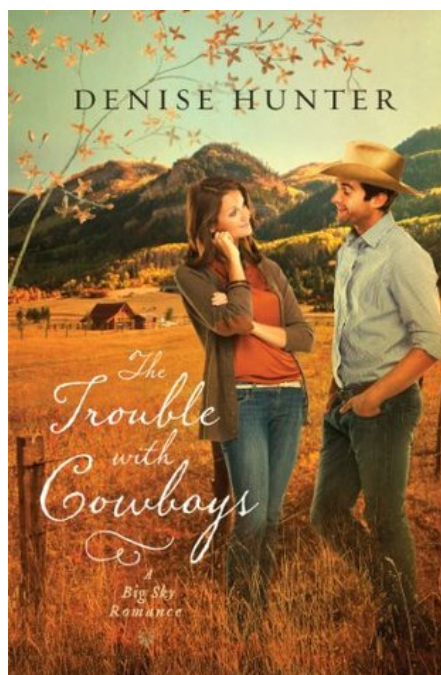




The Trouble with Cowboys

Denise Hunter

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Only one pair of boots - and the cowboy wearing them - can get Annie out of the mess she's in.

Annie Wilkerson is Moose Creek's premiere horse trainer and equine columnist for Montana Living. Money is tight as she tries to put her kid-sister through college and provide for her young nephew. When Annie's column is cancelled, she's given first shot at a new lovelorn column - and she can't afford to turn it down. Only problem is...Annie's never been in love.

Always resourceful, she reluctantly strikes a deal with the town's smooth-talking ladies' man Dylan Taylor: She'll work with his ailing horse, Braveheart, if he'll help her answer the reader letters.

Working closely with Dylan is harder than Annie imagined, and she quickly realizes she may have misjudged him. But her unwavering conviction that cowboys are nothing but trouble has kept her heart safe for years. And she can't risk getting hurt now.

The more Annie tries to control things, the more they fall apart. Her feelings are spinning out of control, and her sister's antics are making life increasingly more difficult. Annie knows she needs to turn the reins over to God, but surrender has never come easily.

When Dylan reveals his feelings for her, Annie doesn't know what to trust - her head or her heart. The trouble with this cowboy is that he might just be exactly what she needs.

The Trouble with Cowboys Details

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From Reader Review The Trouble with Cowboys for online ebook

Kathy * Bookworm Nation says

I enjoyed this one. I've read this series out of order, but luckily its one where the books stand on their own. I'd actually like to read more in this series, its a fun setting.

I liked Annie and Dylan. They have good chemistry and it was fun to watch their relationship unfold. Annie's sister drove me nuts, she was so ungrateful and since Annie is always bailing her out of trouble she has never learned to take responsibility for anything. I have doubts about her HEA. Anyway, I liked the growth that Dylan and Annie went through and was happy with how everything turned out.

Overall, a fun read. I enjoyed all the books in this series and look forward to checking out more of Ms. Hunters books.

Content: Clean. Religious content I would say is mild-moderate. Not too preachy and does not overshadow the story.

Holly (2 Kids and Tired) says

A light, clean Christian story about faith, family, romance and cowboys. My reaction through most of this book though was, "seriously?". I get fluffy romances and that women love cowboys, but this one was just too implausible for me. Dylan and Annie were likeable enough characters, but the idea that she couldn't write a lovelorn column on her own and needed the help of a man she doesn't like was far-fetched. And, Annie's sister Sierra was seriously annoying. Honestly, she ruined any enjoyment of this book for me with her selfish antics.

Third in the Big Sky Romance trilogy, you can read my reviews of A Cowboy's Touch and The Accidental Bride. The books stand alone well but, like with most series, reading all the books helps with character development and history. This one was my least favorite of the series and I enjoyed The Accidental Bride the most. Fans of Denise Hunter will love it and most reviews I've seen are much more positive than mine.

Caitlyn Santi says

Denise Hunter has become one of my favorite contemporary romance authors! This was a really good read that I very much enjoyed! I liked both Annie and Dylan, they were both great characters, and I don't want to spoil anything but the moment in which Dylan held Wade's eleven month old son on the porch swing just totally made me melt, there is just something about a man with a baby, be still my heart! :D

I have not read the first two books in this series and while I don't think it was necessary as the books in this series do stand alone I found myself really wanting to read them and see Dylan and Annie's first introductions!

