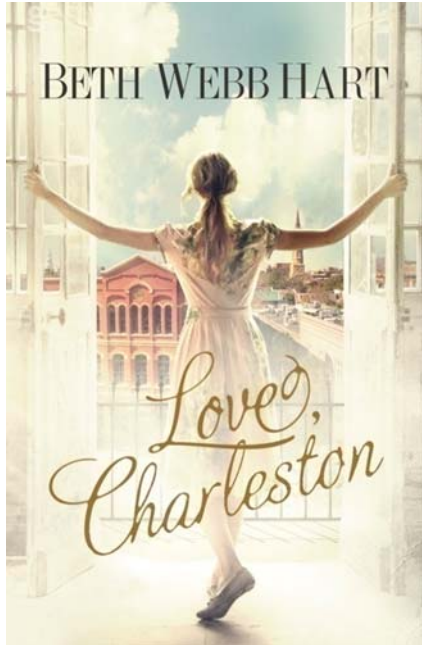


## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Contact: Marjory Wentworth, marjwpub@bellsouth.net  
843-971-6930 / 843-693-5191



### **An inspiring, heart-warming novel set in romantic Charleston, South Carolina**

(Nashville, Tenn.) Arguably one of the smartest voices of Southern fiction in recent years, award-winning author Beth Webb Hart marries the rich language of literary fiction with the beauty of bygone Southern sophistication in her critically acclaimed new novel, *Love, Charleston*.

Charleston's Anne Brumley has long dreamed of romance while ringing the bells at St. Michael's, but those dreams are beginning to fade. Her sister Alicia and cousin Della encourage her to strike out and make her own way—after all, she's thirty-six. But the tall redhead is sure God said, "Stay here and wait."

Widower Roy Summerall has happily ministered to the country folks of Church of the Good Shepherd for years. So why would the Lord call him and his daughter away to Charleston—the city that Roy remembers from his childhood as pretentious and superficial? Surely the refined congregation of St. Michael's won't accept a reverend with a red neck and a simple faith.

Meanwhile, Anne's sister, Alicia, struggles with her husband's ambition which seems to be taking him further and further from their dreams of a happy family together. And Cousin Della's former fiancé has returned to Charleston, making her wonder if she chose the wrong path when she married her gifted but struggling-artist husband.

Family, friendship, and faith converge in a beautiful story about how God's transforming love works in the Holy City of Charleston.

### **Praise for Beth's most recent book, *The Wedding Machine*:**

*The Wedding Machine* is an "...engrossing novel with weddings as the centerpiece. ...Hart's writing is lovely, her characters endearing, and humor leavens the darker moments. Midlife women will find plenty to relate to, and the wedding plot line is an invitation to myriad details on food, decorations and points of Southern etiquette."

- *Publishers Weekly*

"In Jasper, S.C., no bride worth her salt gets hitched without the assistance of the Wedding Guild, a group of four fearsome women who have been friends ever since they conspired to steal a watermelon in high

school. Beth Webb Hart, author of 'Grace at Low Tide,' brings us their story, told in alternating points of view.

“With humor and warmth, *The Wedding Machine* serves up an endearing slice of life. Old South eccentricities mesh nicely with the spirit of the New South, and it’s clear that the author, an S.C. native, is in comfortable territory. Her charismatic cast of characters resonates long after the last page is turned.”

- *The Charlotte Observer*

“*The Wedding Machine* is one of the most charming books I’ve read in a long, long time. The local belles of Jasper, South Carolina comprise the wedding guild, a group of unforgettable women who made me laugh, cry, and cheer—as all good weddings do.”

- *Cassandra King, best-selling author of The Same Sweet Girls*

“Beth Webb Hart writes a beautiful story with compassion and an unerring eye to detail as she peeks behind the white lace, the polished silver, and the artfully arranged flowers of traditional southern weddings to reveal the hidden flaws and secrets of four women friends. Reading it, you’ll feel like a member of the wedding.”

- *Mary Alice Monroe, best-selling author of Swimming Lessons*

#### About the Author:



Beth Webb Hart, a South Carolina native, holds a B.A. in English Literature from Hollins College and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from Sarah Lawrence College. Her first novel, *Grace at Low Tide*, was one of three finalists for the 2006 Christy Awards in the general/contemporary/fiction category. Her second novel, *Adelaide Piper*, was selected for Books-a-Million’s book club and for their national book of the month for December, 2006. Both titles were included in the “Top 10 Inspirational Novels of 2006” by *Booklist*, the American Library Association’s review journal. Her third novel, *The Wedding Machine*, became a best-seller in August of 2008. Hart has served on the faculty of the South Carolina Writers Workshop and lectures on the craft of fiction writing throughout the region. She has taught on the college, high school and intermediate level where she received two national awards from Scholastic, Inc. She currently serves as the writer-in-residence at Ashley Hall and her fourth novel, *Love, Charleston* will hit bookstores this September, 2010.

For more information about Beth Webb Hart, please visit [www.bethwebbhart.com](http://www.bethwebbhart.com) or [www.thomasnelson.com](http://www.thomasnelson.com).

Available September 2010

Thomas Nelson

\$14.99 Trade Paper

978-1-59554-201-4

###