



Million Dollar Cowboy

Lori Wilde

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New York Times *Bestselling Author* Lori Wilde returns to *Cupid, Texas* with a heartwarming story of a cowboy who comes home to the family ranch for a wedding filled with surprises...

The illegitimate son of a Texas ranching dynasty, Ridge Lockhart left home ten years ago with one goal: to become more successful than the father who never accepted him.

Mission accomplished, but now he's back at the Silver Feather Ranch for a wedding—three days of best man duty until he can hightail it out. Then he spies Kaia Alzate, and suddenly leaving isn't quite so appealing.

Kaia Alzate grew up the daughter of the ranch foreman, servants to the mighty Lockharts in the mansion. Back then, she followed Ridge around like a puppy. Now, she's fighting the attraction she feels for this sexy CEO. She's determined not to make a big mistake—but when Ridge takes her in his arms she's stunned...could he be the man she's waited for all along?

Million Dollar Cowboy Details

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Author : Lori Wilde

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Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Westerns

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From Reader Review Million Dollar Cowboy for online ebook

Yvonne says

When you think an author can't outdo herself after reading her previous books, you get Ms Wilde to prove you wrong !

I have come to the conclusion that this talented author is under-estimated and hope that with this review, others will join me in appreciating her talent.

In this story, we have RIDge Lockhart, the illegitimate son of a wealthy rancher, who has become wealthy on his own account and has had a turbulent relationship with his father, all his life. The other main character is Kaia Alzate, the young sister of his best friend, who in their youth followed the two boys everywhere and has had a crush on Ridge most of her life. She is going to school to become a Veterinarian, but has had some stumbling blocks in her way. Still, she embraces life in a way that Ridge doesn't.

Aside from a great storyline there is so much more to this story.

It's a story about family, home and love. A reminder that we have to slow down and literally, stop and smell the roses. A reminder that wealth is not about things, but about experiencing life and cherishing it. That we must put family, love, and relationships above everything else, because that's where the true treasures in life exist.

Thank you , Ms Wilde, for that reminder. I can't wait for your book to be published.

I was gifted this book by Edelweiss and Tasty Book Tours. The opinions expressed are solely my own.

Gaele says

I'm so glad to have jumped in to read this book, mostly for one thing: Ridge Lockhart. He was utterly wonderful, even as I could feel every bit of resistance and angry, hurt little boy lashing out at those who would ignore him. He left town as the illegitimate son of the Big Man in town, a wealthy rancher who, although giving him a place to live, always made him feel second best, with his mother gone and new 'step mother' who loathed him. Loathed him so much, she left her own son behind in her rush out the door. . Sure, he had his brothers (who never treated him differently) but the tumultuous relationship with his father culminated with a 'scene' with his girlfriend of the time, and he was out. O. U. T.

But, his best friend is getting married, and the ties that bind him there, bring him back to town, to a wedding in a chapel on the ranch's property. Now all grown up with money and a history of his own – he's counting the hours until he can put the Silver Feather Ranch, and all of the baggage that it stirs up, in his rearview. But, then he comes face to face with Kaia, daughter of the foreman and someone he grew up with, the interest on his part is instant.

Kaia is home for her brother's wedding, she's still determined to become a veterinarian, but with some side trips along the way, she's not quite there yet. Oh she remembered Ridge, she had a crush on him for years, she just didn't realize that they were still there. And OH was it fun seeing her reaction when she discovers THAT little tidbit. I loved her: she was so down to earth and matter of fact about things: always finding time to take a moment and absorb it, a lesson that everyone in this story will come to learn, eventually.

When Ridge's father, Duke, comes to face his own mortality, the story really heats up as his now wife, and Ridge's ex, as well as Kaia make it clear that NOW is the time for Ridge and Duke to come out of their respective corners and meet in the middle, because the ranch, and family are something that they both need.

A wonderfully layered story that worked in nuanced and 'bash you over the head with a pitchfork' sort of ways to get Ridge's issues mostly resolved, and allow him the opportunity to grab life and love by the horns – he's only got to reach.

A favorite this year for sure, mostly for the layers of healing and hope that come to Ridge, and the wonderful potential for true belonging with Kaia.

I received an eArc copy of the title from the publisher via Edelweiss for purpose of honest review. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions are my own responsibility.

Review first appeared at I am, Indeed

Dixie-Lee Campbell says

Sunday April 2, 2017 :

I cannot hold out any longer from saying something about this book !

