



Widow Woman

Patricia McLinn

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1880s Wyoming Territory---

As strong as the ranch she runs, widow Rachel Terhune has one dream—to fulfill the legacy she inherited from her father. Hiring Nick Dusaq has nothing to do with the fierce pull between them and everything to do with saving her land.

The solitary cowboy recognizes a kindred heart scarred by cruelty. He would ride away – he should ride away – if only her ranch didn't need him so damned badly. Her ranch—not the widow woman like none he's encountered before—is the only need he'll let himself consider.

Passion as powerful as the harsh beauty of the land around them bonds Rachel, the widow woman devoting every bit of her strength and courage to holding onto her Wyoming Territory ranch, and Nick, the loner cowhand with dreams of his own.

Yes, they have passion. But does it hold the promise of healing and love or the destruction of dreams?

"A richly textured Western about a strong woman, a dark tormented man, and a love as fierce and irresistible as the Wyoming wind." -- Mary Jo Putney, New York Times bestselling author

"One of the most entertaining and interesting western historicals I've read in a long time." -- The Romance Reader

"A moving confirmation of the healing power of love" -- Romantic Times

"Incredibly powerful" -- 5 Star review

"Wow!... a romance that sizzles!...Powerful love story... Excellent!" -- Rendezvous

"Splendid!" -- Bell, Book and Candle

"An unforgettable read" -- 5 Star review

Widow Woman Details

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Author : Patricia McLinn

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From Reader Review Widow Woman for online ebook

Myrna Des says

Love to read

Great book!!!! Everyone everyone should read it. I am not a good reviewer but this is as exceptional book so don't pass it up.

Joanna V says

Wow, what a great writer - and I'm not even a big fan of westerns. Got this for my kindle on special and so glad I did - believe the author is self-publishing her older books as ebooks. Loved the characters, the two main ones Rachel Terhune and Nick Dusaq, as well as the foreman Shag, the young cowhand Davis and Nick's sister Alba. I felt this is one author who understands how hard and dangerous it was to live and work on a ranch in the old West. Set in 1880's Wyoming it has a real feel for the land, the people and the animals. And in many places her writing is remarkably poetic. Yes this is a standard category style romance, but writing within those constraints, this is a very well written book. I even liked the secondary romance between Davis and Alba. Will definitely look for more works by this author, highly recommended.

Sharon says

Loved the Book

"Widow Woman" was not the title I would have pinned this book with, but on the other hand I'm not sure it matters what it was called. I loved the interplay between Rachel and Nick and their growing love for each other. I did not like the fact that Rachel did not have faith in Nick and married another man. If you're completely confused now, that may be the way the author wanted it. I'm not sure, but I am sure that at times I wanted to smack their heads together because two dumber people might be hard to find. Luckily things usually turn out okay in the end and I had to have faith that they would also.

Marcia says

Good old time western romance.

I enjoyed the story and characters set in 19th century Wyoming. Ranching is not easy and loving can be down right hard! Nick and Rachel battle the elements, themselves and each other.

Celestine says

Cowboy Nick started out enigmatic and titillating (wow, to the scene at the pond in the prologue).

Unfortunately, as the book moved along I came to believe he wasn't that much of a hero. At one point, I was screaming "Nooooo!" in my mind. This means I was vested in the characters and the story, but it wasn't going the way I wanted it to.

The beleaguered young widow running a ranch is a familiar trope in western romance novels. McLinn does a fine job inserting realistic ranching details, far more than most cowboy romance authors I've read, without bogging down the pace.

"At age thirteen, her first experience branding convinced Rachel that top ropers got the best of a hard job."

Rachel is supremely capable. She runs a large Wyoming spread, which is coveted by two nearby landowners. One also covets Rachel herself. Rachel meanwhile says, "I've been married. I didn't much care for it."

The story sets up the two leads fighting an explosive attraction. Rachel sees her independence as a way to preserve her way of life, and Nick's reticence makes some of Clint Eastwood's spaghetti western characters look downright chatty. McLinn is clever, though, and makes him withdrawn even in his internal dialogue. There is a quietness about the tone, but it isn't one of confidence and stillness, it is one of self-denial. This tone continues to build through the book to where Nick's absence of self-respect is damaging. His downfall is his powerful desire for Rachel. There is a scene where all he does is rub Rachel's wrist, and I have to say she wasn't the only one shivering. More sensual scenes do follow.

