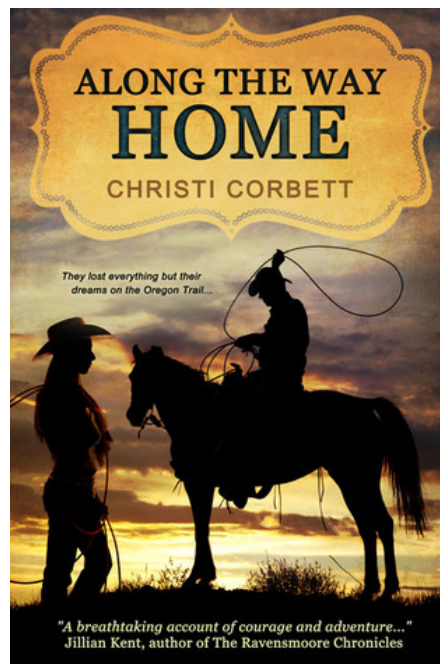




Along the Way Home

Christi Corbett

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Kate Davis is intrigued when her father reveals his dream of starting a horse ranch in Oregon Territory. Settlers out west value a strong woman, and though she manages the financials of her father's mercantile her competence earns her ridicule, not respect, from Virginia's elite society.

Jake Fitzpatrick, an experienced trail guide, wants land out west to raise cattle and crops. But dreams require money and he's eating dandelion greens for dinner. So when a wealthy businessman offers double wages to guide his family across the Oregon Trail, Jake accepts with one stipulation—he is in complete control.

Departure day finds Kate clinging to her possessions as Jake demands she abandon all he deems frivolous, including her deceased mother's heirlooms. Jake stands firm, refusing to let the whims of a headstrong woman jeopardize the wages he so desperately needs—even a beautiful one with fiery green eyes and a temper to match.

Trail life is a battle of wills between them until tragedy strikes, leaving Jake with an honor-bound promise to protect her from harm and Kate with a monumental choice—go back to everything she's ever known or toward everything she's ever wanted?

Along the Way Home Details

Date : Published June 11th 2013 by Astraea Press (first published June 10th 2013)

ISBN :

Author : Christi Corbett

Format : Paperback 364 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Westerns, Historical, Historical Fiction, Western Romance

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From Reader Review Along the Way Home for online ebook

Jenn says

4 Jake Stars

Checklist for this Historical Western:

1. Haughty attitudes.
2. Cheating beau.
3. Loving family.
4. Assumptions.
5. Broody, burned by a woman, trail guide.
6. Rough life on the trail.
7. Tragedies.
8. Dangers.
9. Friendships.
10. Love.
11. Learning new things about ones self and changing for the better.
12. Learning to trust.

I really enjoyed reading Christi Corbett's debut novel.

Reason's Why:

1. Clean read.
2. Good pacing.
3. Sucked me in until the end.
4. I loved Kate's dad and brother.
5. I liked how Kate and Jake built their relationship.
6. Eventually the story end's up in my state, Oregon. :)
7. I enjoyed the friendships made with secondary characters.
8. I liked Jake a lot.

I look forward to more of Kate and Jake in **Tainted Dreams**, due out late 2014.

Eileen Dandashi says

Title: Along The Way

Author: Christi Corbett

Genre: Historical Western Romance (squeaky clean romance)

Story Setting: 1843; begins in Charlottesville, Virginia with a trek across county taking more than 6 months to Oregon City, Oregon

Pages: 404

Published By: Astraea press (June 10, 2013)

ASIN: B00DBN4ZKO

A breathtaking account of courage and adventure along the Oregon Trail. Travel this dangerous journey with characters you will treasure as they cope with heart-wrenching difficulties they never thought to encounter in

a search to fulfill their hopes and dreams. Christi Corbett's debut novel, *Along the Way Home*, will both surprise and delight.

Jillian Kent, author of *The Ravensmoore Chronicles*

In *Along the Way Home*, author Christi Corbett unfurls an unforgettable epic romance inside of an epic Western adventure. Beautifully crafted, this debut novel is a tender journey of the heart as well as a treacherous journey of many miles. *Along the Way Home* is a squeaky-clean historical romance with authentic period details and deep emotion. Much danger, risk, courage and compassion will make you long for more books from this talented author. As heartwarming as *Christy*.

Eve Paludan, author of *Taking Back Tara* (Ranch Lovers Romance series)

About The Author:

Christi lives in a small town in Oregon with her husband and their twin children. The home's location holds a special place in her writing life; it stands just six hundred feet from the original Applegate Trail and the view from her back door is a hill travelers looked upon years ago as they explored the Oregon Territory and beyond. (Pulled from author page on Amazon)

About The Story:

Katharine Davis, better known as Kate, a young independent woman brought up with every convenience and luxury was soon to find herself on a journey out of Charlottesville, Virginia to The Oregon Territories. Her mother died 10 years earlier leaving her father to teach her survival skills, along with skills necessary to run a business. Kate's father had a dream to start fresh in the west and Kate didn't want to disappoint him.

