



When Mountains Move

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In a few hours, Millie will say “I do” to Bump Anderson, a man who loves her through and through. But would he love her if he knew the secret she keeps?

Millie’s mind is racing and there seems to be no clear line between right and wrong. Either path leads to pain, and she’ll do anything to protect the ones she loves. So she decides to bury the truth and begin again, helping Bump launch a ranch in the wilds of Colorado. But just when she thinks she’s left her old Mississippi life behind, the facts surface in the most challenging way.

That’s when Millie’s grandmother, Oka, arrives to help. Relying on her age-old Choctaw traditions, Oka teaches Millie the power of second chances. Millie resists, believing redemption is about as likely as moving mountains. But Oka stands strong, modeling forgiveness as the only true path to freedom.

Together, Bump, Millie, and Oka fight against all odds to create a sustainable ranch, all while learning that the important lessons of their pasts can be used to build a beautiful future.

When Mountains Move Details

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From Reader Review When Mountains Move for online ebook

Michelle says

When Mountains Move by Julie Cantrell

This book is the continuation of Millie's story from Into the Free. I enjoyed this book but must admit I have not yet read Into the Free. It can be read as a stand alone book, but because I enjoyed this one so much I will be reading the first one. When Mountains Move is set in the beautiful Rocky Mountains of Colorado. Young newlyweds Millie and Bump set out across country on their own. As they struggle to build a home, ranch and veterinary practice they face trepidation in the mist of Millie's secret. Read the story of Millie and Bump's fear of an uncertain future, the challenge of taking a risks, and the redemption and freedom that can be found when a secret is no more. See how God works out the bad for His own good. Meet her Choctaw grandmother and learn her rich history. The author Julie Cantrell brings the characters to life and walks you through the struggles of the 1940's. I want to thank the author Julie Cantrell and publisher David C. Cook for bringing good clean Christian books like this one to readers like me. I would also like to thank The Book Club Network Inc. for providing me with this book in exchange for my review.

P.e. lolo says

This was a story about a young couple during World War 2, getting married in Louisiana and moving that same day to Colorado. The young couple were going to take over a ranch for a man who bought it. After so many years if it became profitable they could take it over or get so much in cash and start a new somewhere else. The young man not knowing that his bride was raped before they had gotten married. This caused for some added drama because after they were in Colorado for a few months he brought her grandmother to live with them. She knew at once that she was with child and then she told her grandmother what had happen. Her grandmother told her that the child was wanted regardless of how she felt and she needed to tell her husband. She did not but she did have the baby and knew her grandmother was right. While this was all going on the husband who had gone to school to be a vet, was working more around the ranch with a hand they hired and a neighbor lady who lost her husband during the war was trying to come between them. He had to go on a cattle drive and when he got back things were worse between him and his wife. Still no one would talk, but he loved the little they had. Then one day out of the blue the man who rapped her shows up at their ranch he ends up confronting her with the child out on the trail and is taken care by nature. When her husband gets there they finally talk and she tells him everything. He hugs her and says I wish you would have told me sooner. The ranch is making money and they stay there. A very good story about real life.

Heather Gilbert says

Oh, this is TOTALLY on my favorites shelf now. Much as I loved INTO THE FREE by Cantrell, I think I loved this sequel more. We were right with Millie and Bump as they navigate the early-marriage waters...including a move to a real "fixer-upper." Beautifully wraps up issues left hanging in INTO THE FREE. And Millie's Choctaw grandma, Oka? LOVED her. I would give this book over five stars if I could--it's so realistic and believable, just the kind of story that sticks with me.

Faye says

Picking up right where *Into the Free* left off, Millie and Bump are getting married and about to set off on their own adventure managing a ranch in Colorado for their friend Cauly Tucker, they have 3 years to make it a success. If they do well they will get a share of the profit, and Bump will be able to start his veterinarian clinic. They must build the run down ranch from the ground up, and in their new home it is hard to know who to trust.