I have a little less than 100 pages to read just taking my time with this book and enjoying this wonderful creative romantic storyline ... dappled with family history and trauma and happiness. A Wedding is taking place on the Silver Feather Ranch ... that alone creates a lot of emotion and activity. Yes, simple but complex through the whole story... but woven together with the humming of love .! unless there is a spiral ... this book is shining brightly in the star #'s for me !

Stay tuned.

Wednesday April 4th, 2017 :

Well, Million Dollar Cowboy of Cupid series definitely is a highlight book of 2017 for me ! This is a solid plus 5 Star rating ! ... and urge you to read and you'll for sure, enjoy it too :-) !

A wonderful ending ! Be still my heart !.

Cardyn Brooks says

Million Dollar Cowboy is a juicy prodigal illegitimate son returns to claim childhood crush and his birthright story. Its rich layers of complicated family, business, and community intrigue with lore from the indigenous North Americans make it a satisfying read. One story thread that didn't work for me was Ridge's dad and former girlfriend/current stepmom's demands for forgiveness, dismissive attitudes towards the mean-spirited heinousness of their betrayals, and their totally lame-o apologies.

In fiction and in real life the wrongdoers are not entitled to dictate the terms of engagement with the person who was betrayed. The person who was wronged has the right to forgive while also choosing not to be actively involved with the betrayers. Some people are super evolved and very zen, but staying away from toxic people who've dealt grievous hurt is also a healthy choice. Because Duke and his wife are borderline sociopathic in their narcissistic demands for forgiveness.

Will definitely check out the previous titles in this Cupid, Texas series.

Lysanne says

This was my first book by Lori Wilde, and I have to admit I was wanting to read it because of the cover and all the hype that was coming with the release date. I wanted to like it so much. I really did. I had a hard time getting into it purely for the fact that it was so wordy! There were so many words. Unnecessary words. Mrs. Wilde did this thing in the book which seemed nonsensical. Foolish. Inane. Irrational (see what I did there). It's like a word count had to be met so a thesaurus was whipped out and the same word was repeated three times. I couldn't get into the book because there were so many words talking about so much yet so little, because I felt there wasn't really a whole lot of plot. A wedding was thrown in there but you don't really get to feel the magic of it because it's overtaken by all the words about all the feelings and the past. The sexy time scene was probably close to 10 pages, but I couldn't even tell you quite what was happening because there were so many words describing what they were feeling.

It also somewhat bordered on bodice ripping books when she wanted to be "plundered" by him or when he wanted to penetrate her "moist tenderness". Ugh..... I'm all for a good sexy time scene, but not if it's making me uncomfortable with the descriptions!

I read it to the end, I didn't mind the story too much. I really had to force myself to get through it at some points and ended up skimming some parts toward the end because it was getting very redundant with the words. I will for sure read more of Lori Wilde in the future because I'm not one to let one book dictate whether I'll like the author or not. I know this was #5 in the series but I didn't feel like I had missed a whole chunk of the story already which was great, it can definitely be read as a standalone. Would I recommend this particular book? Probably not.

Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says

Million Dollar Cowboy is a romance story with a journey of self-discovery. Both hero and heroine do a little soul searching while finding their way to love. Ridge Lockhart has returned to Cupid, Texas 10 years after leaving abruptly, in order to attend his best friend's wedding. He set out to be more successful than his father and has achieved it tenfold. Being the illegitimate oldest son of Duke Lockhart, a tough, stern, unyielding man, wasn't easy as he was growing up, but he did have the Alzate family nearby to show him what he was missing.

During those ten years Kaia Alzate has grown into a beautiful woman and Ridge notices. She's got a new view on life since her auto accident and appreciates life a little bit more and takes nothing for granted. Afraid of what she feels when she's with Ridge puts her on edge and won't allow herself to fall for him if he is only here temporarily. What really puts her on edge is the fact that he doesn't realize how his work has totally taken over and leaves no room for the better things in life which truly are more important. No amount of love is going to save him unless he saves himself.

The whole story is rich with description of the setting of the story, but also with the inner dialogue of both main characters. You read about their inner struggles to find a good balance of work, family and love. Ridge is a complex character because he doesn't know what it is to have love in his life and doesn't recognize it. I

loved his journey and how it wasn't easy to let go of the past and move forward. This was a well written story and I'm going to reread it again to savor the written words all over. This is part of the Cupid, TX series but can definitely be read as a standalone. If you've haven't read a Lori Wilde novel you can jump right in with Million Dollar Cowboy and enjoy her style of romance.