Consequently, he hired a guide, Jake Fitzpatrick, who'd been over the trail many times and understood the perils of travel. It was late in the season and they were unable to attach themselves to a group of travelers. This would be Jake's last trip. He wanted a life in the Oregon Territory and this last trip would provide him the means to obtain land and cattle. Knowing the dangers of the trip he demanded that they listen to all he told them and react immediately to his directions. It could be a matter of life and death. Kate did not like to be told what to do.

From its beginning, the journey was a battle of wills between Jake and Kate. Jake tried every way to have her turn back. She was not the kind of woman who could survive the trip or one who could thrive if she even arrived. But Kate's tenacity and stubbornness did her in good stead.

Through the difficult and trying journey, Kate learned who she was and what she wanted after experiencing greater dangers and sorrow than she ever had. Jake learned Kate had intelligence and quick thinking, with an inner-strength necessary in women destined for the west. He also found his heart could trust again.

My Thoughts:

I'm from Oregon and have heard about The Oregon Trail when I was young. I believe I've read a novel or two with the backdrop of covered wagons going west. This well-written story was very poignant and deeply moving. The historical implications were upmost in my mind as I read. The hardship and the length of the journey I felt as I read. I was able to feel Katie's sorrow and strength through the telling. This is Christi Corbett's first debut novel. She has done an outstanding job with the imagery.

The story of Katie and her family was one that happened over and over on The Oregon Trail. Can you imagine how brave these people were? Men, women and children were at the peril of the climatic conditions, falling ill, getting injured, exposure and danger to predators and either travelling alone with higher risks or be part of a community that one could place little trust.

Christi Corbett has written a wonderful testimony of the people who wanted more in their lives and were willing to sacrifice much to obtain it. A lovely book all around – sweet romance, adventure and honor are all

a part of it.

Heather says

****SPOILERS****

If you like books that make you feel every feeling imaginable then you will LOVE this book. I laughed, I cried, and I got super angry! I was offended by some of the characters but they got put in their place and when that happened I couldn't be more happier.

When the book starts you are introduced to Katherine Davis better known as Kate. She is a strong woman but she will do what makes her father happy. She is unlike most of the other women of Charlottesville VA in the fact that she is in the upper class but she works for a living at her father's store as the bookkeeper. She seems to have the perfect life, annoying aunt aside. She has a job she loves, friends she loves, she is well liked, family that loves her, and a man that loves her.....she thinks. As the story progresses you get to see how this woman grows from the pampered, spoiled person she started as into this strong woman you takes what life throws her way and perseveres.

You also get to meet Jake Fitzpatrick. He is an experienced trail guide for people who want to travel from the East to Oregon. His trip with the Davis' will be his 5th and hopefully his last. He doesn't have any family to speak of, people don't tend to respect him as he is considered beneath their notice. He just wants to do this last guide and settle down and start his ranch. He is adamant that he won't take the family he only does the trail with one person who is on horseback. But, when Elijah Davis offers him twice his rate and to pay for all the materials he can't say no. When you first meet him he is a little standoffish and a bit of a jerk but you see where he is coming from. As the story continues you slowly fall in love with him, at least I did. He is the best kind of hero, the one who doesn't want to be but does it anyways to fulfill a promise he makes to a dying man.

I can honestly tell you I can't wait until the next book because I am now invested in their story!

Jackie says

Very, very nice! Unusual story. I laughed and cried. Made me really feel what people traveling west in our early country went through to get to their destinations. I am ready to start the sequel. I hope it keeps me as interested as this book did.

Margo Kelly says

Ahh. I am thrilled to write a review for this book!

I don't normally read historical romances, because I'm not much into "romances" when it comes to reading ... I prefer action, suspense, and a bit of horror.

Well, imagine my surprise when I found action and suspense in this story! There was no "horror" in this book, but I was thrilled to discover that there was so much more than just a story about a girl who meets a guy. If you like a sweet romance, you'll get that with ALONG THE WAY HOME.

I've been to many of the locations referenced in the book, and I felt like I was travelling right along with the main characters as they came west.

Clean language, no detailed sex scenes, appropriate for all ages.

A great adventure. A great book for everyone. I highly recommend it.

Mandy says

I really enjoyed this adventure of Jake and Kate's ride west to Oregon. Well written, and some good clean romance thrown in. Highly recommend.

Kathy * Bookworm Nation says

[I guess it was expected, but I did not like that a couple characters died. I really wanted to see them make it to the end and what would happen once they were there. I get that people died along the way, but I didn't really think it was

Brynnie says

5 stars! An amazing journey!

This is a wonderful story filled with heartbreak, adventure and love. The author painted a beautiful picture of the trail. I felt like I was there with Jake and Kate.

