



## Owen's Daughter

*Jo-Ann Mapson*

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**Owen's Daughter** Jo-Ann Mapson

**Two women - one a young mother newly out of rehab, the other just diagnosed with a progressive disease - must carve out new lives for themselves in a changing landscape.**

Skye Elliot is given a choice after her car accident—jail or rehab—and her ex-husband, a bull rider who introduced her to the party scene, gets custody of their four-year-old daughter Gracie. It takes Skye eight months to get clean, but the day she is released, she has one plan: to be a good mother—better, at least, than Skye's own selfish mother and absent dad.

Owen Garret hasn't seen his daughter in ten years. He, too, needs to make amends. Newly out of prison, he picks her up from rehab and together they set off to find Gracie, and to forge a relationship that transcends the hurt and anger that have brewed between them for almost a decade. In the meantime, they find Margaret Yearwood, too—Owen's lost love whom he left when he turned himself in for a long-ago crime.

*Owen's Daughter* is a stand-alone novel that brings back characters from Mapson's treasured novel *Blue Rodeo*, and introduces them to the beloved cast of *Solomon's Oak* and *Finding Casey*. With its father-daughter story and characters who overcome personal failings against great odds, *Owen's Daughter* is a story of love and family that will enchant Mapson fans both old and new.

## Owen's Daughter Details

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Author : Jo-Ann Mapson

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# From Reader Review Owen's Daughter for online ebook

## Joyce says

After reading this novel, I discovered on Goodreads that it is a sequel to the novel Blue Rodeo. However, I don't think I missed much by not having read the other novel. I have read 3 other novels by Mapson and did not enjoy this one quite as much as Hank and Chloe.

The novel started off slow for me and I found myself disliking the main character, Skye Elliott, who is Owen Garrett's daughter. I have discovered that Owen is a primary character in Blue Rodeo. I never did grow to like her but I began to enjoy the book much more once her father, Owen, enters the story.

At the beginning of the novel, Skye has just been released from a rehab center after spending 9 months there getting sober. Just before entering rehab, she had been in a vehicle accident while drunk and lost custody of her little girl. Her husband, Rocky, a rodeo performer, is supposed to be picking her up and taking her to their daughter, Gracie. Skye (whose former first name was Sara) has not seen her father, Owen, since he left her and her mother 10 years before. However, during rehab as part of working the 12 steps, she had written a letter to him which she never expected him to receive.

When Rocky doesn't show to pick her up, she calls her mother out of desperation. Much to her shock, her father is the one who eventually arrives to pick her up. It turns out neither Rocky or his mother are where they are supposed to be and Skye has no way to contact them because their cell phone numbers are no longer working. Skye and her father set out to find Rocky because Skye is desperate to get her daughter back---her whole reason for sticking out the treatment program and her only goal in life at this time.

Interwoven in the novel is the story of Owen and a former love, Margaret Yearwood. Margaret has just discovered she has a chronic illness and her deaf son, Peter, ends up back at her doorstep the next day after losing his job and his wife.

As you can see, there is a lot of drama in this book. It seemed that I either really disliked the main characters--Skye and Peter---or loved them, in the case of Owen and Margaret. There is also a back story bringing back characters from another novel, Glory and Joe Vigil. Joe is setting up a facility with horses for treatment of both physically and handicapped children and adults.

This book would definitely appeal to people who love horses but it has much more to offer with its array of hurt people in various stages of recovery. There is a touch of romance but I would not call this a romance novel. Several reviewers have labeled it as chick-lit but I think it goes much deeper than most chick-lit novels. There is definitely a lot about addiction and recovery but it is not the primary purpose of the novel.

As I continued in the novel, I was really drawn into it and it had a satisfying end. I will go on to read more novels by Jo-Ann Mapson.

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## Janice says

I have enjoyed all of Jo-Ann Mapson's books, and this one was no exception. While this book has characters from past books, new characters come along to bring new experiences and stories of their own. Skye is a 22 year old, just out of substance abuse rehab, hoping to find the 4 year old daughter she left with her husband when entering treatment. Margaret is a 50 something woman who is facing a life-threatening illness. Their lives, and several others, interconnect as the story is developed. Mapson is an excellent story teller, and creates engaging characters.

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## **EL says**

I am surprised at all the other Joanne Mapson fans who loved this book. I too, have read most, if not all of her other books. I especially loved "Blue Rodeo" and was really looking forward to this book which is a sequel. I was so disappointed!

First of all, I wonder if Ms. Mapson reads her own books. In "Blue Rodeo", we are specifically told how Peter became deaf. The details are completely different in this book. Does "Owen's Daughter" take place in an alternative universe? In "Finding Casey", she states that Maggie Yearwood has MS (the events in Finding Casey all take place prior to those in this book). In this book Maggie Yearwood finds out that she has MS (after the events in "Finding Casey").

