

*a novel*

DAUGHTER  
*of the*  
REBELLION



JAMIE OGLE

DAUGHTER *of the* REBELLION



BOOK CLUB KIT





## ABOUT JAMIE OGLE

I grew up in northern Minnesota listening to my grandparents tell stories from their youth. Stories of fighting in WWII, of panning for gold in Alaska, of crossing the Nebraska prairies in a covered wagon during the Great Depression, of a city girl falling in love with a farmer. Listening to them, I fell in love with stories, with history, with grit and perseverance.

I also grew up listening to my parents read missionary stories to me and my sisters before bed. Those stories of faith, sacrifice, and courage inspired me even more. I read everything I could get my hands on and started writing stories of my own. My first story was self-published and self-illustrated on a piece of cardboard, and I've never stopped writing since. I studied English and writing craft at Iowa State University and am a member of the American Christian Fiction Writers (ACFW).

My husband and I love to travel, and currently live in central Iowa where we can usually be found gardening, beekeeping, homeschooling, and tromping through the woods with our three young children.

FOLLOW ALONG ONLINE:



[@jamie\\_m\\_ogle](https://www.instagram.com/@jamie_m_ogle)



[@authorjamieogle](https://www.facebook.com/@authorjamieogle)

# Dear Readers,

I hope you've enjoyed Felix and Adel's story as much as I enjoyed writing it. Finishing my last book was a bit of a wrestling match, and I prayed long and hard before beginning this project that God would renew my joy in writing and crafting stories. I shouldn't have been surprised when He answered above and beyond all I could have hoped! Despite the inherent darkness and violence of the setting, these characters became dear friends I couldn't wait to return to each day. I loved every moment I got to spend with them on this journey.

The longer I sat steeped in this story, the more I was drawn in by Felix's steady, unruffled, self-sacrificing love for those around him—which was especially evident with Adel, whose initial hostility arguably didn't deserve such patience (and made me wonder if they were ever going to fall for each other!). And yet, isn't that what true love looks like? Isn't that the kind of love God has for each of us? ...*while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8)*. How mind-blowing is that?

In our worst, most antagonizing state, God didn't ignore us, tolerate us, or leave us to our fate. Instead, He loved us so deeply He sent His Son to die for our redemption. No striving on our part could free us. Like Adel, we were slaves to the school of sin, clutching the lies that told us we were fine, that we could free ourselves if we strove hard enough. And it took Someone from the outside to dismantle the lies and offer us the impossible salvation we could never gain on our own. In our very human striving, we forget that sometimes, the hardest battle we face isn't one we're called to fight, but one we need to surrender to the One who has already fought for us.

Dear friends, I hope you enjoyed this story, but more than that, I hope you turned the final pages with a deeper knowledge of God's unfailing love for you, and the truth that even one person surrendered to His will, can change the world.

Soli Deo gloria,

Jamie

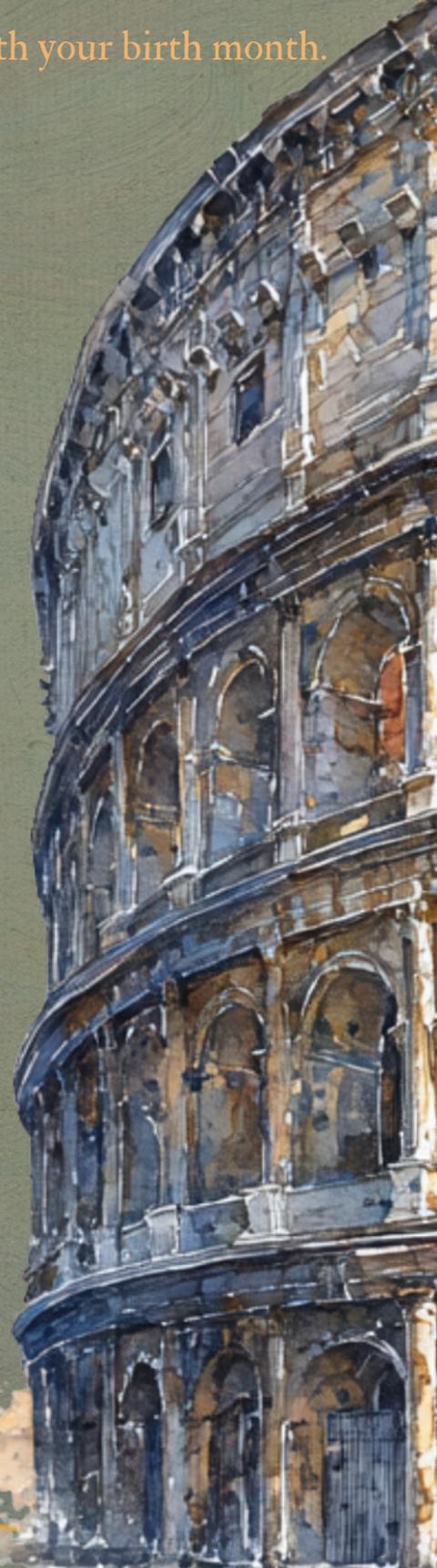
# WHAT IS YOUR GLADIATOR NAME?