I especially loved all the similarities to Pride and Prejudice, it was really neat to see loose similarities to that classic as the story went on! As a lifelong rider and horse trainer, Annie's occupation was a huge part of the reason why I wanted to read this book, and the story with Braveheart was great, I loved the metaphorical message beneath the surface, but honestly the horse scenes in this book really left me wanting, it wasn't that

they were bad or inaccurate, they weren't, it's just that they were fairly simple with not that much detail and I was disappointed that the character's passion for horses and the feeling of just how special and amazing it is to have a partnership with such an amazing animal didn't really come across. At least I didn't really feel it, it is obvious that Denise Hunter did her homework and I applaud her for that, this is probably something that only an equestrian would notice and doesn't stop The Trouble with Cowboys from being a great book that I will probably read again, the book just didn't feature as much of the "Magic!" (If you will) as I had hoped to see! It also would have been great if there had been even more horse scenes!

Overall I really enjoyed The Trouble with Cowboys and look forward to reading the first two books in the Big Sky romance series as well as Denise's other books in the future!

I did not get this book to review, I read it simply for pleasure!

Casey says

I was talking with a friend about this novel and I realized just how much I really enjoyed this last book in the Moose Creek series. It has such a fun quality to the story, but holding onto that mature (note: not edgy) texture I've come to expect from the author's talented pen.

This last book set in Moose Creek, Montana might be my favorite of the three. Maybe it was the characters. Maybe it was the dialogue. Maybe it was because it felt like a forbidden romance that was thriving to succeed anyway. Whatever it was, I thought this book was more than worth the hours I spent reading it.

Dylan is a bad boy hero after my own heart. Now in real life, I'll take the man who's livin' the straight and narrow, but in fiction, give me the bad boy any day. Hmm, saying something more about me then maybe I want to admit? ;-)

Annie is a sweet heroine, but she has her spunk and spark. Nothing is easy for this girl and I had to respect her need to provide and protect those she loved. But watching her release those worries and fears was one of the best places in the book.

Truly, a blissful romance. I'm sorry to see the series come to an end, but ever so eager for news on the next tale sure to give my heart a sigh.

This review is my honest opinion. Thanks to the publishers through Litfuse for my copy to review.

Robbin says

okay I enjoyed reading this one the only thing that made my eye twitch was the younger sister. The younger sister became pregnant at 16 and is now 20 but she really got on my nerves. She is so immature she quits every job her older sister scrapes to get for her and stays out all night with "friends" leaving the son with older sister to watch then drags in, in the morning and screams that she's grown and to leave her alone. Except she acts like she is still 16 and she's a mother. the whole time the older one is working her butt off and struggling to support herself, the sister and the nephew and the younger sister is like la dee da someone

else will worry about the bills. The younger sister was 5 classes away from her degree and just up and quits college after her older sister has spent over \$30,000 in tuition for her to go to school so she could get a good job. And anytime there is an argument she gets the son and gets in her car and storms off leaving her sister to worry about everything else. It was a good book but I couldn't stand the younger sister and honestly she kind of ruined it for me.

Dawn says

Well, I read *The Trouble with Cowboys* in less than two days. Actually, it was more like I devoured it. And I knew it would end up with my doing so. Denise Hunter's writing always does that to me. I know without a shadow of a doubt that I will be ALL IN once I start one of her books.

The Trouble with Cowboys is the third book in her latest series called *Big Sky Romance*. I've had the fortune to read and review each of these books as they've come out in the last year or so. I'm not one to necessarily pick up a contemporary romance in the first place—as historical romance is more my addiction—so it's something to say that Denise Hunter's stellar writing and story-telling makes me turn from the norm time and time again.

The Trouble with Cowboys was a ride and a half. I adored the main characters, the minor characters and their subplots. I loved how everything is so intricately related, and how the reader is able to draw some important conclusions along the way from the strategically placed hints throughout the book. But holy cow, it doesn't matter what or how many conclusions you might gather as you read, your jaw is still dropped when you discover the truth. And that is why I LOVE Denise Hunter's books!

