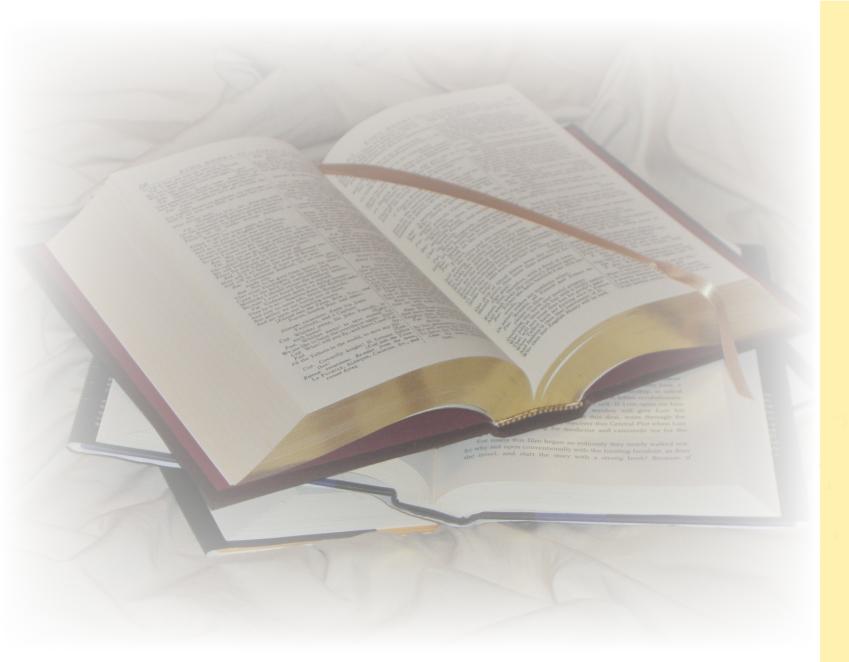


"The Grand essentials of happiness are: something to do, something to love, and something to hope for."

-Allan K. Chalmers





Open a book, open your mind.

BARNES&NOBLE BOOKSELLERS

A Rose for Me

by Stephanie Barclay

On the kitchen counter Near last night's dinner In a plastic sleeve Not a vase

With a few wilted leaves
Tips withering
A clearance tag, red
Almost peeled away

I read the scrawled note On torn lined paper Balanced atop Our text books, frayed

I smiled and stopped
To caress the silk
Of the blossom
And press it against my face