Find your gladiator name by combining your first initial with your birth month.

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| A. Amazon    | N. Neon         |
| B. Boudica   | O. Octavia      |
| C. Clothilda | P. Prisca       |
| D. Dreda     | Q. Quintilianus |
| E. Ennius    | R. Rusticus     |
| F. Flamma    | S. Spartacus    |
| G. Galla     | T. Telemachus   |
| H. Hippolyta | U. Ursus        |
| I. Ignatius  | V. Vesuvia      |
| J. Junia     | W. Wulfila      |
| K. Kallista  | X. Xanthe       |
| L. Loukia    | Y. Yeranos      |
| M. Maximus   | Z. Zenobia      |

## Add your birth month

- Jan. "The Battering Ram of the East"  
Feb. "The Undefeated"  
Mar. "The Provoker of the South"  
Apr. "The Finisher"  
May. "The Flame of the North."  
Jun. "The Victorious"  
Jul. "The Lightning"  
Aug. "The Hammer of the West"  
Sept. "The Mighty"  
Oct. "The Terror of the Plains"  
Nov. "The Technician"  
Dec. "Defender of the Lowlands"



# GLADIATOR PULS

## BARLEY POLENTA

### ABOUT THE RECIPE:

Gladiators were known as “barley eaters” for their diets which consisted heavily of barley and a few vegetables. Barley is rich in fiber, vitamins, minerals, and complex carbohydrates for sustained energy.



### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups ground barley \*
- 2 tbsp ground flaxseed
- 2 tsp ground coriander
- 1 tsp salt
- 6 cups water

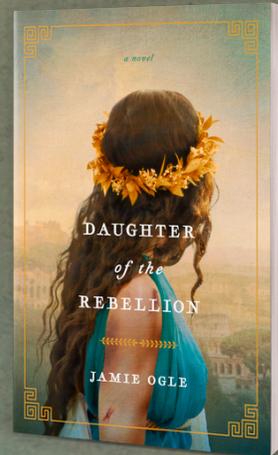
Optional toppings: fresh fruit, chopped nuts, honey, raisins

\*you can use whole barley, but you will have to cook it longer and the texture will be more rice-like, and not like porridge.

### DIRECTIONS:

1. In medium saucepan, bring water to a boil. Add flaxseed, coriander, and salt to the water, stirring to combine.
2. Add the ground barley, whisking to avoid lumps. Reduce heat and continue stirring to prevent sticking and scorching.
3. Cook until thickened, 20-25 minutes.
4. Once the puls has thickened to a porridge-like consistency, remove from heat and let cool slightly. Serve warm with optional toppings.

# Q&A WITH THE AUTHOR



**1. How did you come up with the idea for *Daughter of the Rebellion*? Was there a particular moment or experience in your life that inspired you to write this book?**

Oddly enough, I'd never heard of St. Telemachus before (despite growing up on *Adventures in Odyssey*—I somehow missed that episode). So, when the time came to pitch new story ideas to my publisher, one story was chosen and I was asked what else I had to go with it. I spent the next couple of days in prayer asking God for the story He wanted me to write. That week, during our homeschool co-op lunch hour, another mom swooped into the chair across the table from me (completely unaware of my story hunt) and said, "Okay, so you have got to hear the story of Telemachus! It's amazing!" I knew as soon as she said gladiators that this was the story I was supposed to tell.

