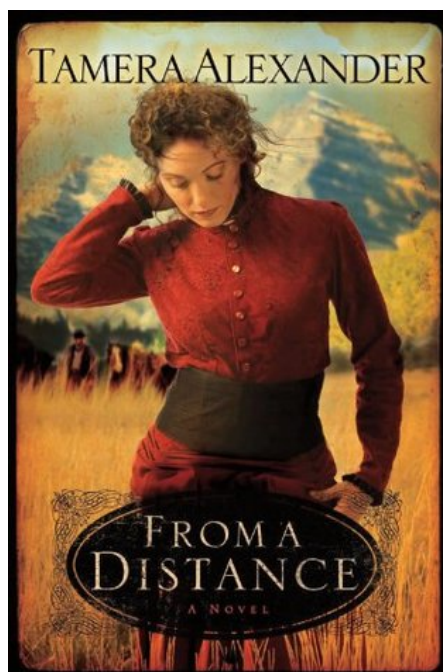




From a Distance

Tamera Alexander

Download now

Read Online ➔

From a Distance

Tamera Alexander

From a Distance Tamera Alexander

What happens when the realization of a dream isn't what you imagined... and the secret you've spent a lifetime guarding is finally laid bare?

Determined to become one of the country's premier newspaper photographers, Elizabeth Westbrook travels to the Colorado Territory to capture the grandeur of the mountains surrounding the remote town of Timber Ridge. She hopes, too, that the cool, dry air of Colorado, and its renowned hot springs, will cure the mysterious illness that threatens her career, and her life.

Daniel Ranslett is a man shackled by his Confederate past, and he'll do anything to protect his land, and his solitude. When an outspoken Yankee photographer captures an image that appears key to solving a murder, putting herself in danger, Daniel is called upon to repay a debt. He's a man of his word, but repaying that debt could reveal secrets from his past he would prefer remain buried.

Forced on a perilous journey together, Daniel and Elizabeth's lives intertwine in ways neither could have imagined when first they met from a distance.

From a Distance Details

Date : Published June 1st 2008 by Bethany House Publishers (first published January 1st 2008)

ISBN :

Author : Tamera Alexander

Format : Kindle Edition 384 pages

Genre : Christian Fiction, Historical, Historical Fiction, Romance, Christian, Fiction, Historical Romance

 [Download From a Distance ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online From a Distance ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online From a Distance Tamera Alexander

From Reader Review From a Distance for online ebook

Melissa says

I was very impressed with the writing of this book. I always hesitate a little going into Christian fiction, sometimes all they do is pray and preach and the story gets lost. There was none of that in this. The story was the base of this book and it was very powerful and moving. The main character I liked and learned to love as the book went on. I like how she saw in herself the changes that needed to be made and made them. The leading man was awesome and I totally fell in love with him and how he handled Elizabeth. I could see this book turning into a movie everything was described well, I had a vivid picture in my head throughout. The love story was so well done with a dislike and attraction and a very subtle build. The action was well done and didn't feel forced to try to throw the main couple together. This was just a well written love story with glimpses into slavery, the civil war and settling the west. I will be reading more by this author.

Marion says

I really enjoyed all the different layers to this book. Learning to trust God. Living by Jesus' words we have from the Bible. Romance. Mystery. Friendship. History.

I feel though like some loose ends were left and not the kind to be answered in the next book of the series...which I already checked out ;)

Tito says

An entertaining read for sure. Character development was great, and I honestly had no complaints whatsoever. A great way to pass 3-4 hours. Tamara Alexander is quickly becoming a must read author for me.

Ruth says

Elizabeth Westbrook's dream of becoming a newspaper photographer whose work is accepted under her own name (instead of a male pen name), is put to the test when she travels to the untamed Colorado Territory. Her assignment is to take pictures of the area's majestic countryside and surreptitiously investigate the feasibility of investors back east developing the area around the town of Timber Ridge into a resort property. Elizabeth is a strong, prickly character whose occasionally abrasive manner can be a little hard to take. However, Alexander does an excellent job of balancing Elizabeth's drive to succeed with her fears and insecurities. Her brash manner is extremely realistic compensation for a lifetime of hurt and struggle. In a society that held certain limited expectations for the role of women, Elizabeth bucks convention on multiple fronts.

Daniel Ranslett, who served as a Confederate sharpshooter in the war, immediately clashes with Elizabeth. He doesn't understand her drive and she doesn't understand his enigmatic manner and reluctance to serve as her guide. However, his loner status masks pain of a different sort - the mental and emotional toll of combat. Daniel is a wonderful hero - though he's a wounded, gentle spirit he possesses a core of unwavering moral strength and character. He's the perfect foil for Elizabeth, who has some tough lessons to learn about truth

and honor while in turn he must learn about brokenness and trust.