Life is messy, and she has a way of taking the messy lives of her characters, revealing God's truth to them, pointing them in the right direction and then giving them the deepest desires and dreams of their hearts—the one's they didn't think they'd ever deserve.

I was given a paperback copy of this book by Thomas Nelson in order to read and give my honest review. I give Denise Hunter's *The Trouble with Cowboys* 5 Stars.

JenniferJ says

I wanted to shake Annie so hard! It is clear Dylan is head over heels for her but she can't get over her misconceptions that all cowboys are trouble and refuse to let him get close to her. She tries so hard to put a man in between them that is comfortable to her but boring as day old soup. They so obviously are a mixed matched couple but Annie is so hard headed because of heartaches her family has had to deal with involving cowboys in the past. This always tends to gripe me about how folks stereotype others because of things somebody else has done.

Annie is a good person and awesome character that she tries very hard to do the right things but in doing so she comes off as hard and tight lipped especially to her younger sister which causes way more problems than it's worth. Thru the better first half of the story I felt she really needed a good roll in the hay to loosen her feathers a bit but she woulda probable done so with the stuffy banker, John whom I couldn't stand!

This story is about letting go of the reins and living a bit as well as understanding no matter how good your intentions you can't live another's life for them..all you can do is be there when they need you and let folks

learn from their own mistakes.

Amber Stokes says

The Trouble with Cowboys is a romance story that resonated with me. Not only was it a lot of fun being plopped into Moose Creek with its country charm - and witnessing the charm of a certain cowboy as he played the part of a gentleman, while still being a bit (?) of a flirt - but it was also wonderful to encounter a depth to the story that hits strong at the end.

Annie and Dylan are too cute together! There are plenty of sweet scenes to satisfy the romantic heart. (Although I must confess that I find a boy flirting with a girl who already has a boyfriend much "cuter" and more "romantic" in a book than I probably would in real life.) In return for some romantic advice from Dylan for her new column in a magazine, Annie helps Braveheart, Dylan's horse, to try to cope with blindness... But in the meantime Annie and Dylan each have their own "blindness" that requires a "brave heart" to persevere through while learning to "see" in new ways. It's an enjoyable journey for the reader - but not without its serious struggles regarding misunderstandings, prejudice, and learning to let go.

The family angle is easy to relate to, and I found the message about trusting in God to be presented in a moving and inspiring way. The Trouble with Cowboys is just what I look for in Christian contemporary romance - an engaging romance, an interesting setting, great secondary characters, and a faith lesson (or two) that I can take to heart.

With thanks to the publisher for providing me a copy of the book in exchange for my honest opinion, to be shared during the Litfuse Publicity blog tour.

Joy says

Meet the most unqualified relationship columnist ever.

Annie Wilkerson is just trying to keep her head above water. With a younger sister and her sister's child to take care of, Annie can't afford life to throw her any kind of curve balls. But who said life was fair. Her horse advice column is cut from the newspaper and now she has one choice....start writing for the relationship column or not eat. One problem...she's never been in love before.

Dylan isn't used to women being immune to his charms. Annie is one tough cookie to crack. She's an expert with horses and that's what he really needs. He's desperate and so is she so he strikes her up a deal....he can help her with her relationship column and she can help him with his horse going blind.

Denise Hunter is a master storyteller I've had the pleasure of getting to know her work. I recommend this book for ages 13+ for some mature (non graphic and non sexual) content.

Chanel says

The Trouble with Cowboys is about a woman named Annie Wilkerson, who exchanges her service to help the blind horse of Dylan Taylor for his help with her lovelorn column. Since Annie has never been in love,

she figures Dylan Taylor, the town's smooth-talking, flirty cowboy, can help her with the column. The more they work together, the more sparks fly - but Annie is wary to put up walls because she knows to never trust cowboys...especially when it comes to the heart.

This is a cute read, overall. I enjoyed it, flying through it quickly. Denise Hunter is a talented writer and the whole series was fun to read. I wish I got more of Annie and Dylan together with their walls down like the car wash scene. I also wish the lovelorn column was more prominent to the story and continued through to the end, I was anticipating more romantic debates but the story feature fizzled out midway. Bummer.

