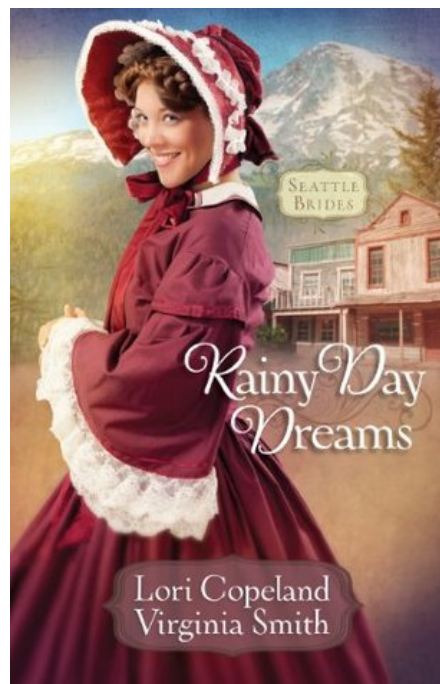




Rainy Day Dreams

Lori Copeland , Virginia Smith

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Beloved Christian fiction authors Lori Copeland and Virginia Smith team up once more in the second volume of the Seattle Brides series. When the Burgert family moves to Seattle in 1852, Kathryn is convinced her father has destroyed her life. The backwoods settlement offers none of the comforts and culture she loves in San Francisco. She cares nothing for the new sawmill the townsfolk are so excited about. That is, until she meets Jason, a lumberjack with dreams for a bright future. As she comes to know Jason, Kathryn can't help catching his vision. But the future they hope for is anything but secure. There are some who see Seattle as a threat and will stop at nothing to make sure the sawmill fails. With the harsh and rugged weather, at times it seems even the land itself is determined to thwart Seattle's very existence. Kathryn and Jason's plans for a happy future become entwined with Seattle's struggle to survive in the midst of adversity, both manmade and natural. A gripping story of love, tenderness, and survival in the rugged Pacific Northwest.

Rainy Day Dreams Details

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Author : Lori Copeland , Virginia Smith

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From Reader Review Rainy Day Dreams for online ebook

Sandy Thompson says

I liked this book so much better than the first!

Erin H. (ITIO Book Reviews) says

The publisher gave me a copy of this book to read and review (from NetGalley). This has, in no way, altered my opinion of the book and what is written below is a 100% honest review.

It's not often that I find a Christian romance that is set in Seattle. I must confess that is one of the major reasons I picked up this book. I've never read a book by either of these authors, but I enjoyed this one.

There wasn't a overly preachy tone to it which pleased me. Some Christian fiction becomes nothing more than a overbearing sermon and that grates on my nerves. Between the characters and the story plot, the authors did an excellent job of inserting Christian themes, but not "overdoing" it.

This novel had a unique plot. A young woman, Kathryn, ventures to Seattle because her father wished it. She hates the town at first and, of course, the horrid weather. Soon, she finds herself falling in love with the kindness of the people that inhabit Seattle and their determination behind developing the small town. Kathryn also feels drawn to a certain lovely gent, Jason Gates. At times, I felt like Kathryn and Jason's relationship was a bit forced, so I cannot say with 100% certainty that they definitely belonged together. It seemed like Jason went straight from hating her to being interested her in the next chapter. The story also lagged a bit in parts and didn't always keep my interest.

I enjoyed the frightening possible conflict of a nearby indian attack and felt like the authors weaved history into the plot well.

There were a lot of puzzle pieces that appeared out of order throughout the book, but I felt like the authors set everything right in the very end. In fact, I loved that I didn't understand the full background story until the last couple of chapters. It was one of the novel's aspects that kept me interested and reading.

Overall, I'd say that I enjoyed this novel. It isn't something I'll gush about to all of my friends, but it was enjoyable and fun. Chemistry between the two main characters appeared a bit forced and that was a turn-off for me, but the rest of the novel flowed well.

Laura says

The premise was good, but I felt like I spent a lot of time waiting for the story to pick up. Once the action started the book ended. An ok read, but forgettable.

Language: clean, heat level: mild.

Julie says

I loved the development of the characters in this book. The book moved at a good speed..that's why I was able to read it in a day! I loved the "twin" part - I'm a twin also which definitely made it all the better! Keep up the great stories Virginia...

Ann Keller says

I loved the descriptions in this book and the starkness of early Seattle. Good characterizations, although love seemed to spring out of nowhere. Perhaps if the book had been about 50 pages longer, the reader would have been able to see the romance build a little bit more. Other than that, a good story line.

Debbie says

I truly enjoyed this second book in the Seattle Brides series. While I found the heroine and the hero a bit aggravating in the beginning of the book, I continued reading because I loved the first book and figured this one was bound to get better, and it did. The history of Seattle alone in this book was wonderful to read. Also, catching up with the characters from the first book was enjoyable.

In Rainy Day Dreams, Kathryn "Katie" Bergert arrives in Seattle after being sent there by her father to find a husband. The hero, Jason Gates, arrives on the same ship as Katie. Jason is the new manager of the local lumberyard. He arrives with a chip on his shoulder and he and Katie do not hit it off.