There is their charming widowed neighbor, Kat, who is too friendly with Bump for Millie's taste, but seems to offer the only friendship for miles. There is also Fortner, a man who was raised on the homestead that they are ranching, but rumors say that he killed 2 women.

Millie brings a painful secret into their marriage that threatens to tear them apart. Will Millie and Bump have the faith push through the challenges in their marriage, or will secrets tear them apart?

Picking up right where the previous book left off, this book does not work well as a stand alone. I would highly recommend reading the first book in the series, before starting this one, as it will give good depth and background to Millie's past and the secret that she still hides. Rich storytelling paints a picture of the stark reality around them, I liked how raw it was, and the vulnerability in the characters. The author skillfully, develops flawed characters that spring from the pages scars and all. I loved how over the course of the book I could go from being frustrated with a character, to understanding, and forgiving them over the course of the story.

Bump is a good man, and he loves Millie unconditionally. But he is still human, and isn't perfect. He is stressed out by the task before him, and wants to give his family more than what he had growing up.

Oka is Millie's paternal grandmother who comes to stay with them in Colorado, she is a very wise woman, and is full of hope despite the pain of her past.

Overall, a satisfying beginning to Millie and Bump's story. They must face their share of lions, and pain from the past, and learn to trust each other in the mountains of Colorado. I love how Ms. Cantrell so vividly brought the characters to life, and made them shine through their flaws. This book follows Millie in her journey of faith, through the happiness and heartache, joys and suffering. A memorable read that I won't soon forget.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received one or more of the products or services mentioned above for free in the hope that I would mention it on my blog. Regardless, I only recommend products or services I use

personally and believe will be good for my readers. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and testimonials in Advertising."

Jolina Petersheim says

When a novel is as strong as *Into the Free*, I often wonder if a sequel can be as rewarding. *When Mountains Move* is as rewarding, if not more. You can feel Julie Cantrell's heart in its creation and in the characters. I love the character arc of Millie as she finds healing for her past scars and as this draws her closer to the one supposed to walk beside her through life's journey. The secondary characters come to life just as much as they did in *Into The Free*. Readers of *Into the Free*, or even just those who are discovering Julie Cantrell's lyrical writing for the first time, pick up this book!

ANNETTE says

WOW!!, This is the second book in the series. This book grabs your heart strings and is very meaningful. .

Britney says

When Mountains Move is a beautifully woven story of human resilience that lingers, in the mind and on the heart, even after the last page has been turned.

Nancee says

Millie discovers hope in the opportunity to move forward with her life, far from atrocities of her past. Sadly, Millie's past is destined to become a major component of her future. Her choice between the two men she loves eventually creates questions in her mind regarding whether she has chosen the best course for her future. Opportunity awaits her and her new husband, Bump, as they set out to brave new worlds in the mountains of Colorado, far from the heartache in Mississippi. The challenges they face appear insurmountable when they realize that their "new" homestead is uninhabitable. Using every moment of daylight Millie and Bump attempt what appears to be the impossible, but their perseverance rewards them with an inhabitable farmstead and outbuildings with 5,000 acres of land to raise horses and beef cattle.

Julie Cantrell has received numerous awards for her debut novel, "*Into The Free*," which has been optioned by a production studio with hopes of bringing her story to the big screen! Julie's sequel to "*Into The Free*" surpassed my expectations! Her attention to detail is outstanding, and her characters are so well illustrated that I felt myself living Millie's life throughout the story! Vivid portrayals of the landscape throughout Millie and Bump's journey to the Rocky Mountains are eloquent, from the yellow flowers Millie so loves to the mountains that greet them. The hardships and disillusionments they face are realistic and believable. As with Julie's debut novel, I feel that "*When Mountains Move*" is an exceptional work of artistic creativity. I highly recommend this inspiring book!

Disclaimer: I received a copy of this book from the author and Wynn-Wynn Media in exchange for my

honest review. All expressed opinions are my own, and no monetary compensation was received for this review.

