



Wanton in the West

Lisa Plumley

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Arizona Territory, 1884

Everyone in the small town of Morrow Creek knows that Adeline has been sweet on Clayton Davis for years--and that he still hasn't proposed. While Adeline reluctantly waits for her man, Clayton is falsely accused of being a thief and the sheriff is hot on his tail. Now Adeline has to do everything in her power to stop him leaving town, even if she has to be positively indecent to make Clayton stay by her side--and in her bed....

Wanton in the West Details

Date : Published (first published December 21st 2010)

ISBN :

Author : Lisa Plumley

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre :

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From Reader Review Wanton in the West for online ebook

Hannah says

Adeline's best friend, Violet, tries to persuade Clayton to leave town to avoid prosecution for the crime he's falsely accused of committing. Her theory is that "absence makes the heart grow fonder" and that he'll be motivated to propose to Adeline after spending some time away from her.

Adeline convinces Clayton to stay in her empty farmhouse after he comes across her bathing in the pond and she "accidentally" falls in and they're both soaking wet. Clayton reveals at this point that he's been trying to save more money before proposing so that he can support Adeline in luxury and style, and as a humble sawmill worker, this is taking time. At this point I'm totally on his side and don't understand Adeline's motivation for trying to seduce him.

After spending a few days in Adeline's house (much of it in bed) she reveals to Clayton how the whole town had been talking about the fact that he had strung out their courtship so long. Violet and the sheriff show up and they clear up the big misunderstanding.

Wanton in the West seemed like it would work well as a novella because of a few things:

- It's set in a fictional town, Morrow Creek, that was introduced in previous books
- it's about an established couple so they don't have to waste story time getting to know each other

But what didn't work so well is that I couldn't sympathize with the heroine and her desire to be married--or sleep with Clayton--or both? I was confused about her motives. Also it involved big misunderstandings that could have been cleared up with a few simple, heartfelt conversations.

Harlequin Historical says

Miniseries: Morrow Creek

Harlequin Books says

Miniseries: Morrow Creek