The tension between Katie and Jason is palpable and creates a lot of angst in this story. Will they be able to get past their differences and realize their true feelings for each other or will love pass them by? How about the rest of Seattle? What will happen to the citizens of Seattle when there is a threat of an Indian attack? Check out this book and see what comes of this town and these two people. Enjoy!

I borrowed this book from my local library.

Arnetta says

A thoroughly enjoyable quick read about a young woman sent to Seattle by her father with the intent of finding a husband - something she does not want to do. It follows her dismay at the 'town' she finds herself in and her struggles along the way. Very fast read and totally enjoyable. It is the follow up to the book - a bride for Noah by same author. that was also a great, quick read.

Maggie Hesseling says

At some points really slow paced, but too interesting to put down. It's slow unfolding keeps you wondering where everything is leading to, but the interesting characters and situation make it all worth the while. With the constant threat of attack, and the need to fit in, this novel has all the great elements of a colony-novel

without all the pilgrim fluff. I love that they are ruled by their faith in a time of need and that color does not seem to matter, rather it is the person (red or white) that determines the goodness. Beautifully elegant, but yet exciting with regard to the time period. Also, you don't often get a historical romance that takes place in Seattle.

Kristen Robison says

I usually enjoy a Lori Copeland book but this one was just okay. It was one of those we hate each other, hate each other, wait...now we're in love kind of books.

Joleen says

Overall: 3.8 stars.

The main message: Letting go of the past and letting God lead you.

Favorite Characters: The Leads, Kathryn and Jason. Although, Miss Everett is from Nevada City and moves to Seattle--I myself am from the Nevada City area and am now living in the Seattle area so I enjoyed that part.

Overall thoughts: This is a cute little tale. I love the historical aspects that are tied in throughout; Denny, Yesler, Chief Seattle. I think the audience that will enjoy this the most is similar to those who read Amish fiction. The plot is simple, light, clean. It's not necessarily a moving piece by any means though is cute and entertaining. If comparing it to an earthquake, I'd say it's a 3.5 on the richter scale; enough to catch your attention but not enough to rock you. To put it another way, it would be like drinking watered-down punch. It's good, it's just not as intense as other novelists like Denise Hunter, Julie Klassen, MaryLu Tyndall, Tamara Alexander. I truly think people who enjoy Amish fiction will enjoy this read.

I have previously read Lori Copeland's Sisters of Mercy Flats and look forward to finishing the series. I will also probably pick up Book #1 in this Seattle Brides series.

I was given a copy of this book via Netgalley for an honest review.

Jalynn Patterson says

About the Book:

Beloved Christian fiction authors Lori Copeland and Virginia Smith team up once more in the second volume of the Seattle Brides series.

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But the future they hope for is anything but secure. There are some who see Seattle as a threat and will stop at nothing to make sure the sawmill fails. With the harsh and rugged weather, at times it seems even the land itself is determined to thwart Seattle's very existence. Kathryn and Jason's plans for a happy future become entwined with Seattle's struggle to survive in the midst of adversity, both man-made and natural.

A gripping story of love, tenderness, and survival in the rugged Pacific Northwest.

About the Authors:

Lori Copeland is the author of more than 90 titles, both historical and contemporary fiction. With more than 3 million copies of her books in print, she has developed a loyal following among her rapidly growing fans in the inspirational market. She has been honored with the Romantic Times Reviewer's Choice Award, The Holt Medallion, and Walden Books' Best Seller award. In 2000, Lori was inducted into the Missouri Writers Hall of Fame. She lives in the beautiful Ozarks with her husband, Lance, and their three children and seven grandchildren.

Virginia Smith is the author of more than 20 inspirational novels and 50 articles and short stories. An avid reader with eclectic tastes in fiction, Ginny writes in a variety of styles, from lighthearted relationship stories to breath-snatching suspense.

My Review:

Sent to Seattle by her father to find a husband, Kathryn is not happy. Being wealthy and an outstanding artist, she has never had a reason to worry about the chores back home because she has always been working on being a very cultured individual. But now after a long trip to Seattle, Kathryn is ready to hit the road again, but it seems that her father has made it nearly impossible to leave. So she has to settle on being an unpaid maid for awhile, a good, long while. As she does her best to settle down there has been numerous Indian attacks. She now worries about her life and the countless others she has grown to love.

Jason came to Seattle to work, not to argue with the misunderstood Kathryn. The woman unnerves him and drives him completely mad. He knows she is only trying to fit in until its time for her to go, which is suppose to be in a few weeks. After the Indian attacks become quite unbearable, Jason feels he needs to protect this crazy woman even if she drives him crazy.

Book 2 in the Seattle Brides series is a great book whether its your first time reading the series or you just happened to pick this one up. The authors are able to convey the feelings of the characters easily and I thoroughly enjoyed the book.

