



Spirit of the Valley

Jane Shoup

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"There are authors who touch the heart, but this one grabs hold of your soul." --Romance At Heart Reviews

"*Down in the Valley* is a keeper."—Catherine Lanigan, author of *Romancing the Stone*

In Virginia, 1883, some things you can run from. . . some you have to fight.

Pauline Ray is on the run, and she won't get far. With thirty-four dollars, two small children to feed, the cold coming in fast, she has no idea how she'll hide her tracks from her monster of a husband, let alone support her family. But Pauline is done with convention, and with nothing from her old life worth preserving, not even her name, she's free to become a whole new person.

All she has to do is singlehandedly turn a run-down homestead into the haven she and her children need, in a town full of wagging tongues and watchful eyes. But one man is watching her with more than judgment. Pauline would never have considered his scandalous proposal in her days as an obedient, suffering wife and daughter. But "Lizzie" might dare to accept him--his love, his work, and his secrets--and wrest her story toward a happily ever after all her own. . .

Spirit of the Valley Details

Date : Published October 27th 2015 by Zebra

ISBN : 9781420137293

Author : Jane Shoup

Format : Paperback 352 pages

Genre : Romance, Historical Romance, Historical, Westerns

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From Reader Review Spirit of the Valley for online ebook

Everydayreader1 says

Spirit of the Valley (Green Valley Series #2) by Jane Shoup was a captivating read. It tells the story of Pauline Ray and her children who arrive in Green Valley after fleeing for their lives. Once there, Pauline begins to rebuild her life. She is befriended by some of the Green Valley folk, and she has a second chance at love. She wonders if it can work out this time. She is transformed from a timid soul to a vibrant woman.

Some of the characters from Down in the Valley, the first book in this Series, are revisited, so it is like returning home for the reader. And, again, Jane Shoup gives us the sense of romance, community, and caring that carry over from the first book.

I received and Advance Reader Copy (ARC) of this digital book in exchange for an honest review.

Jumi Ramirez says

Very nice.

Jane Thomson says

This novel was well written with a plot that was a little predictable; however, the characters were very likable. The only question I would have of the author is how she could have imagined a person in the 1800's going against the social mores so readily as Lizzie appears to do when getting involved with Jeremy. This does not seem plausible for the era when communities were so close knit.

Having said that, I still enjoyed the development of the story and the truly lovely characters of the Blue sisters.

Barb says

When I read the teaser for the next book in the "Valley" series by Jane Shoup, I knew I had to read it. I had read the first book in the series and was so intrigued by Ms. Shoup's writing that I definitely wanted to read each book in the series. So, I finished "Spirit of the Valley" in record time because it was so fast-paced and interesting. Ms. Shoup makes sure that one does not get bored reading her novels. The female characters are strong individuals who have been dealt a hard hand and have to run away from abusive relationships to a better life. Pauline Ray, with her two children, is running away from her abusive husband in Indiana, knowing that if she stayed he would eventually kill her. She goes as far as her money will take them and ends up in Green Valley, West Virginia. She is befriended by two eccentric and interesting sisters who take her in and find a way that she can become someone else. A very nice man who is harboring a very sad past comes to help her out by doing odd jobs around her home, which is in disrepair. Events keep occurring that

make the reader loathe to stop reading even for a minute. I highly recommend this book.

I received a print copy of this book from NightOwlReviews.com in return for my honest review. You can find this review on my blog at <http://wp.me/p2pJt-hE>. Other reviews can be found at <http://imhookedonbooks.wordpress.com>.

Luli says

El drama mató al romance.

No he sido capaz de disfrutar de este libro, lo he encontrado excesivamente duro y cruel para ser un romance. La escena con la que abre ya me dejó un poco desmotivada (odio las escenas de violaciones) pero intenté seguir adelante por si la historia se ponía mejor...y no fue así.

Encontré el romance demasiado apresurado y poco creíble...no creo que esa situación pudiese darse realmente en esa época y sobre todo, que la protagonista, con todo su pasado, la hubiese consentido.

Muchas repeticiones de la escena primera, muy desagradables, por lo colorido de sus detalles, mucho drama (melodrama), muchas injusticias y mucha muerte gratuita...el accidente que sucede casi al final de la historia ya era horrible por si solo, sin necesidad de todas las muertes que la autora decide contarnos.

No es mi idea de un buen romance un libro tan deprimente que ni siquiera las cosas buenas que pasan consiguen iluminarlo. Una pena, porque sí que hay relaciones muy bonitas, entre los niños de la protagonista y el protagonista o sus vecinas, pero todo se enfría con cada abuso que la autora describe...era necesario esa escena final? No quiero escribir spoilers pero fue (de nuevo) brutal. No creo que tanta violencia quede bien en un romance. Sorry!

ARC provided by Kensington Books via Netgalley

The drama killed the romance.

I have not been able to enjoy this book; I found it too harsh and cruel to be a romance. The scene which the story begins already left me a little unmotivated (I hate rape scenes) but I tried to go ahead as it is the story got better... and it did not.

I found the romance too hasty and not credible... I do not believe that this situation could be really happening at that time and, especially, with the heroine's past, she couldn't have consented it.

It have many repetitions of the first scene, very unpleasant, for its colorful details, much drama (melodrama), many injustices and much unwarranted death... the accident was horrible for itself, I don't think it was required to add all the death that the author did.

It is not my idea of a good romance a book so depressing that not even the good things that happen get to cheer it up. A pity, because there is very beautiful relationships among the children and the hero or with her neighbors, but everything is cooled with each abuse that the author describes... was really needed that final scene? I will not write spoilers but it was brutal (again). I don't think that so much violence belongs into a romance. Sorry!

Belinda says

This is the second book in the Green Valley series by MS Shoup. The book tells the story of one woman's determination to find a better place for her children. Pauline Ray has had enough of her abusive husband so

she escapes to Virginia to be someone else. Pauline knows that being "Lizzy" will be an undertaking with only \$34.00 to her name. Her new found acquaintance in town explains why she should be the unknown daughter of a deceased man who has a farm. You see, Lizzy in doing this has to come up with the taxes to move into her new home. She doesn't know the first thing about being a farmer. But with the help of a man who works in a mine, she finds a love of a lifetime. There are secrets on both sides of the coin and the challenges they will face together.

I liked this book and was glad to catch up with Em and Tommy Medlin who have a family and love from previous "Down in the Valley".

The story kinda dragged for me in which I skipped some parts. Maybe I'm too picky, expecting more in the book than the author had to give. But not being an expert in these things, I hope the next one will be change my tune.

I appreciate Net Galley for this ARC title in which I gave an honest review.

kate says

It's Mayberry RFD with an R rating. Make that a small r. A very soft 3.

Jeanie says

How long and to what lengths does atonement take place?

Set in the mining state of Virginia in the 1800's, Paulina Ray is running away from an abusive husband with her two children. Was it good luck or divine intervention that she ended up at the doorstep of two sisters that gave her an opportunity for a fresh start with a new identity as Lizzie, the long lost daughter of Mr. Greenway who passed away and left everything to his "daughter". With the encouragement of her new friends and her new identity births a new fight in her that she never knew she had.

Jeremy Sheffield has his eye on Paulina (Lizzie) . When he offers to help her, their relationship turns to something more. Will they be able to trust each other with the past they are both running from?

I enjoyed the plot even though it was very predictable. The predictability may have lost the compelling aspect of the prose, however, I enjoyed how both Lizzie and Jeremy overcame their past to start over and to learn to trust again.

A Special Thank You to Kensington Book/Zebra and Netgalley for the ARC and the opportunity to post an honest review.