Review copy provided for a voluntary review.

Books Laid Bare says

I liked the idea behind this story, the kid that no-body wanted really having made good and back in the one place that he really doesn't want to be...home.

Ridge Lockhart's childhood wasn't what it should have been, dumped on the doorstep of a father that never wanted him with a step mother (Sabrina) that loathed him on sight of him and a mother that died as she made her getaway from the whole situation. This tender child grew up knowing that he may have been the eldest of the Lockhart boys but he was the "bastard" of the bunch.

But what doesn't kill you makes you stronger, isn't that what they say and Ridge Lockhart is as tough as they come, just like his name would suggest and growing up on the ranch may have seen him have more than most, he never really felt as if it was all on equal terms, and when he walked in on his girlfriend and father in a compromising situation, his time on the ranch was done, as was his relationship with them both.

But a decade later, this self-made man is back to fulfil a promise as best man for his best friend. Shame the wedding is being held on the ranch in the wedding chapel that has been built, unbeknown to him, right next to his very own plot of land and house (thanks to his ex Vivi who is now married to his father).

Kaia Alzate, grew up with the Lockhart brothers and always had a crush on Ridge but with an age difference and the fact that he was her brother's best friend between them, there was little opportunity for anything to develop, but that didn't mean that the feelings weren't there and they were on both sides. So this wedding was always going to be eventful.

I loved Kaia, she was so normal, she encompassed everything I had in my head for her, hardworking, witty, intelligent woman who saw past the impossibly corporate façade that Ridge wore. Ridge was a serious over achiever, he flew his own helicopter, he made every penny of his own money, he'd developed a business that was a world leader and he was respected by all of those in his field but he was a commitment phobe, after what happened with Vivi he had an issue with trust but that didn't apply to Kaia, he had feelings for her that had suppressed for so long, when the opportunity to explore what was between the two arises, it was always going to be spectacular but would it be forever!

When his father has a heart attack, Ridge comes into his own but that doesn't mean that it is going to resolve any of the underlying issues, they are so alike that finding a middle ground was always going to be difficult but they were blood, that had to count for something, didn't it?

Silver Feather Ranch was in his blood, Ridge just had to come to that conclusion in his own time...will it be soon enough and will he have his woman by his side while and when he does?

A fabulous western romance that was totally addictive, wonderfully well written with a cast of characters that held my attention and had me hoping for a happy ending almost from the get-go.

Laura says

ARC Provided via Edelweiss and Tasty Book Tours

I enjoy books by Lori Wilde, so when I saw this one, I was interested. And it didn't disappoint. Ridge and Kaia were interesting, and their initial meeting was funny, the idea that he was attracted to her and didn't know who she was made it interesting and gave the feeling that while it was a friends to lovers, it was also a story about how much someone can change in 10 years.

The story arc was reasonable, the pacing strong and the characters were mostly believable. There were a couple of things that I am not sure would happen in real life, that seemed to possibly be more realistic in the setting of a romance novel that has to end with the expected HEA.

the 10 years, however, made it tough for me to believe he would make the decisions that he does at the end. And spoilers make it impossible for me to discuss them fully. It wasn't enough to, obviously, ruin the whole thing for me, but it did make the ending a little less satisfying that it would have been otherwise.

That said, I do recommend this book. It is enjoyable, I liked the characters and getting to know them.

This and other reviews featured on our blog "Booked All Night" <http://bookedallnightblog.com/> and here: <https://www.facebook.com/BookedAllNight/>

Susan (susayq ~) says

There are just some authors that you KNOW will write a story that you can curl up with and that you will enjoy. Lori Wilde is one of those for me. And knowing that, I knew I'd enjoy this one.

This is the story of Ridge and Kaia. Ridge left home ten years earlier after finding his dad in bed with his girlfriend. Things weren't good between in the first place, but this just topped it off. Ridge has come back for his best friend's wedding. The first thing he sees is a hot woman...who is his best friend's younger sister! Kaia has always crushed on Ridge and when she figures out he's attracted to her, she thinks they might have a chance.

I loved Kaia's bubbly personality! She was always happy and had a smile. It was such a contrast to Ridge who was dark and brooding most of the time. I loved watching them fall in love :)

Thanks to Tasty Book Tours for sharing a copy of this with me

Lynn Reynolds says

Ridge Lockhart is coming home. He's a man who seems to stand on the edge of humanity but it's decided that this is something that's going to change. Kaia Alzate is so happy to see an old friend. Can an old family superstition come true? I loved the banter between our two main characters – had to smile when they really got going.

