



Atonement

B.J. Daniels

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Just how far are people willing to go to keep their secrets?

Protecting the citizens of Beartooth, Montana, is never an easy job. It's been one year, and Sheriff Dillon Lawson still feels guilty that he couldn't save his twin brother, Ethan. But the biggest test of his bravery comes when Tessa Winters arrives, claiming to be pregnant...with Ethan's baby. At first, Dillon can't decide if this beautiful woman is a con artist or a victim. If Ethan didn't die in that car crash, then where is he?and why is he hiding?

Now, Dillon is prepared to do anything to uncover the truth?anything except admit his growing feelings for Tessa. But with violence threatening, Tessa and Dillon must trust in each other to save not only themselves...but also Tessa's unborn child.

Atonement Details

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Category Romance, Harlequin, Mystery

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From Reader Review Atonement for online ebook

JL Coy says

Atonement grabbed me from the very beginning as nearly all of B.J.Daniels' books do. We return to Beartooth, Montana and pick up with some of our old friends and acquaintances and we meet a few new ones. As always, there is mystery and danger and romance; everything we need in a book!

I especially enjoyed getting to know what happened with Frank, Nettie and Pam. I was so happy to see the crows return!! This was just one of the threads in this book. We follow Dillon Lawson, undersheriff of Beartooth and Tessa Winters as they search for Dillon's twin brother, Ethan. We learn the backstory of Ethan's disappearance and we get to meet all the bad guys while learning that story.

I love books with multiple plots going on and generally have no problem following each one, but there were a few abrupt changes that threw me for a loop for a paragraph or so.

This is a fun book to read. I wanted to read it in one sitting, but the book arrived on a weekday and I had to be up for work the following morning. It only took me two sittings to read it through. And when I was done, I went back and re-read the other Beartooth books that B.J. has written. I love it when a book makes me want to catch up with previous characters again.

Cocktails and Books says

This was my first B.J. Daniels read and I was completely blown away! This book is amazing. The story is expertly crafted and honed beautifully and I was immediately hooked from the first page.

What I really enjoyed about this book was the dual story lines. It was like having two books in one! Atonement is a perfect example of exceptional storytelling. The author really ran the gamut of emotions in the story which made it easy to relate to the characters.

What I also found interesting was the lack of love scenes and the seldom use of curse words. In Atonement, the author demonstrates that you can write an exceptional and intriguing story without vulgar language and graphic sex scenes. Nothing wrong with those things but I thought the book was tastefully done and I really appreciated the author's choice to refrain from it.

I struggled a little in writing this review because I just couldn't seem to correctly articulate my thoughts on the book. I feel changed in some way after having read this wonderful story. I highly recommend this book to any reader who enjoys engaging, mystery-filled suspense stories sprinkled with romance and a touch of humor.

A solid 5 Star read!

Reviewed by Elizabeth for Cocktails and Books

Kimberly Rocha~ Book Obsessed Chicks says

One of the things from the Beartooth Mountain series that I adore, is author B.J. Daniels' ability to weave multiple story lines together in a most masterful way. It keeps me biting my nails and waiting with bated breath for what's coming next . All of the characters involved are in some way connected, and yet have their own trials and tribulations which for me, set apart Ms. Daniels into a league all her own.

In ATONEMENT, the 4th installment of the Beartooth Mountain series, the newer lawman in town, Dillon Lawson not only comes smack down in the middle of a murder in town, but he also is faced with a personal matter in the form of the feisty Tessa Winters, who swears that Dillon is in fact his deceased brother Ethan and claims she is pregnant by the man who is supposed to have died a year ago. Dillon shakes his head, because the woman in front of him is either a complete con artist, or Ethan is in fact alive. Ah, and therein lies an entirely different set of issues that this man has to deal with, aside from the town's Sheriff being accused of murdering his ex-wife.

Finally things are starting to look up for Frank and Nettie. Separated by a lifetime of disappointments, these star-crossed lovers have been in love with one another for decades but from afar. Nothing ever seemed to work for these two until now. Things are starting to look brighter now that Frank returns to work after his near death experience several months before at the hand of the daughter he didn't even know he had. Now he is under suspicion for the murder of his ex.

There is nothing better than a B.J. Daniels suspense novel for this reader. She puts my brain into high gear with her exciting whodunit with a side of romance. I love how we have the new story with Dillon and Tessa and the old with Frank and Nettie. With each story in the Beartooth Mountain series, I have become invested in the the livelihoods of all those involved, the characters feel like old friends who you have a stake in their well-being. I highly recommend ATONEMENT by B.J. DANIELS, I enjoyed this thoroughly, as I did with each and every book in the Beartooth Mountain series and I eagerly await the next one.