More importantly however, Ms. Mapson is beginning to write books that don't concentrate on the characters and their concerns. Instead her books are beginning to read like articles out of travelogues: "If you want to live the good life in Santa Fe (but fit in like a native) you should shop here or get coffee there etc. It detracts from the story and is poor writing. For instance, in one scene the characters go to sit on a couch and Mapson has to tell us that the couch is one that was moved from a previous residence and reupholstered in between (and she tells us who did the reupholstering, just in case we move to New Mexico and want to get something reupholstered). This was not important to the story line in any way. Neither are most of the other detours into life in Santa Fe. More to the point, I know this is unnecessary because her early books don't do this (including Blue Rodeo). Sure a bit of information about Santa Fe is nice because her characters live there, but this goes far beyond building atmosphere.

I am also disappointed that Maggie Yearwood allows Peter to run all over her life. She didn't in "Blue Rodeo". She gave as good as she got there. Here she only thinks about giving him a comeback. Too bad.

I think that Jo-Ann Mapson needs to take a break, read her earlier books so that she gets the details right and then put out a revised edition of this book that agrees with her others. However, if she takes out the travelogue stuff it will probably only be a novella, if not a short story. But maybe at least it would be a good novella or short story.

And yes, the people whose reviews said that this book lumbers along and is written poorly were right. Only I think that if that were my opinion, I would give less than 3 stars.

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## **Chrissy (The Every Free Chance Reader) says**

Did I enjoy this book: I always enjoy reading redemption stories. When characters I loved from other books weave into the redemption, I'm blissed.

Jo-Ann Mapson gives us Skye Elliott, a smart, sad, tough, and persevering hero in Owen's Daughter. Skye is really, really smart, and she almost makes it out of her teenaged years intact . . . and then, at the eleventh hour, she meets Rocky. Just in time to make her a mama, shut down her dream of veterinary school, put her on a spiraling-downward path.

But Skye is a tough and persevering soul, driven by mother love, and fueled by her own intelligence and severe sense of right and wrong.

Which one of us doesn't know a smart, tough, sassy woman who's made abominable choices early on? We know some who never rebounded, but we also know some who measured the distance from the bottom of the pit to the sky outside and started climbing. Sometimes it took them more than one attempt. Lordie, sometimes they were climbing for years, but they stayed with it. And they got out.

Would I recommend it: This is just the kind of book to fall into on a blustery fall night. Pull an afghan snug in the cozy chair and enjoy the company of Mapson's quirky characters. They're all flawed, but they're all loveable . . . and they surprise us with their ability to rise to the occasions. Owen's Daughter is like a Friday night chat with warm, good friends.

As reviewed by Pam at Every Free Chance Books.

<http://everyfreechance.com/2014/10/gu...>

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### **Stven says**

Reading fiction written by women has, I figure, given me a lot of insight into how women think. After two chapters of this book, I'm finding this acutely true, but there is simply TMI being shared. Courtesy of a shift in point of view for the second chapter, I've now heard the life stories of two women AND their daddies and their exes and their kids and their friends and their illnesses and their decor and their dogs and some dozens of other things on their minds. At the moment, that's all I can take. I would just as soon NOT find out what happens next.

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### **Kelly McCord says**

I received "Owen's Daughter" by Jo-Ann Mapson, from Net Galley in exchange for an honest review. In "Owen's Daughter", Skye, just released from rehab, is trying to locate and reunite with her young daughter, Gracie. Her father, Owen, is just out of jail. They have not seen each other for ten years, but begin a journey together looking for Gracie and repairing their relationship along the way. They also encounter Margaret, Owen's lost love. A ghost even helps out a bit along the way.

I have previously read Mapson's "Blue Rodeo" and "Hank and Chloe". I was so happy to rediscover this author and can't wait to go back and catch up on the books I missed. Mapson's characters are honest and real. Her characters with all their flaws are still likable. I love the unique southwest setting. The ending of this book left me wanting to know what happens next in the characters' lives. I definitely hope for a sequel.

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### **Terri says**

Review also found at <http://kristineandterri.blogspot.ca/2...>

3.5 stars

I won a copy of this book in one of the Goodreads firstreads giveaways. In turn I will offer my honest review.

I will start by saying that I enjoyed this read. A book about family relationships and overcoming struggles and hardships. Add to that some interesting characters and good writing it made for an easy read. The storylines wove together nicely and the plot moved at a decent pace.

While I found the story glossed over in parts, particularly in all aspect relating to the reuniting of multiple characters, it still provided some decent entertainment. Skye's journey and her addiction struggles were central to the story however I did find I had a hard time liking her. While I understand that she was battling the demons of addiction I found that she was simply unpleasant.

On the flip side I adored Margaret and wish more of the story was centralized around her. I wanted to know more about her back-story. I will say that I could not stand her son and she should have kicked him to the curb regardless of the struggles he was facing. He was so ungrateful and had a sense of entitlement that enraged me. Then there is how her story line ended. Seriously? I was left hanging...it is killing me to know how that would have evolved! Could there be a sequel???