It's a story that had me thinking of family traditions and just being together as a family. You don't have to have lots of money either. Love doesn't come with a price tag. You can also see that even tough men can't stop certain things from happening. Kaia seems to have a way with animals. It takes a special person to have an affinity for those great and small. But how will she do with the toughest animal of them all? Be prepared

to get emotionally involved with this story. It seems I always do with the characters this author creates. The story builds momentum as it moves along – as each scene rolls by so does the anticipation.

I love reading this author's work. She has a way of getting me invested in the world she has created. I've read other books in this series and still feel the same – I want to go check out Cupid, Texas and take as many of these books as I can. Living in the East makes Texas like a foreign country. You don't know how you're going to act until you get there. But with all the crazy weather we seem to be having lately, I'll check the forecasts first before traveling. It's a story that makes you slow down and enjoy both the Lockhart and Alzate family. I'm also anticipating the next book this author has written. My problem becomes having to wait. But that just means that I'll have to read something else of hers until then.

I was not compensated nor was I required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own.

Ann Lorz says

Reviewed for Romancing the Readers Blog:
<http://romancingthereaders.blogspot.c...>

We all know how much I love Lori Wilde's books. She is a wonderful writer and I seem to enjoy all the books she writes. Okay, there must be one or two that are so-so for me but at the moment I can't really think of any.

I was really looking forward to sitting back and reading Million Dollar Cowboy, did I mention that she's a comfort read for me? Well she is. Here's the thing, this book isn't comfortable to read at all! I spent so much getting mad that it was anything but comfortable.

Now before you're all like...what! let me explain while I made that statement.

Ridge Lockart's youth broke my heart. Hell, it wasn't much better in the beginning of the story when he came home either. Everything I'm going to talk about will make you wonder why I liked this book, but not to worry, I did.

You can tell right away that Ridge was going to have one hell of a story. I don't blame him at all for leaving home and only coming back because his best friend was getting married. What his father did to him was inexcusable. I don't think I'd ever forgive him. I didn't care for the fact that it seemed to me that the other characters thought he shouldn't have been holding this hurt for so long, including Kaia!

Now don't get me wrong, some things you have to give up to move on from but I still felt the only person that was excepted to grow was Ridge.

Even with it seeming like I was pissed at the book I did enjoy it. The blame for all my mixed feelings rests solely on Wilde's shoulders. She writes such wonderfully emotionally driven stories that make you feel something other than just love. I like that in the books I'm reading.

There are many really good things in Million Dollar Cowboy too. I loved the interaction between Ridge &

Kaia. They had some really funny moments. This is a wonderful addition to the Cupid Texas series.

I only wish we had more interaction between Ridge and his brothers in the story. I felt like that was really lacking. Since I'm sure, or at least hoping they will all get their own story I'd like to know a little bit about them. It helps to build the anticipation.

Follow me on:

<https://www.facebook.com/RomancingThe...>

ARC received for a honest review

Karen says

4.5 Stars!

MILLION DOLLAR COWBOY is a heartwarming story that will have you melting for Ridge Lockhart. He grabbed my heart as the little boy abandoned by his mother and raised by a man who should probably have had a vasectomy than becoming a father to four sons. Ridge was the illegitimate one who butted heads with his macho father, a father who betrayed him in such a personally hurtful way. This gave him a goal to leave and to make himself more successful than his father ever could be. Ten years later he reluctantly comes home to prove it to the old man.

Ridge returns for his best friend's wedding. It so happens that Kaia, his friend's younger sister is there, too and the sparks flew hot and heavy between the two. Kaia had a crush on Ridge when she was a kid and thought she was over it. Ridge is stymied by how she makes him feel. Zing! But he hasn't experienced love and doesn't feel he deserves it. They are continuously put into each others orbit.

This is more than just a romance. Family is a big part of it as well as friendship. Kaia is a breath of fresh air and is a survivor of an accident. She truly celebrates life. Ridge has to do a lot of soul searching and come to grips with truths of his own past mistakes concerning family, particularly his father. And Kaia is a strong woman who won't settle, but will share her life with Ridge if he takes the love she offers.

The story was packed with fun, strong characters, happiness, second-chances, and healing. I most loved watching Ridge's self realization that he was worthy of love and family and he was no longer an outsider in his own family. He and Kaia were so right together and I rooted for their happily-ever-after.