Issa says

3.5 stars. Another good installment. You can always depend on a good story from this author with romance and plenty of mystery. And yes, finally a resolution to the Frank/Pam/Nettie saga though not what I expected. If anything though, I found the Dillon/Tessa relationship a little weak but with Tessa pregnant I suppose the options were limited. Can't wait for the next one.

Valri Western says

Another fantastic book by BJ Daniels! Things are heating up in Beartooth! There are a couple of storylines going on in this book but if you have been reading the Beartooth series, you know that's how all the books are. Once again, so many twists and turns keep you on the edge of your seat! Just when you think you have the villain figured out, you don't! The main story concentrates on Tessa and Dillon. Dillon thinks his twin brother is dead until Tessa shows up on his doorstep one day, pregnant with his brother's baby and wondering where his brother is....BUT, she doesn't know that the father of her baby even had a twin! Dillon can't believe that his brother isn't dead and would make him suffer like that. He and Tessa work together to find out where Ethan is and what happened. Another story going on is Sheriff Frank and Nettie. Frank's ex-wife is found dead on his property and he's the only suspect. Nettie is going to prove he didn't do it. Will she stay alive long enough to prove it? Like I said, twists and turns!!!! Fantastic story!

Jo (Mixed Book Bag) says

Atonement is another riveting story filled with danger and romance. Set in Beartooth, Montana some of the story is a carry-over from the previous books and some is new to Atonement. If you have followed the series you won't be surprised at the level of tension B. J. Daniels infused into the story. If this is your first Beartooth, Montana story you are in for a treat.

Atonement sees the end to one mystery. At the end of the last book no one knew what had happened to Pam and Frank and Nettie were left hanging. That mystery is solved in Atonement. A new mystery is introduced and a new couple work to survive and find a HEA. Dillion Lawson was a side character in previous books but takes center stage in Atonement. Now he and Tessa Winters are working to find Dillion's twin, Ethan and remove the danger Ethan put them both in.

I could not put Atonement down and read it all in one day. Now I have to wait for the next book by Daniels.

JoAnne says

Hard to believe but this is the first book I've read by B.J. Daniels but it won't be my last. I look forward to reading the other books in this series as well as others she's written.

Although Atonement is the fourth book in the series for the most part I was able to fill in most of the blanks of what may have come before. There was a nice flow to the story as well as good character development and a couple of mysteries thrown in as well. At times my heart would race especially with the weather, the violence and the evilness of some. Nice happily ever after and the prologue and epilogues were nice additions and rounded out the book nicely.

Wonderful descriptions of the land, the homes, businesses and locations that I felt I was there. Books were reminiscent to me of those by Diana Palmer.

Jonetta says

Originally posted on The Book Nympho

Deputy Sheriff Dillon Lawson's identical twin brother, Ethan, died a year ago. So, when Tessa Winters shows up seven months pregnant and claiming Ethan's the father, color him skeptical. And, she was convinced he was really Ethan. Talk about your rocky starts.

I really enjoyed how the story unfolded and their relationship developed. Trust was a huge issue, as you would expect, and it was a slow build. There were layered elements of mystery and suspense, making this a real puzzler. Additionally, one of the unresolved stories from the last book was addressed in this one. This is very definitely a series that *must* be read in order as there are continuing story arcs.

One other thing I'm enjoying about the series is its authenticity. Life in this region of the country is

significantly different from most urban/suburban environments. Even the approach to law enforcement varies, taking into consideration the western lifestyle. It's a completely different experience and it shines through. The narrator effectively captures this in dialect and attitude.

I'm really enjoying the series and am looking forward to the next story.

(I received an ARC from the publisher in exchange for an honest review)

Bj says

4 "The Good Twin" Stars for the story and 3.5 stars for the narration.

Atonement is like two romantic suspense titles wrapped up in one. For those of you who have been following the Beartooth Montana Series, you will be familiar with both of the heroes. While it is possible to read this as a stand-alone title, given the intricate interconnections of the various characters, particularly as it relates to the suspense, I suggest that you read or listen to this series in chronological order.

The main story revolves around Under Sheriff Dillon Lawson (the good twin) and his identical brother, Ethan, who he believes passed away a year earlier. That is until Tessa Winters arrives in town claiming to be carrying Ethan's baby. Dillon doesn't know what to make of this news, and Tessa is convinced that Dillon is actually Ethan but just assuming the identity of his brother to avoid her. Of course, this leads to a tumultuous beginning, but little by little the pair begins to uncover one incredible suspense-filled web. All the while, as the credibility and good-will of the other begins to become undeniable, the couple begins a journey towards finding out the truth and determining whether their fate includes a HEA.

The secondary story, is actually one that is more directly carried over from the prior books and involves Sheriff Frank Curry, his ex-wife Pam, and his new love interest, Nettie Benton. Sheriff Curry inadvertently finds himself on the wrong side of the law and Frank and Nettie will be racing against the clock to prove his innocence all the while testing their romantic resolve for one another.