It is my understanding that there are characters in this story from some of Mapson's other works. I think that if I had read them that may have had a clearer understanding of how they fit in to story as some of the characters felt random i.e. Delores, Peter's father.... That being said I could still enjoy this story on its own.

Overall a solid read. I will be keeping an eye out for other work by Mapson and hopefully there is or will be a story that addresses the loose ends of Margarets story!

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### **Linda says**

I have never met a Jo-Ann Mapson book I haven't liked and "Owen's Daughter" is no exception. What a joy to revisit some old friends from "Blue Rodeo" and to see where they are in their lives and what life has in store for them. Plus, meet the next generation with plans and problems of their own. And it is all set in my favorite place, Santa Fe, New Mexico. What more could a reader ask for?

Ms. Mapson's writing flows leaping from one character to another with such finesse that you feel like you are next door neighbors, or want to be. Before you know it the story is over and you sadly wonder why it went by so fast and eagerly await another entry.

Please Jo-Ann, I need another one!

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### **Tracy Quarrell says**

Thank you Good reads for a free copy of this excellent book. If you like Jodi Picoult, and I do, then. Mapson is the author for you. This book can be read as a standalone but it does have characters that have a life in other works. I look forward to collecting her other books. Mapson tells the story of a mother looking for her child, the struggle to remain sober and drug free and negotiate past hurts and mend fences in her relationships with family. The book spins out to other characters and stories which are engaging and thought

provoking.

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### **Jackie Mcallister says**

So many years have passed since I read the beginning of this story it's hard to remember.

I read everything Jo-Ann Mapson wrote and loved it all. I sure hope this story continues...but hope it's not another 20 years!

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### **Donna says**

This book was a sequel to Blue Rodeo but I also remember other characters from another of her novels and it all tied in nicely. She writes that we haven't seen the last of these characters and I certainly hope not. I still want to know more, but this was quite an interesting journey.

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### **Penny says**

I was fortunate to win a copy of Owen's Daughter by Jo-Ann Mapson from Goodreads.

This is the first novel I have read by this author, but it won't be my last.

I really enjoyed the characters in this book and how the author brought them together. All the characters have their own flaws just like in real life

I was happy that Skye finally tracked her little girl down, but the book left me hanging.

What happens between Margaret and Owen and what about Margaret's son, will he ultimately get through what appears to be an ugly divorce and rebuild his life. I definitely hope there will be a sequel in the near future.

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### **Anne Wolfe says**

I must admit to being prejudiced in favor of Jo-Ann Mapson. I'm always excited when a new book of hers comes out because I know in advance that I will enjoy it so much I won't want it to end. And again such was the case with Owen's Daughter. Some characters from previous books resurface, but even if this is your first Mapson book, it won't matter. I must also admit that I am a sucker for horses and dogs with personality and you'll find those in most of her novels.

Don't let Dolores the ghost disturb you, she's really not a major character. Skye, formerly Sara Kay, is getting out of rehab after nine months and anxious to reclaim custody of her 4 year old daughter who was left with her drug and alcohol addicted rodeo rider husband and his mother. Mapson can really make you understand the lure of pills and liquor when you are a user.

Other characters include Skye's returned father Owen, (formerly Billy), his three-legged dog and his true love, the artist Margaret, her formerly deaf son Peter (what a loser!) and Margaret's neighbors, the Vigils.

The ways their lives intersect and the difficulty of putting broken lives in order is written in interesting and gripping prose. Even if this doesn't sound like it's up your alley, give Jo-Ann Mapson a try. You may become addicted.

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### **Linda says**

This is a wonderful book. I love the characters in this sequel to Blue Rodeo. I enjoyed it so much that I felt lonely at the end. I wanted to know more about the future of my new friends.

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### **Y. C. says**

I received this from RHC through the Goodreads first reads giveaway. Thank you for this copy.

Owen's Daughter follows the story of two women, Margaret and Skye who have plenty of issues in their lives that need fixing, but are both still determined to strive ahead. Skye has just gotten out of rehab to find her daughter, while Margaret has just been diagnosed with MS. These two women are also connected through Skye's father and Margaret's lover, Owen, as well as other various people. You'd be surprised at how small the world is.

This is the first Mapson book I've read, and after the sludge of YA coming my way, her story was a breath of fresh air. Her characters are admirable despite their numerous flaws, because their decisions are understandable and real. Both women admit their wrongs and take responsibility for their actions, apologize to the people around them for their mistakes, and try their hardest to overcome the obstacles standing in their way. This resolve is honest and has my utmost respect, even if I am discouraged when the characters fail to make the right choice.

It is very much a character driven book with a predictable plot, but it is just as gripping and charged.

I adore the setting and the occasional Spanish thrown in. It is a nice flair to the book.

Mapson does a wonderful job of mapping out the human heart, and how sometimes the worst choices are backed up by the strongest of emotions. I'm looking forward to her other novels in the future.

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