Iola says

Note: I actually read the 2016 edition from Thomas Nelson, which has a different cover. I've no idea whether the story has changed, or whether it's been re-edited.

I admit it: I didn't read Julie Cantrell's award-winning debut novel, *Into the Free*, mostly because there were faults in the review copy I downloaded which rendered it unreadable (my copy was missing all the c's and all the h's, which meant there would be references to a "fres at of fis" instead of a fresh catch of fish. It's hard to get into a novel when you find yourself having to sound out words like a six-year-old.

I also didn't request the sequel to *Into the Free* when it released the following year, because I tend not to enjoy sequels if I haven't read the first book in the series. So why did I request *When Mountains Move ...* which is that same sequel, only from a new publisher? Because I somehow missed the fact it was a book I elected not to read two years ago, but requested on the strength of the good things I'd heard about the author's writing.

And they are all true. Even though *When Mountains Move* is a sequel, it's not necessary to have read *Into the Free* in order to understand or appreciate this.

When Mountains Move is not an easy read: it starts with Millie, our heroine, having a dream/flashback to her rape six weeks earlier. She's now marrying Bump (Kenneth Anderson, and that's probably the only thing I never understood: where he got such a ridiculous nickname), and they are leaving Mississippi for Colorado, where Bump has a job managing a run-down ranch.

While the ranch is the main setting, ranch life isn't the core of the plot or theme. Rather, the story is about Millie coping with the attack and the after affects, and the strain this puts on her marriage. It's a story of love and trust and mistrust, the story of a marriage, and it's riveting.

The novel is told entirely in first person present tense from Millie's point of view, which is an interesting literary choice for a historical novel—most tend to be third person and past tense. First person seems to be reserved for young adult and new adult novels, and in a way that fits: *When Mountains Move* is an extension of the coming of age novel, and seventeen-year-old Millie is certainly in the right age bracket to attract YA/NA readers.

I like first person because gives us a deep insight into Millie and her problems. It also demonstrates the strength of Cantrell's writing in that I still understood a lot of Bump's thoughts and problems, even when Millie seemed not to.

I get that the combination of an edgy topic and first person writing won't appeal to everyone. But if you can get past that—as I did—I'm sure you'll find *When Mountains Move* to be excellent. Even if you haven't read *Into the Free*.

Thanks to Thomas Nelson for providing a free ebook for review.

Julie Barrett says

When Mountains Move by Julie Cantrell

This book was the one I actually wanted to read because of the travel through places I've never been to. The package also came with the first book in the series, Into The Free which I've read and will post it's review here after this one.

If it's anything like the first book I am going to feel like I am traveling with them, seeing the things Millie sees as first being away from MS.

This story picks up where the first left off, Bump and Millie have married and a bit of the past is remembered but not spoken. Jack's mother will arrive in CO after a month to help them set things up.

They get the help from another who lives in his own teepee on their land and others in town don't want him to be near them. Mr. Tucker and his recent fiancée and her father's mother are arriving from MS for a few weeks and Oka stays longer after the men set up the pasture and corrals for all the horses they now have. Oka is a godsend as a horse has kicked Millie and she starts bleeding-she's pregnant and the doctor doesn't know how much longer she will keep the baby. Millie has a secret from the past and she is able to share it with Oka and she does all the chores, milks goats, gathers eggs, cooks, etc.

Parts I loved the best are the scenery, you can tell the scene in front of her just takes her breath away when she sees the mountains for the first time. Love the talk about herbs and plants and what to do with them, the knitting and the quilting.

Love that Millie's Indian name means strong. She proves that over and over during the months at the ranch and everything that is expected of her. When she's tried everything and it's not working she turns to God for help.

Bump has a lot of pressure with the ranch and all the new things that come to the ranch for him to handle, he wonders if just one thing goes wrong they will have to go back to MS...

Millie's friend Kat causes her some heartache that Oka helps to soothe the pain til she gets to talk to Bump about it.

