



Midnight Sun

Lisa Tawn Bergren

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KAATJE JANSSEN--Desperate to know if her missing husband still lives, Kaatje hires the rugged, yet tenderhearted James Walker to guide her through the perils of the Alaskan wilderness. What she finally discovers, however, is far from what she expected--and could well place her in the greatest danger of her life.

ELSA RAMSTAD--As captain of the Majestic and mother of Kristian and Eve, Elsa has sought to ease the ache of her lonely heart. Forever changed by loss, she accepts her fate of solitude. But when an old friend rekindles the spark of romance within her, will she allow the flames of love to burn again?

TORA ANDERS--Her foolish youth behind her, Tora looks forward to her wedding and a fresh start in life as the wife of her beloved, Trent Storm. But first she must confront, face-to-face, the terrible demons of her past--and her struggle to forgive the man who radically altered her future.

KARL MARTENSEN--Though he is widely admired, Captain Karl Martensen feels no depth of emotion for any of the women with whom his life becomes uncomfortably entangled. He has only tender memories of the love he once lost--a love that, by the grace of God, he just may find again--

From the fierce Alaskan wilderness to the gaiety of San Francisco society; the familiar peaks of Bergen, Norway, to the dark, churning waters of Cape Horn; witness the glorious conclusion of the Northern Lights family saga as four long-time friends journey out of the shadow of their darkest days into the bright future awaiting them in the land of the Midnight Sun.

Midnight Sun Details

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Sverre says

This is the third and concluding book of the Northern Lights series. One third of the way through it becomes easy to predict that the ending will be a happy one and the three women, Elsa, Tora and Kaatje will find true love in marital bliss. But getting to the conclusion proves to be circuitous. Yes, there are a number of twist and turns in these women's lives. Frankly, there are credibility issues in Bergren's storylines but the readers of the previous two books will plough on to see the story through to its end.

After reading this series I felt that the Norwegian connection in this series was a plot device to catch ethnic readers. Most of these characters neither speak nor behave much like new immigrants from Bergen. Most nineteenth century people from that town would have been engaged with fishing or trading but Bergren has the "Bergensers" settling in Washington State to farm, not fish or trade. The three main female characters soon demonstrate capabilities which would have been most unlikely in real life. And, apparently they speak eloquent English soon after their arrival. With no experience Elsa captains ships manned by rough and ready sailors with their complete admiration and acceptance. She takes her two small children along on the high seas. Young inexperienced Tora improbably knows how to wheel and deal, starting up and managing numerous roadhouses. Kaatje quickly learns how to run a farm all by herself. Later she chooses to go on an arduous trek through the Alaska and Yukon wilderness with two male strangers. Occasionally Bergren inserts Norwegian words in spoken sentences for validity. Most of these are OK but in this last volume she twice uses the expression "dyr one"--meaning "dear one." Unfortunately, the word "dyr" translates either as "expensive" or "animal," not "dear"! Awkward!

Veronica says

This series spans ten years and feels epic in the multiple story-lines and global locales. Well-written, with adventure, romance, redemption, betrayal, and forgiveness, I was surprised time and again with where the story led. I didn't like the first book as well because of some choices characters made, but really liked books two and three. You definitely need to read these in order. If you like historical fiction, don't miss this series!

I received this e-book free from Waterbrook Multnomah in exchange for an honest review.

Marita says

Very satisfying ending to this trilogy. Even if I know who was going to end up with who from the beginning Bergren still kept my interest going with good twist to the story. This book took up some very difficult human emotions about forgiveness of self and others that would be very interesting to talk about in a book group. Very wholesome. Highly recommended. Thanks Susann!

★???Ø??★ (Nix) says

I picked up this Christian historical fiction series after reading one of Lisa T. Bergren's young adult series, and found a beautifully enticing journey. From start to finish, Norway to America, I followed these

characters and their diverging and converging paths with a joyous realization of the story's accurate portrayal of faith, sin, redemption, and life in general.

This is one of my favorite series (and authors) of all time, and I find myself recommending it (and her) again and again!

(The fact that Lisa T. Bergren is from my hometown only sweetens the deal. ?)

Helen Pugsley says

This... This was such a great finish to such a great series.

