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Far Away Home: An Historical Novel Of The American West (Aislynn's Story Book 1)



Synopsis

Read FAR AWAY HOME, a four-year bestseller in the historical and western categories, in its Enhanced Edition with a bonus introduction to the NEWLY RELEASED SEQUEL, EMBRACE THE WIND. In post-Civil War New York City, sixteen-year-old Aislynn Denehy cannot find a job, she has no place to live and no family to help her. Some might think this is a problem; Aislynn believes it is an opportunity, but she has a lot to learn. No formulaic romance, this well-researched love story depicts life as it truly was for the thousands of women who went west reaching for a new life.

Aislynn's journey begins in a New York City tenement and leads her across the frontier to a Utah mining camp where she must cope with the three very different men in her life: smart, solicitous Tim, good-natured, good-guy Johnny and the intense but intriguing Liam Moran. Life in the roughshod camp brings small joys and devastating losses. The novel races through authentic experiences involving historical events until it erupts in an unexpected ending. In today's troubled world, Far Away Home will make you believe no matter how many challenges fate sends your way, the human spirit can triumph.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I liked it! I chose it because I had ancestors in New York City in the post civil war 1860's, and also other ancestors in Utah as well. I hoped to gain better understanding of the social, economic, political, and historical events that shaped their lives. I was rewarded through the eyes of the feisty, courageous, determined, yet vulnerable young Irish girl, Aislynn. I am reminded that it took all kinds of people, good and bad, to establish the west. It was one of those books that was on my mind all day long, and I was finding every chance I could to read another couple of chapters! Loved it for that. I don't like to read "intimacy", or I'd have given it the 5th star, but it was handled honestly and had its purpose to the author. When you cry your eyes out more than once, and laugh out loud and are compelled to read parts to your husband or best friend, it's a good book!

I loved the book! It is well written even with the abrupt ending, which brought me to full alert and saying to myself thank goodness I bought the next book. It does leave an opening for a most welcomed sequel, which I am currently reading now. The characters are easily visualized and so descriptive that at times I actually cried, thankfully my husband was not in the room. I encourage you to read it and I might add the sequel is turning out to be just as great and I just hope it doesn't make me cry.

I was completely moved by this story. I am an avid reader yet do not review very often, however, after reading a few of the bad reviews that this book was given I feel compelled to express how amazing I found this story and the writing to be. I read someone noted the character development was flat and choppy, yet the reviewer admits to skimming a large portion of the book...there is nothing choppy about this story. The characters that seem to say the least and are perhaps less of the focus (such as Johnny) are those that say some of the most profound things and have the key roles in Aislynn's life. What had been noted by one reviewer as Aislynn's "obsession" with Tim is truly a deep admiration and love for a boy/man who cared for her throughout her childhood. The relationships in this journey are so moving that you can't help but completely fall into this world and Aislynn's transition from a young girl into womanhood. Friendship, love, loss, and strength are woven throughout this story and at times bring you to tears, yet also have you smiling and feeling proud of the girl Ms Denning has developed into a woman.

This would be a good book to read while lounging on the beach - something interesting enough to capture your attention but light enough that you don't need to think too much about it. I liked the main character, though she seemed overly naive. And it's a minor nitpick but - her father was a jockey yet

she never knew how to ride? It just didn't make sense. I enjoyed the historical aspects of the age of the new railroad. I didn't care for Tim's character; I wasn't sure if the author intended him to be a silent strong type, a weak willed pushover, or just a clueless drifter...I just wasn't sure what to make of him overall and found myself wishing he would just grow a backbone. There were aspects overall that were not very realistic, but I didn't find that to be a distraction. Editing-wise, it could have used a bit of spit and polish. Minor mistakes with grammar and punctuation were a bit disruptive to the flow of the story. As for the ending - as so many reviewers have noted it was incredibly abrupt. And not in an exciting cliff-hanger way - it just... stopped. A real disappointment there. From looking at the author's page it seems there will indeed be a sequel. So, while the author left us plenty of questions hopefully to be resolved in the next book, I still think the ending could have benefited from a different approach. Overall, though, the book held my attention and I found it to be an enjoyable, easy read.

I couldn't put this novel down - finished it in a day! Far Away Home is a wonderful combination of historical fiction and romance with a western twist. The writing is beautifully smooth and full of historical detail. Set in the 1860s, the story of a young girl trying to make it as an independent woman is timeless. Our heroine, 16-year-old Aislynn Denehy, heads west to find work and reunite with the man she loves. To complicate matters, she is accompanied on the journey by a man who loves her. She encounters the challenges of the time: the danger of disease, attacks by Indians and outlaws, racial and religious prejudice and the poor treatment of women. Each chapter ends with a hook that pulls you through to the next, but it was the love story that captivated me - and kept me guessing. The ending is a perfect opening for a sequel.

This was a good book but not great. I only wish that if you are going to write a sequel that you do not wait four years. With as much reading as I do I always have to re-read the first book. I find this to be very annoying and frustrating.

A very good read about life in the 1800's and women's role in the civilization of lands inhabited by mostly men...with a little romance thrown in...i look forward to reading the continuation..

Excellent read many twists and turns. Many surprises. It was a great journey. The ending left me a bit flat but I suppose I was to discover it and I did my way. I think there is a little of the men in Aislynn's life in all men some men are sure of themselves like Johnny, some of a Tim and last but far from least there's Liam. I'll let y'all discover that for yourself. Happy reading folks.

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