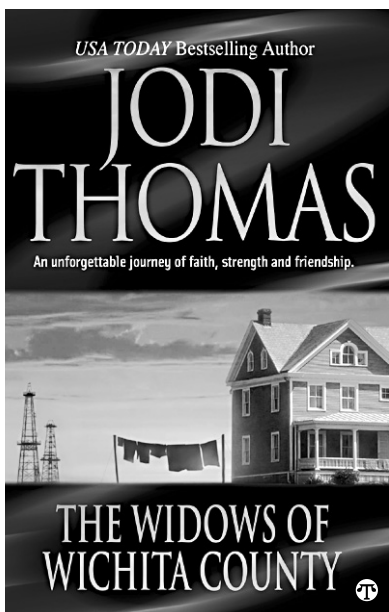




BOOK NEWS & NOTES

New Novel Tells The Story Of Texas Widows

(NAPSA)—A chance meeting with five women on a flight to Amarillo, Texas provided best-selling author Jodi Thomas with the inspiration for her latest novel.



Historical author Jodi Thomas has created a contemporary story about women who deal with friendship, loss and survival.

Said Thomas, "That experience gave me the idea for a book about five women who are thrown together by chance and bond for life. The story haunted me until I finally wrote *The Widows of Wichita County* (MIRA Books, \$6.50), my first mainstream novel."

The story begins with five women in a small-town hospital waiting to learn which one is not a widow from an oil rig accident near Wichita Falls, Texas. The women become friends, supporting each other through the challenges that life throws in their way.

The book is Thomas's 17th and her first contemporary novel. It's available wherever books are sold.

To learn more, visit the Web site at www.mirabooks.com.