Rounding out the action and suspense filled plot is Graham Winton's narration. Mr. Winton is a natural to perform this romantic western. Producing an authentic and appropriate tone setting accent for this Montana based romance, Mr. Winton does a great job of bringing both Dillon and Frank to life. While his female characters are a little less gender authentic, he also produces a sufficiently nuanced pitch for these characters to allow for easy differentiation between the female and male cast.

The one area where I had a little more trouble was in telling apart the characters of a similar age and gender. For example, there are a few scenes where there is another male character of the same age as Dillon, and I had more difficulty distinguishing between the two characters. However, this was only a minor detraction, and Mr. Winton's attention to the scene being enacted and general tone of the characters leads to an overall slightly above average performance.

All in all, if you enjoy a good romantic suspense title--especially with a small-town Western feel--then I recommend that you give the Beartooth Montana Series a try. Moreover, for those of you that are already enjoying this series, then I highly recommend Atonement.

Source: Review copy provided in exchange for an honest review.

Jackie says

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BOOK SYNOPSIS

Just how far are people willing to go to keep their secrets?

Protecting the citizens of Beartooth, Montana, is never an easy job. It's been one year, and Sheriff Dillon Lawson still feels guilty that he couldn't save his twin brother, Ethan. But the biggest test of his bravery comes when Tessa Winters arrives, claiming to be pregnant...with Ethan's baby. At first, Dillon can't decide if this beautiful woman is a con artist or a victim. If Ethan didn't die in that car crash, then where is he—and why is he hiding?

Now, Dillon is prepared to do anything to uncover the truth—anything except admit his growing feelings for Tessa. But with violence threatening, Tessa and Dillon must trust in each other to save not only themselves but also Tessa's unborn child.

My Thoughts

Being this is the fourth book in a series there is a lot that I missed, however the author did a good job of tying up the loose threads from the previous book with this one she also put in a lot of effort to make this story work as a stand alone.

There is no way to really get across how all the bits and pieces that are revealed in this book tie together without revealing too much. Suffice to say that since Dillon Lawson was a young man he had tried to help look out for and make things easier for his twin brother Ethan. The two were identical and growing up Dillon took great pride in that but for Ethan it was always a burden as he never felt comfortable as a twin, ultimately they grew apart with Dillon upholding the law and Ethan forever breaking it.

Tessa Winters comes along right as Dillon is distraught over the anniversary of his brother's death a year earlier, outraged and pregnant she at first believes Dillon to be Ethan but after being presented with proof that Dillon was indeed the twin she never knew about Tessa has no choice but to accept that Ethan is long gone from her and her child's life.

The truth of Ethan being missing rather than dead sets off a chain of events that take Dillon and Tessa on a search to find he and several of Ethan's partners in crime which in turn sets off a chain of events that leads to even more startling secrets being revealed.

Weaving the prior mystery of what happened to Sheriff Frank Curry's ex-wife and the current mystery of where Ethan is and why he faked his own death leads the reader through a labyrinth that will keep you guessing and on the edge of your seat more than once. As each thread of the story is unraveled and each mystery is solved Dillon finds himself caring more and more for Tessa and her unborn child, the question is will she return his feelings or will she once again turn to Ethan once they are reunited?

Like the other cowboy western romances read by author B J Daniels this was a great mixture of suspense, romance and family drama.

[EArc from Netgalley in exchange for honest review]

Jonel Boyko says

This novel was intensely captivating from the first page. Daniels masterfully weaves two intensely suspenseful stories together into one unforgettable tale. She also balances romance with suspense, never letting one aspect of the story overpower the rest. This author paints this world for her audience with her words, creating a visual reading experience. Her writing also changes from light and heartfelt to fast paced and intense along with the action in the story, giving her readers a really gripping look into the story itself. I really appreciated the way that Daniels brought in parts of previous stories, allowing readers to join the series at this point without boring those who've read the entire series.

As a reader you fall in love with these characters as they fall in love with each other. The relationship between the characters isn't so much in the words said between them but rather in their actions. And this goes for both couples in the tale. I quite enjoyed the way that these characters were developed as well. Daniels takes characters that we've met in previous novels and expands on them. That said, everything necessary to get to know the characters can be found within this instalment of the series. She also plays on the old adage that actions speak louder than words. She allows her characters' actions to show who they truly are.

As a whole this was a brilliant read, walking the fine line between relaxation and suspense that leads to a tale you won't be able to put down, nor will you forget. It's a brilliant read for anyone who enjoys Daniels' work, or for those who'd like an introduction to her writing.

Please note that I received this novel free of charge from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Judy C says

Another wonderful, exciting edition to the Beartooth Montana series. This as the previous books is a must

read. I love how B.J intertwines several stories within the book without making it hard to follow.

