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YOUR NAME

Address

City, State, Zip

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BOOK PROPOSAL

Letting God Meet Your Emotional Needs (Your Title Here)

by

Cindi McMenamin (Your Name Here)

(Short overview here of your book)

God created women with the need for understanding, tenderness, communication. He made us with a need for companionship and purpose, as well as to feel beautiful and loved. Yet a majority of women today are starving emotionally, not finding the fulfillment they need in their marriages or relationships. The popularity of books such as *Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus* attests to the fact that women are trying to understand why their husbands or significant others are unable to meet their deepest emotional needs. The answer, as revealed in Scripture, is that man was not intended to meet a woman's deepest needs. Neither are women expected to find fulfillment within themselves. Only God, who created those needs, can fulfill them. The purpose of *Letting God Meet Your Emotional Needs* is to encourage women to stop looking for fulfillment in their earthly relationships and start going to the source of their satisfaction, God their Maker. By establishing intimacy with Him, they can find that He meets their needs, not only on a spiritual level, but on an emotional level, as well – leaving them fulfilled, emotionally satisfied, and longing no more.

This manuscript is in its draft stage and can be ready for publisher's editor by July, 1998.

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BOOK'S CONCEPT

(Briefly describe your book and give an overview of how each chapter will meet a specific need in the reader's life – Don't underestimate the importance of showing the publisher how this book will benefit the reader.)

Letting God Meet Your Emotional Needs looks at ten of a woman's deepest emotional needs and, through Scripture, creates a picture of her Heavenly Husband (Isaiah 54:5) as the One who can and will meet those needs. This book aims at freeing a woman from her emotional trap and helps her find release, relief and renewed hope in her life and her love for the Lord.

Letting God Meet Your Emotional Needs speaks directly to the Christian and non-Christian woman, alike, getting at the heart of her feelings and gently convincing her of the Only One who can bring her true fulfillment. Each chapter addresses a longing that women experience and uses real-life examples of women and their failed attempts to satisfy those longings from someone or something other than God. Penetrating questions are included at the end of each chapter, helping the reader discover what she needs to do to find fulfillment and practical suggestions are made for her to apply what she has learned.

Here is an overview of the needs women seek to satisfy in their earthly relationships and the fulfillment they can find in taking that need to the Lord.

<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>PROBLEM</u>	<u>SOLUTION</u>
1	I need someone	God is the Only One who can satisfy
2	I need acceptance.	God loves, forgives, accepts without condition.
3	I need security	God promises He'll never leave (Heb. 13:5)
4	I need to feel pretty	Christ sees me as new, spotless (2 Cor. 5:17)
5	I need confidence	I can come boldly before Him (Heb. 4:16)

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| 6 | I need a companion | He is the Perfect Friend |
| 7 | I need communication. | He talks to me intimately through His Word. |
| 8 | I need roots. | He gives me a new lineage in Christ (Psalm. 16) |
| 9 | I need something to do. | He has a specific purpose for me. (Eph. 2:10) |
| 10. | I need hope. | He has a future and a hope for me. (Jer. 29:11) |

BASIS FOR THE BOOK

(Explain how your book came about)

By speaking to women's groups on the contents of my book, I have repeatedly found that the problems and solutions outlined in my book are meeting women where they are today – lonely in love and longing for intimacy. They are hungry for solutions to their emotional longings and are finding, through the steps I give in this book, that real fulfillment in love is possible through establishing intimacy with God.

This book has developed through years of counseling and discipling women with these particular needs. I've found that the principles of this book-in-the-works are the most effective counseling tools I've used for women in both disastrous marriages and in healthy marriages that are perceived as disastrous. Since this book compiles the biblical principles for maintaining a woman's focus, and concentrates on keeping her in spiritual and emotional balance, it stands to be a classic in women's self-help/spiritual growth books.

(Explain the reasons why your book should be published)

The Christian, after reading the book, will be better able to maintain her focus and balance as a woman of God, looking to God first for her fulfillment and thereby improving the

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dynamics of her marriage. The non-Christian , in recognizing her needs are the same, will discover the Perfect and Only One who can meet her needs.

Other reasons for publishing this book include:

- The increasing number of women seeking counseling for depression, marital discord and unfulfillment.
- The fact that women are inundated with non-biblical advice and suggestions on how to become fulfilled, happy and hopeful.
- The increasing popularity of “understand your man” types of books (*Understanding the Man in Your Life; Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus; His Needs, Her Needs*, etc).
- The fact that women are ready for another – and final – approach to getting their needs met.
- The need for women today to see their relationship difficulties as a spiritual hunger for something more.
- The need for women today to see how the Lord can meet their everyday and deepest emotional needs.
- The need for Christian and non-Christian women, alike, to see Jesus presented as a relevant role model for how to survive in today’s emotionally starved world.
- Constant requests for a book that includes and elaborates on the material I present in verbal form.
- Few books, if any, on the market that address a *Christian* woman’s feelings of emptiness in her marriage.

