



## Texas Roots

*Jean Brashear*

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When scandal and an ambitious prosecutor wreck Scarlett Ross's life and she learns of a grandmother she never knew she had, she flees the notoriety to pay an anonymous visit to Sweetgrass Springs, Texas, a town kept alive only by her grandmother's determination and carried on the strong shoulders of sexy rancher Ian McLaren. There she is surprised to discover a yearning to sink roots deep in the Texas Hill Country—but she is terrified that the secrets she's hiding will endanger everyone she's come to love.

## Texas Roots Details

Date : Published (first published February 11th 2013)

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Author : Jean Brashear

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## **From Reader Review Texas Roots for online ebook**

### **Timothy Hendricks says**

I really liked this book a lot. I am from Texas as well as a graduate of Texas Tech and could relate. I really enjoyed the mention of Texas Tech as I also work there. I loved the story of Ian McLaren and Scarlett Ross. But I also enjoyed meeting all of the inhabitants of Sweetgrass Springs, Texas. I especially enjoyed the budding relationship between Scarlett and her grandmother Ruby as well as the relationship between Ian and his Father. I have been in a number of small towns in Texas and they are just like Sweetgrass in many ways. And, I have the pleasure of knowing a lot of people that are very similar to the different characters depicted in this book. When I was in high school I worked at a little soda fountain inside the John Halsey Drug store where we also served food and coffee as well as sodas and shakes. I myself have had their coffee on the table or started cooking what I knew they would want. So I could definitely relate. Also I know several of these small towns where people still do not lock their doors. This isn't true only in Texas; but also in other states. I have been in some small towns in Arizona that were just like this too. I liked how the characters were developed. I didn't feel rushed and I felt the book ended just right; but at the same time made me want to read more. So I have bought Texas Wild the next in the series and will soon be reading that. There were places in this book where I laughed, felt sorry for different characters, felt joy, as well as many other emotions. I especially enjoyed the banter between Ian and Scarlett at the end of the book when he was trying to find out what her middle name was.

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### **Isha Coleman says**

Texas Roots offers everything but the kitchen sink. Brashear has crafted a ghostly tale of love lost and hopes revisited. Scarlett and Ian are a bit players in a tale as intriguing as the shadows that haunt the legendary fabled spring that serves as a backdrop for this small town. Scarlett is on the run from demons in her past. Her getaway provides her the chance to get answers to some long overdue questions about herself and the family she never knew existed. Ian is her chance at salvation. He rescues her from a life full of loneliness and she shows him the meaning of true love. With the forces determined to tear them apart, can they break the curse of the woman with a broken heart and find their own chance at forever? As always Brashear and Dove make a great team when it comes to captivating romance.

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### **Angel Hart says**

When I chose this book from my kindle queue, I wasn't sure what to expect. It looked like home sweet home crossed with a Nora Robert's authored dream. I wasn't disappointed. From the wistful dream of the Gallagher matriarch, the new family found, and the touch of sleazy, grease ball organized criminals tossed in for added adventure. But the grandest adventure to be found in this gem of a book is the love story between lost girl found, Scarlett, and sexier-than-sin rancher, Ian.

When Scarlett runs to Sweetwater to find the grandmother she never knew existed, she found more than she bargained for when she left the lights and troubles of New York in the rearview mirror. Ian is not looking to find love but when he finds a crazy woman asleep in her car, he dusts off his Texas roots to help her change

a flat tire. He never thought that a simple breakfast invitation to a tired and weary woman would lead to him finding the love of his life.

It was a bit irritating when Scarlett couldn't make up her mind if she was going to stay or move on. It is easy to say that if I were in her position, it would be an easy choice to make despite what may come in the near future. I found myself laughing at the antics of her grandmother, Ruby, and her septuagenarian booty call. I bet she was a blast to write. After all is said and done, I would read this story again, even if it meant that I would be slicing up my lonely romantic heart into tiny bite sized pieces. The layered love stories made it just the right amount of sweet and the sex scenes were the needed spice that made this a great read. Brava!

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### **Coral Mitchell says**

I loved Scarlett and Ian in this story about both of them looking for something more in their lives. Ian thinks he knows everything about his father and their past, but the pain had his father hiding many things. Scarlett discovers herself in danger and runs to meet a grandmother she never knew she had. Ruby is a character and is trying her hardest to bring the town back on the map. I always adore this narrator, Eric G. Dove.