We have several murders that surround Sheriff Frank ex-wife Pam which he is being framed for. Undersheriff Dillion is shocked to find out his twin brother Ethan is alive when his ex comes knocking on his door pregnant thinking he's Ethan. That sets up for a big plot with several characters other characters leaving Dillion and Tessa in danger and trying to figure out what is going on. While trying to find Ethan and keep him safe.

We have Nette as always sticking her snooping nose out getting herself in trouble as well. There is so many twists and turns I couldn't put the book down. I highly recommend this and the previous books in this series.

B.J. Another Home Run!!!

Katrina Epperson says

B.J. Daniels brings us a contemporary suspense interlaced with a romance set in Montana. She uses wonderful imagery that readily pulls the reader into the story. We are introduced to the sheriff of Beartooth, Montana Dillion Lawson. Dillion is a very compelling and lovable character. He endured a difficult childhood and has fought to overcome it. He and his twin, Ethan, escaped from their childhood abuse as soon as they were old enough. He had not heard from Ethan in years, until a year ago when he was notified of Ethan's death. As difficult as dealing with the loss of his brother was the appearance of Tessa Winters was something of a disaster.

Tessa Winters is searching for answers and has come to Beartooth to get them. With her baby due in a few weeks she has one goal in mind and that is to have Ethan sign off his parental rights to their child so she can get on with her life. Confused doesn't begin to cover her emotions when she hears of Ethan's death. How could he be dead for a year, when less than 9 months ago they were planning a future together?

Dillion and Tessa embark on a journey to find answers to their questions. Unfortunately with Dillion being the spitting image of his brother and asking questions, suddenly both find themselves in danger.

A wonderfully written storyline that keeps the reader turning the pages, even at 3 am. Suspense, romance and humor interwoven with excellent imagery is the key to a good read which this book is full of.

I would recommend it to anyone.

Vivian says

Grab a cup of hot chocolate, a soft blanket and cuddle up on the couch with Atonement. There is no better way to spend a relaxing weekend during this chilly winter! Atonement is the 4th novel in the Beartooth, Montana series and the story definitely starts off with a bang.

The main focus of the story revolves around Dillon Lawson (an undersheriff) and Tessa, the woman carrying his twin brother's baby. Dillon's brother Ethan, was presumed to be dead but after some thorough digging and unfriendly encounters, Dillon finds out that his brother is alive and it's a quest to find Ethan and set things straight.

Atonement has all the things that you'd expect in a great story based in a western, small-town setting. Hot cowboys, guns, murder, mystery, love, and horses. Both the main characters have their flaws, but are easily likable, therefore making Atonement a pleasant read.

As a bonus, if you've been an avid follower of the Beartooth series and adore Sheriff Frank Curry and his

love interest, Lynette (Nettie), I strongly suggest you set this book on pre-order because it contains their most exciting adventures together yet.

My only complaint is that I wished Rylan and Destry would have made a cameo appearance! I almost expected them to as the ending scene (before the epilogue) seemed so fitting but perhaps we will have to wait. As much as I like the other Beartooth characters that make brief appearances, I am still crossing my fingers to see my favorites, Rylan and Destry, again!

Romda Shepersky says

Attonement! Another great book from B.J Daniels. You can always count on her to be a great read. The story takes place in a small western town in the Montana mountains. This is her fourth book in the Beartooth Mountains

This small western town appears on the surface to be quiet. You wonder how many mystery's and killings can one small quiet town handle. The townspeople of Beartooth Montana know the killer is amongst

The undersheriff Dillan, buried his Twin Brother Ethan, a year ago and trying to move on with his life when he blames himself for his brothers death. Tessa shows up on Dillans ranch wanting to talk with Ethan who was the father of her baby. Tessa thinks that Dillion is Ethan and lays into Dillion. Since he buried his brother a year ago, he thinks the lady is wacko. Then she shows him a picture that Ethan gave her, he realized is brother was really alive and wondered what his brother did that made him fake his own death. As Dillion and Tessa start to search for Ethan they are fighting their chemistry to not fall in love with other. They discovered Ethans past to try and find him and who is after Ethan. The stalker is also trying to kill Tessa. They soon discover the killer is killing everyone to keep the secrets buried with the bodies. Dead bodies are showing up everywhere an they are trying to stay alive.

Attonement has a bonus to the story to add a little more mystery. If you have been following the Beartooth Series, you have to be rooting for Frank and Nettie to finally get together. Frank comes back to town, no longer in pursuit of his estranged wife Pam. Pam's body is later discovered on the sheriffs property, and with threats to find Pam and kill her makes him the number one suspect. As the mystery unfolds, Frank and Lettie have been each other strength through it all, and the things they discover as they are hot in the trail of the real killer. The killer is stalking and trying to kill Nettie since Nettie is so close to gdiscovering the real killer which is a shock to the town, with even more deaths.