The only negative to this book was Annie's sister, Sierra. (Sorry, but I really need to rant about this character.) I almost missed the message of Annie letting go of control in her relationship with Sierra because it seemed like Annie wasn't the big problem. Sierra was. She's flighty and inconsiderate, letting Annie shoulder the financial burden of taking care of Sierra and her child while she refuses to keep a job to help their situation. She keeps insisting throughout the book that she is an adult, but in truth she acts like a child. I don't think Annie should have been the one always apologizing for what went wrong in their relationship. I think that's what bothered me most about Annie's relationship with Sierra. If Sierra wanted to prove her independence and responsibility as an adult, she should have done it with substantial action and not by slamming doors and throwing tantrums. Ugh! Sorry. She is just a minor character, but I found her irritating. But anyways, I wouldn't let the side character deter you.

Overall, the book is sweet. There's chemistry, flirtations and rebuffs, and the story pacing is good.

Lisa Johnson says

Title: The Trouble with Cowboys

Author: Denise Hunter

Pages: 304

Year: 2012

Publisher: Thomas Nelson

What pictures do the thoughts of the western sky, horseback riding or cowboys bring to your mind? There are many who have written books about westerns, romances, love, forgiveness, and God. I am sure you have read some of these that weren't worth the paper they were printed on; however, let me assure you that this isn't one of them.

What makes this story unique is that it centers on the relationships of a few characters with little distraction. It is written in a style that makes you want to read more as well as know the God who is the center of the characters' lives. The characters are that of two brothers from one family and two sisters from another, each with a history that comes out the more you progress through the story.

Annie is the oldest and lives with her sister Sierra and her nephew Ryder in a small town where she holds two jobs. Annie works with horses and continues writing her advice on how to care for horses like her grandfather before her had. Now, with times changing, the paper wants her to write advice about love, something Annie feels she knows little about, but maybe Dylan can help. Her perspective of him makes him the one who seems to have more knowledge and wisdom to help answer the questions readers send in. However, is Dylan really like the person she has judged him to be?

Dylan has a ranch he works hard to keep up and needs Annie's help when one of his horses, Braveheart, goes blind and he doesn't have the heart to put him down. What are Dylan's choices and exactly what happens when he finds himself stranded in a cabin with Annie when his truck breaks down?

Sierra is one month away from graduating. She has told no one who fathered Ryder. Now, when the end seems so close, she quits school and leaves town without telling Annie where she is going. Sierra wants Annie to quit mothering her, but Annie feels compelled to keep a deathbed promise. Sierra has absolutely no

idea about this promise. Then Ryder's father comes to town. Hiding out seems her only option even though he has no idea he has a son. What else is going to happen to show Annie who is really in control?

The novel is full of themes, but one tends to outshine the others: God can make all things new. From past mistakes to recent ones, if we will believe and trust Him, it is amazing the transformation that occurs. There are also comes a time when deciding to make a right decision, no matter the depth of difficulty, because it pleases God. This is the last book of three in the series, A Big Sky Romance. Don't let the word romance fool you. The author puts more into the story than you can imagine. Of course, the greatest romance mankind can have is the one with their redeemer, Jesus Christ.

My rating is 4 stars.

Note: I received a complimentary copy for an honest review of this book. The opinions shared in this review are solely my responsibility. Other reviews can be read at <http://seekingwithallyurheart.blogspot...> . Also follow me on Twitter @lcjohnson1988, FaceBook at <https://www.facebook.com/lisa.johnson...>

Erin says

The third and final installment of The Big Sky Romance series, "The Trouble With Cowboys" by Denise Hunter, doesn't disappoint. While some authors are devoted to pumping out books like a bubble gum factory, Denise has a way of writing characters that leave an imprint on your heart that you won't forget. You don't mind that you have to wait for months in between novels because you always know what you're going to get in return: consistent storylines with memorable characters and a lesson that will help grow your faith.

Forced to grow up too fast, Annie Wilkerson makes a promise to her dying grandfather and takes on the responsibility of caring for her unruly teenage sister. Determined to put her sister through college, Annie is a horse trainer by day and moonlights as the writer for a column solely devoted to imparting her wisdom as a trainer. However, as the world becomes more and more attached that wonderful invention called the 'internet' (thanks, Al Gore...) she learns from her editor that her column is being replaced by a topic that you can never have enough answers for: love, and they want Annie to write it. Wholly unqualified to write a column for the local lovelorn, Annie seeks the advice of all-knowing and confident Dylan Taylor. After all, he's romanced just about every woman in Moose Creek... he has to know SOMETHING about love, right?