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AUTHOR'S QUALIFICATIONS

(Explain what qualifies you, personally, to write this book. Don't be intimidated here. If you've studied something awhile, spoken on it, etc. that qualifies you.)

I am personally qualified to write this book because I have spent the past several months speaking on this topic and establishing credibility in this area. I also have ten years experience counseling and discipling women with these particular needs. My own painful past in watching my parents' marriage end because of "unfulfilled needs" and striving to keep my spiritual and emotional focus in my own marriage, give me special insight in dealing with the hurts of women in painful relationships. As a pastor's wife, adult Bible teacher and director of women's ministries, I am continually in the position of providing guidance for hurting women and directing them to scriptural solutions.

My professional qualifications include five years experience writing and editing for a chain of Southern California newspapers and my current experience writing curriculum and devotionals that meet the needs of hurting people.

MARKETING CONSIDERATIONS

(Build the case for why this book will sell)

I have test-run this book by speaking on its contents. To my surprise, it reaches audiences far greater than my intended target audience of Christian women aged 20 to late 40s. I found that because my book deals with both unfulfilled needs and how to establish intimacy with the Lord, it was able to reach widows (who struggle with the same needs as single women), women who are separated or divorced (and dealing with what went wrong), women in healthy marriages (who still want to make things better by establishing intimacy with the Lord) and senior-aged women (55 and older – who often

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request copies of my material in order to counsel younger women they come in contact with). As wishful thinking as it may sound, I believe it's safe to say this book reaches women, regardless of their age or situation in life, because it deals with disappointment, expectations emotional longings and desire for fulfillment. Whether a woman be divorced, in marital turmoil, single and still looking or happily married for several decades, the biblical principles, touching stories and practical applications for establishing intimacy with the Lord apply.

My book does not incorporate psychological theories or methods, but is based upon biblical principles and what we know from the Word about our Heavenly Father as our Husband (Isaiah 54:5). Real-life stories of women and how they applied or didn't apply these principles are provided, making this book emotionally charged, yet easy to read, rather than clinical.

Books on the market that are similar to mine include Bethany House's *Longing for Love*, New Leaf Publisher's *Secrets of a Fulfilled Woman*, and Beverly LaHaye's book, *The Desires of a Woman's Heart* (Tyndale). The Bethany House title is written in the format of a woman's conversation with God, almost poetry-style, going back and forth between the two parties. Although the format is unique, it doesn't go into the problem-solution format that mine does. The New Leaf book is a compilation of essays on a woman's fulfillment by several authors. The contents are categorized by author and because the book is a collection of different women's thoughts, it lacks the intimate nature and continuity of mine, which includes my thoughts, feelings and personal applications weaved in and out of a vast number of biblical principles and dramatic illustrations.

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La Haye's book is probably the most similar in structure to mine, but not necessarily in its content. Her book takes a woman's desires in her personal life, home and world and provides "encouragement when traditional values are challenged." In her section addressing a woman's personal desires, she touches on a desire for significance and self esteem but doesn't delve into our hearts and longings as my book does. Although all of the above-mentioned titles are similar in basic concept to mine (they deal with longings for fulfillment) my book will attract the reader who is tired of the textbook answer to "give it all to God" and is looking for real emotional fulfillment, as well as practical applications and solutions to her problems. My book, rather than lecture or philosophize, works with the reader through penetrating questions and self analysis to explore her desires and see for herself her own needs and how the Lord can meet each one.

(Explain what you will do, personally, to promote this book)

I am an experienced public speaker and have many opportunities to promote this book. Establishing a speaking tour for this book would be quite feasible, considering my contacts, ability, time availability and my passion for the topic.

I am working on securing endorsements for my book. The following individuals have already indicated their willingness to endorse my book:

(List the names and titles of those who have indicated they would be willing to endorse your book. Endorsements aren't necessary, but helpful if you are a first-time author.)

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CHAPTER OUTLINE

Introduction: Longing for Love

Part I: Getting Started

1. Finding the Only One Who Will Satisfy
2. Knowing He Accepts Me
3. Realizing He'll Never Leave
4. Understanding How He Sees Me

Part II: Growing Together

5. Approaching Him with Confidence
6. Making Him My Best Friend
7. Listening to His Loving Voice

Part III: Going the Distance

8. Discovering a New Lineage
9. Living with a New Purpose
10. Experiencing a Future Together

CHAPTER SUMMARIES

(You will conclude your proposal with a three- to four-sentence summary of each chapter.)