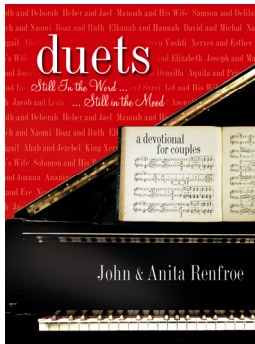


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## IF LOVE IS LIKE A SONG, HOW DO COUPLES PREVENT THEIR MARRIAGE FROM HITTING A SOUR NOTE?

Women of Faith Speaker and Comedienne, Anita Renfroe and husband, John Renfroe Instruct Couples on Making Beautiful Music Together



(Atlanta, GA): If romance is like a song, and the couple singing is a duet...many people wonder if their relationship is hitting a high note, a sour note, or if they're even hearing the same tune. "It's tough to keep the music playing in today's marriage with other sounds vying for our attention and drowning out the rhythms that first drew us together," says comedienne **Anita Renfroe**.

Renfroe, who became an overnight Internet sensation when a three-minute video of her singing everything a mother says to her children in a single day to "The William Tell Overture" was viewed by millions, believes that a marital virtuoso is possible, but requires work from both partners. "For some, the music may seem like it's not quite coming together as they had envisioned and for others, it seems they have quit listening to the music all together," says Renfroe.

In their new book, ***Duets: Still in the Word... Still in the Mood*** (David C. Cook Publishers), Anita Renfroe and her husband, **John Renfroe**, follow up their best-selling intimacy devotional *Songs in the Keys of Solomon*, by examining the relationship high and lows of couples in the Bible through 52 devotions that are designed to initiate meaningful conversations.

The Renfroes remind couples that the challenges and victories they face today are similar issues that couples faced in biblical times. "We address issues that speak to couples at a heart level, that engage couples to talk and think about their lives," says Anita. "We believe all discussions are valuable to a marriage, we encourage heated discussions over morality issues that will protect your marriage. The decisions you make as a couple will always lead you either closer to God or farther away."

*Duets* gives couples the marital business of some well-known (and not so well-known) couples in the Bible. A sampling of some of the couple who sing their songs uniquely and some others whose songs serve as cautionary tales in *Duets* include:

- Adam and Eve (*Go Along, Get Along, Get It Wrong*): Dealing with and confronting vital issues in a marriage.
- Mr. and Mrs. Noah (*Disemb-ark-ing*): Trusting God through life-altering circumstances.
- Lot and his wife (*Life in the Rearview Mirror*): Understanding each person's responsibility for their own actions.
- Joseph and Asenath (*Beautiful Amnesia*): Realizing that some things in life will never be made right, but the power of a strong, loving family can help us forget ugly, past memories.
- Boaz and Ruth (*In with the In-laws*): Honoring your in-laws. Boaz brought honor to Naomi by choosing to provide for her and take her in to his home.
- Joseph and Mary (*No Excuses*): Living up to the task they had been given. Unified dedication in purpose by raising a boy named Jesus.

~more~

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- Ahab and Jezebel (*Power-Tripped*): A couple who would have been mean and vicious separately became a power couple to be feared when you combined their worst traits.
- Ananias and Sapphira (*Real-Estate Roulette*): Pretending to be spiritual and generous. This spiritual fronting masked a marriage with no real substance and a casual regard for matters of integrity.

Some lesser-known couples featured in *Duets* include Heber and Jael (*Femme Assassin*), Xerxes and Esther (*Your Wish is My Command*), Elkanah and Hannah (*Whatever You Think is Best*), Lappidoth and Deborah (*Mr. Deborah, I Presume*), Manoah and his wife (*Here's How I See It*) and Chuza and Joanna (*Where Your Treasure Is*).

As the follow up to *Songs in the Key of Solomon*, the Renfroes' have written *Duets* as an encore, with more daily meditations to deepen the emotional, spiritual, and physical unity between couples, while exploring new levels of intimacy.

“Every choice we make as a couple is reinforced by the fact that it was thought up by one party or ratified by the other— in effect doubling the strength of the decision,” says Anita. “This can build integrity and character in a marriage, but magnify the intensity of wrong choices...God is looking for oneness between a husband and wife — details do matter.”

Couples will participate in discussions and interactive, fun assignments in the “Listen,” “Our Part,” “High Note or Low Note” and “Your Part and Your Duet” sections. Women readers will appreciate *Duets* as it provides the opportunity to deepen spiritual intimacy with their man. Men will enjoy participating because it links spiritual activity with physical intimacy, while the content isn't too serious for them. The Renfroes' hope is that couples would feel more unified in their marriage and rather than coexist, begin to truly appreciate each other while growing closer together.

**About the Authors:** John and Anita Renfroe are partners in life, work and ministry. A pastor for more than 20 years, John has worked with Anita on her successful comedic performance and writing career, which includes several bestselling books, performing to arena-sized audiences and writing comedy sketches for television. Anita has been featured on *Good Morning America*, CNN and in *The New York Times*, *Readers Digest*, *Women's Day* and *The Washington Post*. The Renfroes and their three "semi-grown" children live in suburban Atlanta. Anita Renfroe's other books include *Don't Say I Didn't Warn You*, *If You Can't Lose It*, *Decorate It* and *If It's Not One Thing, It's Your Mother*.

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## Suggested Interview Questions for John and Anita Renfroe, authors of *Duets*

1. What can couples expect from reading *Duets*, and how does this differ from other couple's devotionals?
2. What is your advice for couples who can't seem to get in tune with each other, or a newly marriage couple who wonder if married life will get easier?
3. How did you decide which couples to feature in *Duets*? Why do you feel Biblical couples are relevant to today's couples?
4. What are some of the activities for couples in the book? How do they benefit a relationship?
5. Who are some couples that hit a high note and what do they teach us?
6. Who are some couples that hit a low note and what caution do they provide?
7. What features in *Duets* will keep men and women's attention to the devotionals and on each other?
8. Why are couples hesitant to discuss sensitive and controversial topics?
9. Please explain your thoughts that "every decision needs to run through the filter of 'legacy' and not based on the moment."
10. You write that intense discussions and differing viewpoints are healthy for a marriage. Please explain?
11. How does family history impact a marriage? (*The Apple Doesn't Fall* chapter)
12. What is your message to couples facing life changing circumstances (*Disembarking*)?
13. Why do you believe honoring your in-laws can bless a marriage? (*In with the In-laws*)
14. How can a couple deal with the silent moments? (*I Seriously Doubt It*)
15. Why is it important to remind yourself of your spouse's good traits? (*Power Tripped*)
16. How can parents enjoy life together after their children leave home?
17. What are some high and low notes you have endured in your marriage? How did keep making beautiful music together?
18. How have you stay a happily married couple for over twenty years?
19. How are you able to work together and still have a successful marriage?
20. What song best represents your marriage and why?