****Disclosure**** This book was sent to me free of charge for my honest review from Harvest House.

Teresa Snyder says

Although I have not yet read book 1 in the series, A Bride for Noah, I did not feel that I was at a big disadvantage. I was able to follow the story and characters. I did feel that it may have been slightly more enjoyable had I know all of the back stories, developed a prior relationship with the characters, but not a

requirement.

For me, the book had a slow beginning. The first half devoted to introducing the two main characters, Jason and Kathryn. Both were rather standoffish, not very friendly, when they first arrived in Seattle on the same boat. Jason running from bad memories, and Kathryn having little to no choice in the matter - her rich father sent her to find a husband. We also get to know the secondary characters - or visit old friends from book 1 if you read the books in order as intended

The second half is where the story picks up, the action occurs, romance blossoms, and a few surprises occur. If, like me, you prefer a romance, with a story attached, you're not going to find it with this book. There's no real chesmerry, courtship, romance. It just kinda happens - I don't like you, I fell in love with you, first kiss. However, there is a pretty good storyline, albeit slow at times, with the romance, plus a surprise romance, attached.

The book does have an epilogue, which is always a plus with me, and a happily-ever-after ending. Well, implied, for some, actual for others. All in all, I would give the book 3 1/2 - 4 stars. I'll be on the look out for book 3 in the series to revisit with old friends, and meet some new ones.

Now I'm going to do what I should have done in the beginning, read book 1, A Bride for Noah.

UPDATE: After reading book one, A Bride for Noah, which I really enjoyed, Rainy Day Dreams makes more sense. I would strongly suggest reading the books in order. Although I said in my original review that I did not feel that it was necessary, it is, if you're going to really enjoy the book and connect with the characters. What I characterized as a slow beginning, was more me not knowing the backstory.

Marilyn Rondeau says

When Kathryn Burgert's father decided to send his daughter to Seattle in 1852 to work with a relative at the only hotel in town, deep down he was hoping Kathryn would also find a husband as the ratio of men to women was close to a hundred to one. Unfortunately Kathryn feels her father either didn't give her the unvarnished truth of her situation or he was fully cognizant of wanting to destroy her life! The only light at the end of a very dark tunnel was Kathryn's attraction to Jason, a man who traveled on the same ship that delivered them both to Seattle, and was to be the Seattle's only sawmill's newest foreman. Unfortunately for Kathryn, Jason didn't seem to want anything to do with her and actually acted like he thought her quite uppity. Amid hardships in this lumberjack country with weather, naysayers, and threats of Indian attacks it would take all their strength, vision, and a strong sense of purpose, combined with faith before both Jason and Kathryn came to grips with life in Seattle and each other.

*** I really enjoyed this story and the snippets of history that came along with it in reference to the early days in the establishment of Seattle. For me fiction is always better when an author weaves in actual historical people and events. I also enjoyed all of the characters, and the watching the growth of Kathryn as she descended from her high horse and taking the time to really get to know and befriend the people of Seattle. RAINY DAY DREAMS (Book 2 of Seattle Brides) was so good I am also ready to go back and get the first book, which I assume would be Noah and Evie's book, A BRIDE FOR NOAH which judging by the snippets in RAINY DAY must be equally as good as book #2.

While Kathryn needed to come down a bit to appreciate the hard working citizens of Seattle, she wasn't unkind, just a bit spoiled. However, there were some citizens including Jason, who didn't give her much of a chance to prove herself and pre-judged her. What I truly found interesting and wow, what a twist, was the

mystery of why one person in particular took an immediate and instantaneous hatred of her. I never saw that twist coming! BIG SURPRISE there and no I am not spoiling it for future readers!

Jason on the other hand was simply a wounded and tortured soul who had loved, lost and erected a barrier across his heart. Watching his growth and the realization of his prejudices and dawning appreciation of Kathryn was also quite lovely. For the most part RAINY DAY DREAMS was a totally wonderful addition to what I perceive is a great series from the dynamic duo of Copeland and Smith.

BOTTOM LINE: RAINY DAY DREAMS is an excellent read with great characters, beautiful writing and wonderfully paced. Highly recommended!!

Marilyn Rondeau, for www.ck2skwipsandkritiques.com

Allison says

Blech. Falling in love with a man you don't know, who has only been rude and cruel to you? Double blech. Also, the history of Seattle is not nearly so rosy, filled with people who champion the Native Americans. Meh.

Miss Pippi the Librarian says

The city of Seattle is growing! It now boasts a general store, restaurant, and a hotel (among a few other things, of course). Kathryn's father ships her off to the new town in hopes of her finding a husband. In the meantime, he arranged for her to assist a distant family member at the city's hotel - Faulkner House. Jason Gates also arrives in Seattle on the same boat as Kathryn and scoffs at her "husband hunt." His goal is to run an efficient saw mill, put his past behind him, and stay clear of Kathryn.

Kathryn wants to return home to San Fransisco as quickly as possible, but circumstances prevent her from leaving. As she becomes friends with the ladies of Seattle, her understanding of others and herself grows.

Time Period: 1852

Location: Seattle, Washington, USA

Reviewed from a NetGalley copy. Thank you, Harvest House Publishers!