**2. What special messages, themes, or symbols are included in *Daughter of the Rebellion*? Why are they important to you and to the book's overall story?**

There are a lot of themes and symbols woven throughout, but the one I see most strongly is the one of trust and surrender to God. Adel and Felix both have things they want, things they're striving for to the point where they end up compromising their beliefs and convictions to get them. They end up in more trouble than they can get out of on their own, and they both have to come to a point of surrendering those desires to God and allowing Him to fill them in His time and in His way. While we may not be facing a gladiator arena, trusting and surrendering our lives to God is something we're called to do every day as Christians. It's something God was teaching me in the discovering of this story and over and over again during the writing process.

**3. Do you have a favorite character in *Daughter of the Rebellion*? If so, who is it and why is that person your favorite?**

I adored Felix. He was struggling and broken in his own way, but still exhibited the unflagging, self-sacrificing love God has for us. Don't tell my other characters, but he might be my favorite hero yet.

# Q&A CONTINUED...

**4. Does a particular scene stand out in your mind as very memorable? If so, briefly explain what happens and why it resonates so much with you.**

There's a tiny moment in the story, that most might skim over, where one of Adel's enemies does something horrific to gain the love of the crowd, yet we discover later that this person paid for that decision with their life. Instead of elation an enemy has been defeated, it's a moment of sobering compassion. A moment where we see the devastating embodiment of 'gaining the world and losing your soul.' And it should be devastating. Because every human life, regardless of ideology or geographical boundary is made in the image of God and is a soul Jesus died to save. Ezekiel 18:23 reminds us that God does not delight in the death of the wicked, but desires all to repent.

**5. Was there a specific Scripture that inspired this story or that guided you while you were writing it?**

The story opens with the end of II Timothy 4:6 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." There is such urgency in Paul's instructions to Timothy in this entire chapter (and book), such imagery of athletes and soldiers. It drew me to consider what it looks like to fight a good fight as a Christian, how to live, endure, and finish well, and how to keep the faith through it all. These questions were constantly humming in my ears as I wrote.

**6. Who do you think will most enjoy this book?**

Readers who enjoy intense, gritty stories with impossible odds, enemies-to-lovers romance, and deeply hopeful faith themes flowing throughout will enjoy Daughter of the Rebellion.

**7. What do you hope readers will remember long after they've finished reading the book?**

I hope readers are inspired by the faith and courage of these characters. They face incredible odds that feel impossible, and yet, they press on to do what is right, leaving the world changed in their wake. I hope it encourages readers to follow closely to God, surrender to His will, and love others well. Who knows how the world may be changed by one person's obedience to God?

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

To start your group's conversation about *Daughter of the Rebellion*, read through these questions with your book club and share your responses together.

1. Adel has tried to direct her own life, to establish her own security, in many ways. Why do you think it's so hard for her to trust others, and even to trust God to provide for her? She comes to realize, "Not once did I surrender anything to God. I clutched my dreams in my fists, too afraid of losing them to let Him hold them." What do you think it means to surrender your dreams and future to God?

2. Though Felix is a Christian, he's not welcome in the church because of his work in the gladiator ludus. He explains to his sister that his exclusion is "for the good of all the others who only know me by what I do, and not why I do it." Do you agree with his reasoning? Is there ever reason to turn someone away from a church?

3. Adel wonders, "After all this time, after all the world had been through, was this really the height of civilization? To eat sweets and drink wine while slaves fought each other to death? Was this the mark of a Christian empire? Of Christian citizens, who either partook in the spectacle or turned too-pious eyes away from it?" What parallels do you see between the Roman empire of this story and civilization today?

4. Felix warns Oppia, "Do not let your disappointment in people sour your worship of God." Have you been hurt or disappointed by people who claim to follow God? How has it affected your own faith?



5. Adel, Felix, and Telemachus all carry pain and anger from the actions of their fathers. How does this resolve for each of them?

6. Felix finds himself frustrated with his mother's generosity when they have so little— and later, he wrestles with whether to help Telemachus free the Visigoth captives, at risk to himself and his own family. Where does his first responsibility lie? Did you ultimately agree with his decisions?