Kate annoyed me at first but once they had their first close call in the river I saw her bravery. She wasn't going to give up and was determined to give this dream to her Dad. I loved Jake too. He was strong, sweet and kind. He was their supporting Kate through all the troubles they faced. Their love was a slow, quiet kind of love and it was beautiful.

I was really bummed when I got towards the end because I didn't want it to be over. I wanted to see them get settled in Oregon and see their life together... but then I turned the page and saw that there's going to be another book. Whoohoo! I can't wait!

JustJayneIA says

All in all, I really enjoyed his book. It has action, adventure, and romance. The glimpses of what it might have been like for those who traveled the Oregon Trail are fascinating. The only thing that kept me from giving this story five stars is the lack of attention to the romance at the heart of the story. I'd have liked to

have seen the development of the central characters' relationship receive as much attention as the rest of the elements of the story. At the end of the book, I felt like I still only knew them very superficially.

Nicole Laverdure says

Interesting western romance! ALONG THE WAY HOME, is the first book that I read by author Christi Corbett! It's a western romance filled with adventure! In this book, you will follow Kate and Jake's journey into the Oregon Territories. It all started when Kate's father decided to leave for Oregon to start a new business there. A widower, he will take along Kate and her younger brother. He asks Jake, a trail guide, for his help during their trip. You will need to read this book, if you wish more details of what will happen during their journey...Beautiful chemistry between Kate and Jake. If you like, western romance, then this book is ideal for you. I enjoyed reading Along the Way Home.

Patricia says

I enjoyed this story (albeit fictitious story) of the cross-country trek from Virginia to the Oregon Territory. I didn't realize this book was in a series (which series hasn't been written yet) so I am looking forward to book 2 to see what happens in Kate and Jake's story. There was not a lot of typical "romance" in this story and, for me, it was a breath of fresh air. I also mistakenly thought this was Christian fiction, you know, scripture quoting and all, but it was not Christian fiction. However, it was a clean story. I have overdone the romance genre and the Christian fiction genres this past year so this was so nice to read about two adults (male and female) who basically had their heads on straight--for the most part.

Katharine Bond says

I don't normally read Westerns; but "Along the Way Home" isn't so much a traditional Western as it is a character driven historical drama. Kate is an independently minded young woman who lives in a male dominated society that expects her to get married and spend her life as a "respectable member of society." I didn't feel Kate would mind this so much if the female society didn't consist of fashionable people she couldn't relate to. She tries her best to get along for the sake of her father; but when the chance to go out west comes, she's not as heartbroken about leaving as she could be.

Jake is a trail guide with a painful past. I'd say more, but I'm afraid I might spoil a few key plot twists for potential readers. I liked his character, because he was a good balance of rugged manliness and kindness. But that's not to say he doesn't have anything to learn from a friendship with Kate. Once again...I just don't trust myself to say much more.

Although they butt heads over every...little...thing in the beginning, they are more alike than either cares to admit.

Christi also did an excellent job of describing the Oregon Trail itself without getting bogged down in details. I'm no historian, but it sounds like she did her homework before writing this novel.

The only problem is now I want to read the sequel this minute.

Emily Forden says

The storyline is very compelling: young woman travels along the Oregon Trail to start a new life with her family. The author writes beautifully about the struggles of the Oregon Trail but her main female character doesn't seem well thought out. The woman is suppose to undergo a transformation from the beginning of the book to the end, but her character is not developed enough in the beginning. For example, she is business minded but acts like a child (the thing that drives her hunky guide away from her). It doesn't make sense that she is so egotistical about social mores when she is bucking tradition and working in her father's shop.

There are also no sex scenes, or even much sexual tensions. The main characters are sexy, and that is about as much as we get. In fact, I would have guessed it was a Christian romance if I didn't know better.

Great idea, poor execution in terms of characters and sexual tension. That being said, the hardships of the Oregon Trail are very nicely discussed.

Karen says

Hauty gilted city girl clashes with judgmental (against women) trail guide.

She looses everything but finds she has courage & nerves of steel from her many challenges. He is exasperated by her continual arguing & ignoring his advice but once they make peace he sees her true character.

I like that this is a departure from the usual trail stories as it's a family setting off on their own. The hardships, tedium & grief elements of the trail are there but the heroin is strong, intelligent, stubborn, naive & has a heart of gold.

Erica says

Christi Corbett's debut novel Along the Way Home is a definite must read!

I love the story, it's been awhile since a book captivated me and drew me into the story like this one did, I cannot wait Tainted Dreams.

Kate & family leave Virginia for Oregon with their guide Jake.

Kate is a strong willed female used to the finer things, Jake is the total opposite and demands things be done his way, Kate doesn't agree (alot) and it causes quite a few problems!

I don't do spoilers, can't stand to read them I want to read what happens not have it thrown in my face before I get to it, that being said, they experience trials, loss and a full range of emotion during this trip. The book really draws you in, at times I felt like I was traveling the Oregon Trail with them. It's a great story,

compelling, well written and a truly enjoyable read.
