the way through.

I was intrigued by the idea of retelling the classic Charles Dickens story "A Christmas Carol" as being instead about the innkeeper of Bethlehem, but had no idea how well the two stories could mesh. My very favorite Christmas sermon ("I Remember Bethlehem") is also about the innkeeper, but this time the story follows a very different arc to a similar end, and reminds me of the best parts of both the Christmas and Easter stories in the Bible, along with the best parts of Dickens' tale. I'm amazed to find a temporarily-free Kindle book among the three best I've read this year, and highly recommend it even if it's no longer free.

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