From a Distance is a beautifully crafted, thoroughly absorbing novel full of richly drawn, unforgettable characters. There's a dash of mystery, but the real strength of the novel is the journey Elizabeth and Daniel undergo towards surrender. Elizabeth and Daniel are two of the most well-drawn, imperfect characters I've ever run across - you know characters are "real" when you alternately want to shake them when you're frustrated, empathize with their hurts, and cheer at their triumphs. As a native of Tennessee and an amateur Civil War history buff, I loved how Alexander wove together snippets of Tennessee and Civil War history into her Colorado frontier-set story. While the action of the novel takes place ten years after the end of the Civil War, Alexander does a beautiful job of showing the heartbreaking, far-reaching cost of that conflict on its survivors. I also enjoyed learning about photographic processes in the 1800's - it's eye-opening to read about the processes and Elizabeth's job struggles in an era when cameras (and women in the workforce) are taken for granted. This is a novel about choices - how one chooses to overcome tragedy, health problems, trust issues - and God's sovereignty and care over even the most minute details of one's life. When the dreams they cling to are stripped away, Daniel and Elizabeth's story shows how in vulnerability and brokenness God pours out blessings and strength and dreams much greater and more rewarding than one's human frailty can possibly imagine.

Jerry says

See my review of the other edition.

Jeanette Grant-Thomson says

Perhaps three and a half stars.

This is the first book in the Timber Ridge Reflections series by Tamera Alexander.

Full of ambition as a photographer for a newspaper, Elizabeth Westbrook travels to remote Timber Ridge amid the magnificent mountains of Colorado. She hopes to get stunning photos that will further her career. Also she hopes to find a cure for her mysterious ailment.

From the first, Daniel Ranslett seems determined to cut across her plans.

In the course of the book's events, both protagonists change, especially Elizabeth, who changes so fast and radically I find it a little hard to believe. Apart from this, the characters are better developed than is often the case for this romantic/old-fashioned type of book.

It is quite well written but point of view wavers often. The ending ties off all the pieces a bit too neatly for my taste. A pleasant read.

Loraine says

What happens when the realization of a dream isn't what you imagined. . . and the secret you've spent a lifetime guarding is finally laid bare?

This first book in the Timber Ridge Reflections series was amazing. The characters were so compelling, each

flawed by their past; yet their relationships were so warm and caring. I loved that the author developed such a deep relationship between Elizabeth and Josiah- a friendship between a white woman and a man of color was totally out of character at this point in history. The slow emerging friendship/romance between Daniel with his rough, gruff, private yet tender spirit and Elizabeth was wonderful. The closeness between Daniel and his dog, Beau, as well as his growing understanding, connection, and respect for Josiah as he began to understand more about each of their pasts. Elizabeth was such a strong woman for her time period, yet at the same time had her vulnerabilities.

The story line and setting were superb. Alexander's obvious research into photography of that time period and historical context as well as her knowledge of Colorado culture, topography, and native American lifestyle all added to the richness of the overall story. Winding its way through the plot was a faith thread that was both honest and believable.

If you like historical fiction, definitely don't miss this one. It made my 2016 favorites list.

FAVORITE QUOTES: (Way too many to include but a few!)

"Better to keep your focus on the goal rather than the obstacles."

There can't be different versions. Truth is a constant. A person's perspective might be skewed, but that doesn't change what the truth is."

"That's what God does with us, after all. Puts us out into the world where the only real boundary is that of His love. His love either compels us or restrains us. There is nothing stronger.."

"As long as you're still breathing, child, you still got choices."

Zette says

Although I rated this book with only 3 stars, I really don't think it had anything to do with Tamera Alexander's writing or the story itself. I enjoyed the main plot and the way the other details of the sub plots were woven into the story. I especially enjoyed Josiah's character. I think I just had a hard time connecting with the heroine which I've found lately either makes or breaks a book for me. Elizabeth was a likeable personality but I didn't feel that she put God first in her life. She claimed to want to follow God but then lied to everyone to manipulate her life into what she wanted rather than what God wanted for her. She would then justify her actions and question why God wasn't blessing her efforts to become the photographer she felt He wanted her to be. I know we all deal with putting God first in our lives on a daily basis but I never really saw her repent and ask for forgiveness from those she lied to and manipulated. I think that may have made me feel like she had changed for the better and learned from her mistakes by the end of the book.

Sadly, I had to make myself push to the end of this one but it won't stop me from reading Tamera Alexander's other books. I would highly recommend her Fountain Creek Chronicles series.

Davalynn Spencer says

Tamera Alexander weaves a story of pain and promise and passion that ties in all the threads - even the title.

This is a book I'll read again. And again.

Kae Cheatham says

For some reason, when I bought this book (Kindle edition) I missed the "2009 historical ROMANCE winner." Hence, the three stars are for my personal preferences. I'm sure, for the genre, it's a five star book.

But I avoid romances, mostly because of the often implausible forced coincidences that keep the protagonist and her guy at odds throughout the book. This one I hoped would be different, and I was disappointed. I was reading passages that made me groan with the often comical happenstance. I'm too much of a realist, I guess (although I do write SF).