The budding friendship and firecracker chemistry that existed between Annie and Dylan will keep you turning the pages until the very last one. Some of the one-liners that Dylan would throw at Annie even had me rolling my eyes at times, but Annie was just the girl to put him in his place. While I LOVED this story, I am so disappointed that I won't be returning to Moose Creek, Montana any time soon. (But that's why I keep the books I love - to revisit!) Since we had the pleasure of a visit from Sawyer Smitten in this novel, perhaps we'll get to read about Moose Creek's best-loved residents in another story in the future. (Fingers crossed!)

I received an Advanced Reader Copy of "The Trouble With Cowboys" from the author in exchange for my honest opinion and review (thanks for signing it, Denise!). A positive review was not required, only an honest one. I am so honored that she chose to bless me with an advanced copy. I can only hope that I have returned the favor of the blessing with my review.

Kav says

If you have a cowboy hat grab it quick -- you'll need it to fan yourself when the heat starts rising from these smoldering pages. Be still my heart. The trouble with cowboys indeed! And you know what? You might

want to have a fire brigade on standby -- ready to put out any fires that might start courtesy of all the sparks flying between Dylan and Annie. Phew! This is one toe-curling, heart-stomping read.

Hunter showcases God's grace through the messy lives of this hero and heroine. Love the depth in the faith thread -- it's simple and powerful but often hard to remember when we are in the midst of life's trials. And if the romance isn't enough to discombobulate you, the twists and turns in the plot will finish the job. Ah, the sweet stuff rabid readers are made from!

Mackenzie Carol says

The Trouble with Cowboys is the third book in Denise Hunter's A Big Sky Romance series, coming after A Cowboy's Touch and The Accidental Bride. I have really, really loved this series so far, but I think this novel is my favorite of the three. The story was just so completely perfect, and I loved Dylan from the first moment I met him back in A Cowboy's Touch so I was super excited to find out he was getting his own book. Once I started this story and was introduced to Annie, I found I loved her just as much, and I knew that they were a perfect match, so I was cheering for them from day one.

Annie Wilkerson is by far my favorite female character from this series. Although I didn't always agree with the way she bossed her little sister Sierra around—even though that's probably exactly how I would be if I were in her situation—I still loved her fire and determination and her love for Sierra and her son. She is such a hard worker and just wants to do her best by her sister and the promise she made to their grandfather on his deathbed, and that is something worth admiring. Plus, I just love the way that Denise shows how human Annie really is. She struggles with fear and control just like so many others, and I love how Denise weaves that in, and shows how Annie can be open and realize her faults and learn to fix them.

Dylan Taylor is definitely one of my favorite characters in this series, but I haven't yet decided if he or Travis from the second book is my absolute favorite. I love them both. Dylan may seem like a bit of a womanizer at first, but I knew from the start that it was just a façade to hide something deeper going on, and as I made my way through this book and learned the truth behind his scars, I couldn't help loving him all the more. My heart went out to him, especially as I watched him set aside his fears and open his heart to Annie, and that just made this book so much more enjoyable for me.

All in all, I really loved this book, and I've already given it a permanent place on my all-time favorites list. Clearly, I can't give The Trouble with Cowboys anything other than all five bookshelves, and it has just helped me to remember once again why I love Denise and her writing. I'm so glad I had the chance to read more of her older novels, and now I'm even more excited for her latest book, Just a Kiss, that releases next month!

(This review is from my blog, spreadinghisgrace.blogspot.com)

Lisa says

Denise Hunter hit a home run with the leading men in her Big Sky series and Dylan Taylor was someone I had wanted to know more about since the first book, The Cowboy's Touch. He came across as a total ladies' man, but I always knew there was a heart of gold underneath the Casanova front. The heroine, Annie, was a great character, but she could frustrate the daylights out of you with her pride and prejudices. This book was about letting go of control and letting God control, which is a hard lesson to learn. It was a thoroughly enjoyable finale to the series, and I'm going to miss Moose Creek.
