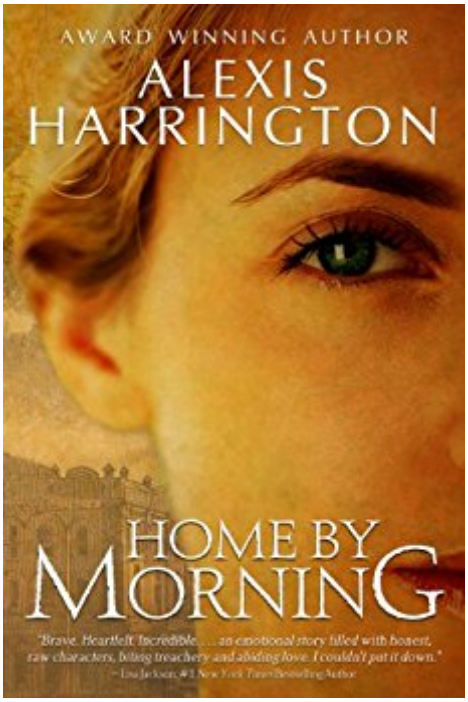
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Home By Morning (A Powell Springs Novel Book 1)



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Synopsis

October 1918: En route from New York to Seattle, Jessica Layton stops for a visit in her hometown of Powell Springs, Oregon, and comes face-to-face with Cole Braddock, her first and only love from years ago. Now Jessica is a highly accomplished clinical physician preparing for an exciting new job in Washington, and Cole is a successful horse breeder who is courting her sister Amy. Both are convinced they have moved beyond their youthful passion and the heartbreak it produced; nonetheless, they are grateful that JessicaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s brief visit will leave little opportunity to rehash old wounds. But before Dr. Layton can leave town, Powell Springs is hit hard by the influenza epidemic ravaging the country. With no other doctors available, Jessica must remain in Oregon and tend to her friends and former neighbors. Her work brings her in constant contact with Cole, and with each passing day he finds it harder to convince himself that mild-tempered Amy can fill his heart as Jessica once did. Set against the gritty backdrop of World War I and the epidemic of 1918, Home by Morning is a raw, compelling story of betrayal, heartbreak, and redemption.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It’s been a long time since I read a romance with as interesting a premise as Alexis Harrington’s Home by Morning. I saw this book on a review site, and the cover art and blurb sucked me in instantly. I downloaded the sample read from , was so entranced by the story and the strong characterization that I had to buy the book. I read it in a day and a half (okay, I was a vendor at a craft show and read between customers), but when I got home I had to read the rest.I was not disappointed.This is a book considered unsaleable by New York publishers, so Ms. Harrington offered it as a Kindle read (and at a very attractive price!) What was the problem? Ms. Harrington chose to set her story during the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic! (As one whose great aunt perished during this time, I was drawn like steel to a magnet.) I find the period refreshing, fascinating and unique-at least in romance fiction. Here we have a world balancing between tradition and modernism, and with the onset of WWI, a cataclysm that changed the world utterly.Home by Morning is the story of Dr. Jessica Layton who is enroute from New York to take up a research position at a Seattle hospital and stops off in her hometown of Powell Springs, Oregon...and lands smack into the middle of the influenza epidemic. Daughter of the town’s deceased practitioner, Jessica left to study medicine in the East, and remained, leaving behind her childhood love, Cole Braddock. Cole ranches and runs the town’s smithy, and he is courting Jessica’s younger sister Amy.Jessica is pressed into service since the town is desperate and the new doctor hasn’t yet arrived. But there are conflicts and misunderstandings that make Jess’ position difficult in every way.The story has three threads that author Harrington skillfully weaves into a cohesive tapestry. And she has created secondary and tertiary characters who are not what they seem. Cole’s brother is near the Argonne, fighting in the trenches, his wife takes care of the ranch, while Cole, his arthritic father and a hired hand ship horses to the front. In between this is the devastation of influenza in the community, the heartbreak of lost lives and the gut-wrenching futility of trying to deal with a disease for which they have no cure. I won’t expose the ending, but it will surprise you. Many times while reading, I had a lump in my throat and tears in my eyes.Ms. Harrington is a masterful storyteller, using skillful writing, great dialogue and wonderful imagery. This is a must-read book and an informative look into a period in history that seems glossed over. Brava Ms. Harrington for sharing your enormous talent in this superb story. A strong five stars.

Set in 1918, Jessica Layton is struggling to prove knowledgeable women are competent enough to do a ’man’s job’. As a physician, her struggles through the doctoring world haunt her, worsening as she stops in Powell Springs for a visit while on her way to a prestigious job offer in Seattle. The town is overtaken by the Spanish Influenza, and being the only Doctor around, she has more patients

than she can handle. Not to mention, the small town drama that comes with it. The story is riddled with secrets, war, betrayal, love, and more as Jessica faces her true enemy: Herself.Alexis Harrington does a great job with the characters, especially the antagonists. (Seriously, I was gritting my teeth at every mention of the pompous jerks.) The protagonists were well rounded, interesting, and easy to like although I was frustrated by something Jessica did near the end of the book.Overall, I bounced between three to four stars. Home By Morning has a good plotline, interesting characters, and is a quick and easy read. Alexis Harrington does a good job of leading into her next novel, which I am on the fence about purchasing. Maybe sometime in the future?

"Home By Morning" is an historical romance set around the Spanish Flu outbreak in 1918. The research was well done, and one gets a sense of how devastating this outbreak was at the time. The heroine and hero were sympathetic and likable characters, while the villain was truly detestable. The depiction of the minor characters and small town atmosphere added a lot of depth and realism to the story. This book was very well written, and definitely hard to put down. It is a "clean" romance that would be suitable for any age group. I definitely recommend it.

I could say it was "ok"... but it wasn’t, because when someone skips some pages of the point of view he/she is not interested in, this is not "ok".It is supposed we read the book without the urge to skip pages to get to the end as soon as it is possible.I haven’t liked one character of this book.Weird.

When I started reading this book I had forgotten what exactly it was about but I needed something to read on a short car trip and it was ready to read without needing a wide-do connection so I started reading and I didn’t stop till I had read the last word. Within 4pages I was hooked. The story was interesting set in a time period that was very important in our country’s history. The writing was outstanding and easy to follow. The description of the state of medicine and the prejudice against women doctors at that time is hard for people to grasp now but it was very real then. The combination of history, war and love story was handled exceptionally well. I would highly recommend it to any one who enjoys a well written interesting story.

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