7. Even amid difficult circumstances, Adel comes to see God's provision and care for her in the way she's been spared, kept safe, and even given friends, when she originally thought she'd been abandoned. Have there been similar moments in your own life when you could look back and see God providing for you, in big and small ways?

8. As he searches for a way to free the captives, Telemachus predicts, "The day is coming when loving our brothers means picking up a sword in their defense." How does he ultimately do so? Do you agree that love sometimes requires "picking up a sword"?

— **BOOK GROUP QUESTIONS:** —

Jot down some questions you want to ask in your book club.

---

---

---

---



# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

(IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER)

## Place names:

**Ludus** – Loo-dus - (plural: ludi) *school*.  
**Gallicus** – Gal-i-coos - *of Gaul*  
**Dacicus** – Day-ki-coos - *Of Dacia*  
**Matutinus** – Ma-toot-in-oos - “*of the morning/early*”  
**Magnus** – Mag-noos - *Great*.  
**Moesia** – Mee-she-ah - *Modern day Bulgaria and Serbia*.

## Character names:

**Adelgard** – Ay-dle-gard  
**Adel** – Ah-dell  
**Telemachus** – Te-lem-ah-cuss  
**Berit** – Bear-it  
**Oppia** – Ah-pia  
**Dreda** – Dree-da  
**Ruso** – Roo-so  
**Wulfula** – Vull-fyoo-la  
**Linde** - Linda  
**Gaiseric** – Gay-sir-ik  
**Eadric** – Ed-rick

## Visigoth terms:

**Aipei** – Eye-pay (“Mother” Visigoth. Pronunciation is unknown. This is how I imagined it).  
**Atta** – Ah-ta (“Father” Visigoth. Pronunciation is unknown. This is how I imagined it).

## Latin words:

**Salve** – Sal-way - *hello*.  
**Scutum** – Sk-you-tum - *shield*, specifically the large, curved shield of Roman legionaries.  
**Rudes** – rood-ace -(plural: rudis) wooden practice *sword*. Sometimes refers to a gladiator’s reward of freedom.  
**Medicus** – med-ik-os- (plural medici) *medic/physician*.

## Gladiator Terms:

**Magister** – Ma-gis-ter (plural: magistri) gladiator trainer/coach assigned to a specific fighting style.  
**Doctore** – dock-tor-ay - overseer above the magister (head coach).  
**Lanista** - manager of the gladiator school.  
**Crupellarius** – crue-pel-ar-ee-oos - heavily armored fighter in plate armor resembling a medieval knight.  
**Provocator** – Pro-vo-cay-tur - heavy armor, gladius and scutum. Paired against another provocator.  
**Secutor** – sec-you-tor - heavy armor, rounded helmet, gladius and shield. Paired against a Retiarius.  
**Murmillo** – mer-mee-lo - Roman style armor, gladius and large shield. Paired against a Hoplomachus or Thraex.  
**Hoplomachus** – hop-lo-mac-oos - (plural hoplomachi) large stature, Greek inspired armor and fighting style. Paired against murmillo, thraex or retiarius.  
**Dimachaerus** – dee-ma-care-oos - ambidexterous, fought with two long swords.  
**Thraex/Thracian** - Thracian fighting style with small, round or square shield and curved sword.  
**Bestiarius** – best-ee-ar-ee-oos (plural bestiarii) unarmed criminal pitted against wild animals for execution.  
**Cestus** – kes-toos - fist-fighter.  
**Venatore** – ven-ah-tor-ay - Animal fighter/hunter.  
**Retiarius** – ret-ee-ar-ee-oos - (plural: retiarii) fought with a net and trident but little to no armor.  
**Laquerarii** – la-kwe-raw-ree - fought with a lasso and dagger.  
**Eques** – eh-kwees - fought on horseback  
**Essedarii** – ess-ed-ar-ee - fought from a chariot.