STORY LINE:

Yankee Elizabeth Westbrook travels to Colorado Territory, hoping her photography will earn her a prestige job with an East Coast magazine. An influential person she hopes to impress is looking to bring tourism to Colorado Territory. Elizabeth meets ex-Confederate Daniel Ranslett, who is against development of the region. The predictable antagonisms, misunderstandings and interactions begin.

PLUSES:

This book was extremely well written; a great use of language; well-developed characters and an excellent sense of place. As a photographer, I especially liked the segments when the protagonist was working with her camera. Seeing the details of the effort it took to get wilderness photographs (*any* pictures!) in the 19th century makes my digital efforts pale in comparison.

If some readers fear they'll be put off by the "Christian Romance" tag, don't be. The religious presentations were subdued and came from the natural development of the characters. I never felt I was being preached at. If the romance had developed as logically, I would have much enjoyed this book.

Yet for Romance readers, this book is a "don't miss it!"

In the future, I will read all the tags and plaudits, to be certain my book choice suits my preferences.

Kim says

2.5 stars

Kellyn Roth says

The author never will write an ending that isn't rushed! She's like, "Well, we went through that slow-paced, sweet romance with lots of different timelines and complexity and it wasn't exactly a thriller ... andnowigottawrapitupsofastDONE."

I know, I love Tamera Alexander's books more than anything, but this is a flaw that shows up in most of her stories!! xP

Kate says

I liked how this book started out right in the middle of a scene. When an author uses this technique, more likely than not, it's successful in pulling me into the action and keeping my interest throughout the novel. Tamera Alexander does this well.

I liked how spunky (well, let's face it, Josiah was right . . . sassy!) Elizabeth was, but that she also learned how to be humble and allow herself to be taught by those who knew more about specific things than she did. I especially liked that she learned to give all her hopes and dreams to God and that He would give her even better ones in return!

I also enjoyed Daniel's character. He was definitely flawed, and haunted by the things he'd experienced, especially in the war, but he also learned to be humble and trust in God's leading.

However, I think my favourite character just might have been Josiah. His kind and gentle humour was definitely a high point for me.

Fv says

She is a liar, a bold faced liar, and the author keeps making light of her lies. Calling it a secret..... pffft!

She lies to her father, to the sheriff, to her friends, to the man/men she hires and then add to that, she claims love for God.

And she is self centered and selfish. This is not a decent woman to be heroine, just a typical greedy, selfish, career oriented woman. Not all career women are like her, but the selfish, self-centered ones are. That first of all is way out of place or the time and place this 'book' is supposed to be based on, 1875. Come on Tamera, make it a little realistic eh?

I am only at Chapter 14 and so sick of her lies and her manipulation. And really am tired of *reading over and over how she convinces herself the 'reason' she is there in Colorado and it is OK to lie about. Ya we can all say disobeying God is OK, but does that really make it OK cause we say so?*

Her medicine, she lies to others about that. her school books that were sent to her, the consequence of the lie she told her father, she lies to someone about that too.

She is demanding and wants to please only a faceless newspaper editor, after she pleases herself. And have people bragging about her!.... Not bragging about God who created what she photographs.

If anyone would marry this liar, then they would have problems the rest of their lives. A liar won't stop lying because she got married. In fact if she cannot be truthful before marriage, the truth will be a challenge after marriage even more so.

Oh and the author making lies OK, claiming they are small lies, well that is exactly what Satan, the father of the lie wants people to think. Yet this is what Jesus said. (John 8:44) .??. "**You are from your father the Devil, and you wish to do the desires of your father. That one was a murderer when he began, and he did not stand fast in the truth, because truth is not in him. When he speaks the lie, he speaks according to his own disposition, because he is a liar and the father of the lie.**"

More of how God feels about liars here. (Revelation 21:8) .??. "**But as for the cowards and those without faith and those who are disgusting in their filth and murderers and the sexually immoral and those practicing spiritism and idolaters and all the liars, their portion will be... death.**"

There are no small lies, either it is a lie or it is the truth.

Then you read her personality, the one that demands she get the 'photographs' and bring all sorts of folks to an area that the locals want left alone. But in her selfish desire, she cannot see past what she wants.

She is rude and condescending to those she thinks are lower than her.

Usually I can finish a book before reviewing it, but this one is badly written and the morals are so lacking, I just cannot wait.

No wonder men think that women push the limits of being equal. Because in this book , the heroine is not even trying to be a good photographer, she is an manipulative, sneaky conniving, sort of woman, that gives all of us a woman a bad name. And worse yet gives God a bad name.

And she plays games with her asthma, a life threatening disease, especially back in the 1875. Really, really, really?

I am rather surprised, because the Fountain Creek series seemed to be fairly well written.

I don't know how this books ends, probably the fool marries her, 'forgiving' this unrepentant liar, because the author mistakenly tries to force us to believe God demands we blindly forgive unrepentant ones.

Yet if God cannot get this heroine to stop lying, how does anyone expect the man to do so?

Annie Hogle says

Fantastic Book! Definitely in the top 5 of my Summer reads!!