So much they are able to accomplish but the past is always there in the back of her mind...River shows up and there are a lot of misunderstandings and Millie has a choice, which one? Trust and faith in God get her through and I love the tale of how the mountains moved and the clover crowns.

I received this book from Book Club Network (bookfun.org) in exchange for my honest review.

Rambling Readers says

Julie Cantrell's debut novel, "Into the Free," left a lasting impression on me and created an enduring connection to Millie's story. "When Mountains Move" begins where "Into the Free" ends, and Millie's pain and questions about her future are immediately refreshed. Both novels have an weightiness that make them powerful and meaningful reads that I will revisit. Cantrell does not shy away from heavy subjects that will grab the hearts and attention of readers. "When Mountains Move" focuses primarily on the emotional and physical wounds inflicted on Millie by one man's evil deed.

After reading the story of Millie's childhood and teenage struggles, I wanted Millie's future to be smooth and bright - gently rolling hills rather than rocky mountains. It is clear from the beginning of the novel that Millie's path to happiness will not be easy. It is hard to believe that Millie is just seventeen and bearing such heavy burdens that quickly transition her from girlhood to womanhood. Cantrell portrays Millie's thoughts and feelings in rich detail, making her character even more gripping. The pain and doubt that weigh Millie down are raw and tangible. Told from first person perspective, it is easy to share Millie's questions about her marriage, her past, and her future. The questions pulled me deep into the plot and kept drawing me back until

all was resolved. But still, the emotion of the novel lingers; and I am glad that Cantrell did not choose to give Millie a predictable and gentle journey to peace because the message would be lost.

"When Mountains Move" takes Millie out of the cultured south and into the untamed wilds of the Rockies. Cantrell uses the mountains symbolically to compliment the course of the plot. The imagery of two mountain peaks mentioned at the beginning and end of the novel is particularly memorable and brings Millie's journey full circle from bleak and desolate to strong and shining with promise.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from David C. Cook through Net Galley. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions expressed above are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Dixie says

This book sings the songs every heart knows about. The melodic twinkle of adventure, twangy bass of envy, high pitch clang of fear, the silence of doubt and the sturdy rhythm of trust. It will be one of the few stories I read again.

DJ Sakata says

I received a free copy of Julie Cantrell's novel When Mountains Move as a Goodreads first reader. I typically avoid this genre (Christian) but found I could not put the book down. I read it in a day. I was absorbed, and found myself actually tensing up due to the drama, personal hardships, and disappointments Millie was experiencing. More than a few times I dreaded and despaired turning the page for fear of what was to become of her... But my anxiety was for naught as a happy ending was had by most, except for the nasty man that was eaten by a mountain lion. The poor lion, I hope she didn't get indigestion. I enjoyed the characters, the plot, and the telling of the tale. They do mention God, Bible stories and passages, and pray - a lot. Although it did not seem uncomfortably preachy or pushing a specific secular agenda. I would be interested in reading more of this story, which is a great surprise to me - an agnostic.

Arlene says

O wow, The sequel is even better. This is one of those times when you are really deeply moved by the story and you want to know more. It took me sometime to finish it because of the holidays.

June says

I think I got this for free on Amazon a few years ago. I've been wanting to read this for a while. I forgot this was part of a series and didn't read the first book. But honestly I was able to read this and get the full gist of the story. I ended up enjoying this one.

This was a slow burn, a very quiet story about the struggles in marriage. I enjoyed the scenes of Colorado.

Though set in the time of the second world war, it has minimal impact except for a secondary character. But the book did seem to be accurate for the 1930s-1940s. Loved how it incorporates Native American and the small town life. It was a predictable novel and you root for these newlyweds. There were a frustrating couple at times who really needed to talk to each other but I understood how insecurity played a major role. But such a realistic issue facing any marriage.

This is a Christian novel but not overtly so. Still undecided about that last part with Oka and the Native American tradition shown. Definitely a good book for a book club to discuss certain themed explored here like marriage, forgiveness, motherhood and abuse.