Pic from my visit to the Colosseum



Adel in the arena

original artwork by Jenelle Hovde



scutum  
(shield)



Colosseum floor with view of the underground hypogeum passageways

DAUGHTER  
OF THE  
REBELLION  
MOOD BOARD



victor's crown of laurels

gladius



# DAUGHTER OF THE REBELLION

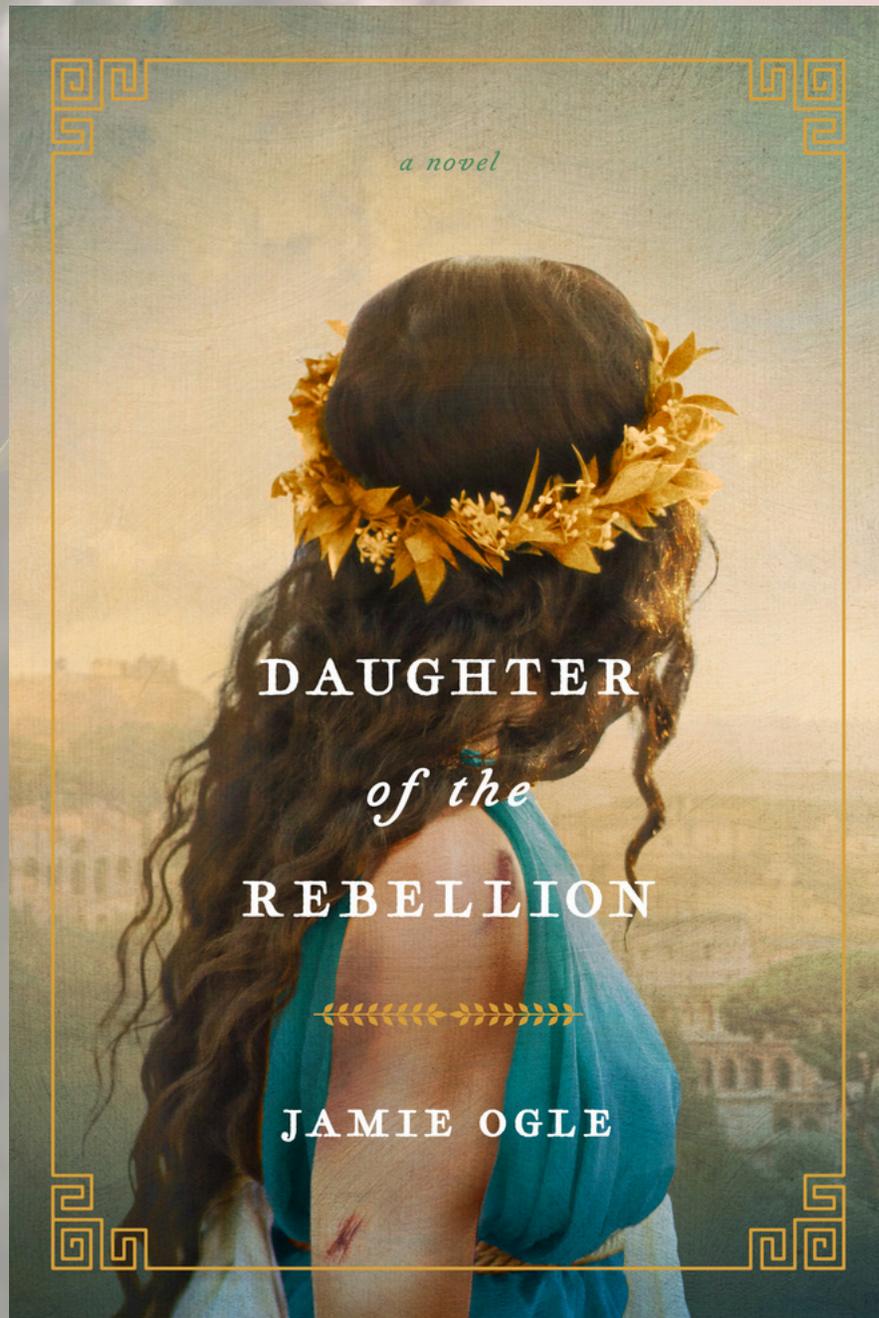
## BOOK CLUB NOTES



DATE

A series of horizontal dashed lines providing a template for writing notes.

*Thanks for choosing*



*for your book club!*

Eager for more stories from Jamie Ogle?  
Be sure to check out *Of Love and Treason*  
and *As Sure as the Sea*.

And don't forget to look for Jamie's next  
Roman Empire novel, coming in 2027 from  
Tyndale House Publishers!

Join the conversation at

crazy4  
fiction  
.com