Lover of Romance says

This review was originally posted on Addicted To Romance *Summary*

Ridge Lockhard left the home he grew up with the high expectations to find his own way in life and to prove that he was better than what his father thought of him. He built up his reputation, his wealth and fame and kept his distance most especially from his father, the one man he could never meet up with for expectations and only failures. But when his best friend gets engaged, he comes for the wedding even knowing what it will mean...having to face up to his past. But there is one spunky gorgeous woman that makes him feel more happy and free and makes him want to open himself up again, a woman that has always wanted him and now they have a chance but Ridge will need to face up to his own inner demons if he wants a chance at forever with her...

Plot and Story Line

Million Dollar Cowboy was a book that really really surprised me. Lori Wilde is a author I never know what to expect and this book swept me away completely. I just wanted to immerse myself all day in this story and just didn't want to put it down at all!! And yeah this was one sexy cowboy romance that I couldn't help but smile all the way through. It starts off pretty sad actually, where we see our hero, as a little boy being abandoned by his mother on the doorstep of his fathers house, and no one at his fathers home is welcoming, and he is only seven years old, it just about broke my heart, so yeah it does pull the reader in, because you just want this little boy to find his own happy ending. Well this boy grows up into Ridge Lockhart. Who left home as soon as he could and made a name for himself including more wealth than his father ever accumulated. He returns home for a wedding, to face his father, and also rekindles some flames with a sexy and sassy country Texan vet student who used to follow him around like a puppy dog and he in turn would tug at her pigtales. Yeah these two have some history, she is also his best friends baby sister.

'You think I am stubborn?'

"Lockhart, a pack mule in the Grand Canyon threatened with a three hundred pound tourist wanting a ride to the top in August heat isn't as stubborn as you."

But there is some powerful chemistry between these two. What I do love and admire about this author, is the way she builds up tension between a couple in the most real and vivid way. And she doesn't disappoint in **Million Dollar Cowboy** and i think what I really enjoyed about this book was seeing these two reconnect. But not only that, was seeing these two trying to make every moment count in the little time they have together. We see some personal growth in our hero especially. He of course, has some serious inner demons he needs to face. But then we have some "magical" tune to the story which I did NOT see coming but loved it anyway. There is a legend in Kaia's family, that when you kiss your future "mate" you will hear humming. And our heroine hears the humming anytime she is near Ridge which just complicates matters. Kaia is a heroine I just admired from the very beginning. She is confident and knows what she wants, and isn't afraid to go after it. I loved her passion for life. She doesn't let anything get her down and enjoys every little moment of joy in her life. The romance is sexy and endearing and captivating and I just didn't want their story to end!! Definitely read this if you love contemporary romance or some fun cowboy fun.

Belong.

He wanted to belong to her. Wanted her to belong to him. Not in a grasping, controlling, possessive way, but in the perfect way two puzzle pieces fit together. Meant to be.

Meant for each other and no one else.

The Cover

I really love this cover, and I like how well it portrays the setting of western hot texas.

Overall View

Million Dollar Cowboy is a emotional packed small town western romance that has a hint of magic, plenty of sexy chemistry and a couple that are perfectly matched....SENSATIONAL!!

Books N Tunes Pick

H.O.L.Y. by Florida Georgia Line

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[foogallery id="27335"]

Maureen Hubley says

This is the first Cupid, Texas book I have read will have to try and find more of the series.

Renee Entress from Renee Entress's Blog says

5 star

I was pulled right into this story. The story has laughs, secrets, betrayal, pain, and heartbreak.

Before reading this story please read the below books first

One True Love (Cupid, Texas, #0.5)

Love at First Sight (Cupid, Texas, #1)

All Out of Love (Cupid, Texas, #2)

Somebody to Love (Cupid, Texas, #3)

Love with a Perfect Cowboy (Cupid, Texas, #4)

This is Kaia and Ridge's story. Ridge left his home town 10 years ago, to become more successful than his father. He had issues with his father ever since his mother left him on his father's doorstep. Now he's back for a wedding of his childhood friend. He has not wanted to come back but for his friend he will do anything. When he sees Kaia his best friend's little sister he knows he does not want to leave anytime soon. Kaia's family has a legend and when she kisses Ridge she feels the connection and knows he is the one for her but he is determined to leave. She will build up the memories so she has something when he goes. After all she gave him everything she had and he just ran from her love. Will Ridge ever be able to let go of the past? Can he win back Kaia after dismissing her love?

I loved these characters and the side characters. I felt I could connect with the characters and the story was a great read.

I highly recommend this book.