Michele says

This was the 3rd and final book in this series. It was one of those books that kept me motivated to go to the gym just so I could listen to it and continue the story. The characters had real depth and the story line was compelling. It was not just a predictable "happily ever after" book, but kept you wondering just what would happen and how it would all end. The Christian message throughout was also so uplifting and encouraging, but also very down-to-earth and realistic. I will miss following the lives of these characters.

Tara says

this was a wonderful ending to a wonderful story about Norwegian immigrants to America. The story followed them from Norway to Maine, across the continent to Washington Territory and finally up to Alaska where the majority of this book took place. The friends faced loses and a few lost their belief in the Lord, and had to work their way back to His side. Very moving!

Sharon says

Finally, the saga was drawn to a conclusion. I was glad I persevered with this series even though I found myself losing interest now and then because I wanted the story to move along at a faster pace. I may read this series again, someday, and find I have a greater appreciation for its pace than I do, now.

Favourite quote, from book 1 page 37: "It was not fair, but it was fact." This sums up some of the angst felt by nearly all of the characters at least once or some of the time during the saga of these three books.

(Liene) says

I wanted to like this more than I actually did. It was a nice conclusion to the series, everyone's story is finished and the epilogue gives even more detail about the future.

But my big problem with this book is one that I cannot say outright, because it would be a spoiler.

But without spoiling anything, or, anything much, if you've read even the first book, you know that there are people in this series who lust after married people. The one who does this from the first book isn't the only one.

Now the spoiler that really bothered me (view spoiler) And that's why I give this last book 3 stars.

Both books 1 and 2 were more interesting than this last one, but it was still an enjoyable read.

Sheila says

the books just keep getting beter. How can they. For Kaatje to go on such a journey and to fall for her guide and get back to Alaska and find her husband alive. Man and to think just when things are goin well then her husband decides to let her know he's alive just to pop up and expect to go right where they left off. The friends who became lovers Elsa and Karl finally find out that they can love each other. Then everyone waits to wait for all their loved ones together to get married.

It's sad Soren can't let it go with James and each of them give in to their anger. It's a happy ending but I can't seem to think there should be another book I can't have the ending up in the air. Awesome book I love the series and hope theres another book.

Rachel says

Lisa Tawn Bergren has done an excellent job of wrapping up all the lives we learned to love (and some we didn't!) in the first two of this trilogy. CAPTIAN'S BRIDE and DEEP HARBOR kept you on the edge of your chair and at times exclaiming - "she can't do that to that character!". In MIDNIGHT SUN, you can relax a little more while reading, but for me it was still a "stay up and read until it's finished" wonderful, satisfying ending. The author may state this is the end to this series, but I wonder if she would consider another book with the children all grown up? Does Alaska have to be the final frontier for these wonderful characters? Read all three books, you will laugh and cry with the rest of us!

Elentarien says

Really enjoyed this one. Ironically it contained more action than the two before it, as well as more 'danger'. It managed to spin most of it out until the end as well, before starting a nice, full 'wrap up'. It wrapped the series up very satisfactorily, no hugely glaring loose ends, no 'wondering' what happens. It was all quite. . .ahhhhh. :)

Frode says

The Lord works in wondrous ways, and truth is stranger than fiction. However, some of the coincidences in this book somewhat stretch the imagination. I mean, how many people can end up in Juneau, Alaska of all

places. While strained, they are still satisfying to the reader. Loose ends are tied up for the most part, and certain issues are resolved. All in all, the ending chapters close the books on a series of relationships. Sure, an astute reader has it figured out who will end up with whom, but the author handled it rather nicely I thought. A couple of near miss tragedies give a little excitement to the book. It was enjoyable for me and a good ending to the series. Nice.

Carolyn Tye says

It read like a clean soap opera. I liked that because it was a mental break for me.

Annette says

Great ending to this three book series. We see the full transformation of the character Tora, from irritating brat to a woman seeking God's grace. Elsa, Carl and Katjia find peace and happiness from their trials and Soren in a way gets his just desserts. This was a wonderful series to read, full of adventure, christian principles and romance. The author writes in a way that makes you have to know what happens next. After a slow start at the beginning of book one, the story jump starts into high gear, capturing your attention from then on to the end of book three. I highly recommend this delightful three book series