Rachel's history also unfolds in pieces. For instance, the first husband is barely mentioned in the first third of the book. I always like when an author reveals layers of characters both in their personality and in their background. It is like the reader gets to know the leads just as they get to know one another.

By mid-book, Rachel has opened herself to love, but Nick continues to be a hard, hard man and his self-doubt destroys them.

"No, he hadn't been mistaken about her. He was the mistake. And she was making it."

I admit, at this point I wanted to shake him. And then later, I just wanted to slap him. And then even later I felt his betrayal ran so deep he was not redeemable. In the end, I felt Nick never did deserve the wonderful widow woman. His epiphany came far too late to satisfy this reader.

Ea_reader says

gah, I wanted this to be 5 stars so much, but it just didn't quite make it. new to me author; got the book cheap on amazon. I really loved the writing and I loved Rachel. I wanted to love Nick. I needed a little more from him, though, and I really wanted a little more interaction between the two of them. it felt like they were apart for so much of the book. I'd have rather seen them united a little earlier and facing challenges together instead of mostly apart. I might try another book by this author, though.

Marilyn Kavanaugh says

At times poetic

As in “(H)e’d come a long way on a hard road.”

A clear-eyed, realistic Western romance with characters you enjoy spending time with.

Mo says

Ended up quite enjoying this one. Bit too much of the cattle rustling or hustling or whatever you call in in the first half. Both were quite stubborn and wanted to kick them up the arse at times. But overall, an enjoyable read.

Can't be arsed doing a full review.

Elaine Hamner-Yard says

Great read

Lots of weather, hot and cold. Trouble with cattle, landowners, thick headed men, feisty women. Western at its best. Good weekend read.

charles e. dawson says

Good period western

New author for me. I enjoy Linda Lael Miller. I thought I would ready Patricia McLinn. Patricia did a great job in her descriptions of the time periods of the West when most travel was on a horse or by wagon. Two very strong well written characters of Nick and Rachael as the lead. It was a time where hard work and determination were needed and both characters possess those traits.

I wanted a the romance to move faster but it could have been a accurate historical accounting of Rachael's life. It was well written but wished it had a little humor or fun., In spite of it being a hard time to live. I believe even folks having a tough time do find a way to have a little fun. Keep writing Patricia you are a good story teller but I will look for those occasional touches of humor/fun we all need especially when life is tough. Add that and you will be a five star author.

Madeline says

I loved the detail in this story. By the end, I knew what happened to the main characters and the “land” they lived on. A complete story where nothing was left unsaid. My favorite kind of story! Loved it!

Becky says

Story of Wyoming in the 1880's where it was hard for a widowed woman to keep her fathers ranch alive and running. Writes about the life and hardships of ranching with horrific storms and cold that killed off herds, the round ups, branding, and greedy people trying to buy off or steal off from others. Add in the tormented lives of the characters that have brought their own baggage into the scenario. I loved how independent Rachel was and how hard she worked to keep her ranch. The romance was typical but fun to see how it evolved with Rachael and Nick. I have read other books by this author and have always enjoyed them. I was not disappointed again.

Libby says

This deserves a much higher average rating than it currently has. When I first started reading romance novels a few years back, I read every republished McLinn I could find and enjoyed them all. This is my favorite. Nick and Rachel's story is one I go back to again and again. It's well written with fully developed characters and a story line that is rich and nuanced. These are not cookie cutter protagonists. Nick is an honorable man who has isolated himself from real relationships out of fear that he is like his abusive father. Rachel is a young widow who married her late husband to save her father and the ranch that she loves. Nick and Rachel's path to their HEA is not an easy one but when it comes it is both beautiful and satisfying.

Marti says

Well plotted, well written story of people scarred by past cruelties trying to make lives for themselves. And what is life without love?!

Sue Lilley says

This reminded me so much of the old western movies I used to adore. I raced through it. Rachel and Nick are great characters and I couldn't enough of them. The writing is vivid and emotive. I felt the dust and the freezing snow. I loved it!