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### **Jo-Ann Elizabeth Toth says**

Loved Ian and Scarlett's story. Its about a young woman named Scarlett who is fleeing a bad situation and who has found out that she has family in Sweetgrass, Texas. She has never had roots but she has had a mother's love. Who she has lost and in the process got in a bad situation. Then on arriving in Sweetgrass she discovers love, roots and most importantly family. This book is fast paced and hard to put down. My bad is that I read it in 5 hrs. But it was worth it for it was hard to out down and I was always curious to find out what was going to happen next. J

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### **Jacky says**

#### **Great beginning 4.5 stars**

Loved Ian and Scarlett. Both were able to free themselves of issues from their past. Ruby was able to get a little closure and the love of a granddaughter. Both Ruby and Scarlett had sassy characters that were fun to read about.

Great beginning to the Series. A quick, engaging read for of love, romance, loyalty to family and friends, and a strong sense of community. The chemistry between Ian and Scarlett didn't hurt either.

10/8/18 update for Audio version:

Once again, Eric Dove brought life to an already excellent story. It gave an enhanced feeling to the characters and the overall feel of the story.

I voluntarily listened and reviewed this audio book received from the author.

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## Wendy's Thoughts says

### 3.5 Allowing Love In Stars

**\* \* \* 1/2 Spoiler Free**

**This was a new author for me and with the idea of a strong rancher/cowboy paired with a feisty New York chef, I thought I would give it a go. I ended up having an enjoyable, easy read.**

These two were both coming from different places... not just because of the different cities they lived in... no there was much more than that. Scarlett was the daughter of a woman who left her family and never shared there was a Grandmother out in Sweetwater TX. All her life she wished for roots and family. She was devoted to her mom and only after the mother's death does she find out about these relatives.

It was also perfect timing because she had unwillingly been involved with a man who turned out to have connections with the Bulgarian Mafia. The restaurant he created for her was only a front to sell drugs and guns and when the police got wind of it, he left Scarlett to be accused by the authorities. After having her reputation and face plastered all over the New York papers and finally convincing the DA she was not involved... she thought she was clear. Instead, two men come into her apartment, wake her with a knife at her throat and warn her against testifying.

Scarlett was not about to sit around and wait to testify or be sliced and diced. She packs her bag, finds a map and heads out to Sweetwater, Texas to find her grandmother. As she gets closer to her mother's home which she fled, Scarlett is nervous. She hopes it is not too late to find this surprising grandmother... She goes into the only busy spot on the main road, Ruby's Diner. It is like she walked back in time to all the diners of yesterday.

Scarlett takes it all in and thinks how funny it is for her to be in this place. Here she is a chef trained by the best in France and New York... she eyes the biscuits on the table, takes a bite and is seriously surprised. They are a work of art... flaky, layered just so... they melt in your mouth. Hmmm Scarlett is thinking this Ruby, her Gran can cook. The rest of the meal is equally as good and now Scarlett is looking to see where Ruby is... is she there in the kitchen?

Scarlett wasn't the only one looking in the diner... Ruby saw the flash of dark curly hair and immediately flashed on thoughts of the daughter she had longed for all these years. At 71, she was more fit than those at 50... but running this diner, being the center of everything in Sweetwater was wearing her down. All these years have taken a toll; the economy did not help to keep the town whole. Ruby's biggest fear is soon there will be no Sweetwater.

A confused and shaken Scarlett leaves the diner and is off to the next town to find a motel. Unfortunately, she somehow gets a flat and now is stuck. At first she thought she would be able to just change the tire herself... but once in the process, it became more than she could handle with no sleep. She decides to climb into the car, take a nap and then tackle it again.

She wakes at dawn with a man tapping on her window. Scarlett is afraid thinking the men with knives have found her and starts to panic. Ian, a rancher and most respected man in town, just wants to see if he can help. Once it is established he is not a serial killer or out to get her, Scarlett settles down. Ian has a dry wit and really has no time for any silliness. Scarlett is determined to not be weak so she insists she could change the

tire... just was having issues with the lug nuts.

These two by the road start a banter of her being New York and him being stubborn Hot Cowboy. Oh, Ian is handsome; fit with broad shoulders and then everything narrows to slim hips. His eyes are dark and when he looks at Scarlett he is more than intrigue. As Scarlett shows Ian she is not a fluff ball unable to do anything, Ian invites her to breakfast at Ruby's because that was where he was going anyway.

When these two walk in together...all in the diner look. Ian is the town catch and all the women have crushes or serious ideas about him. The only hitch is Ian is not interested in those who are pining for him. He has too much to handle. His dad had a stroke leaving him weakened and grouchy. Ian has been handling the ranch, helping others and just never having any time for romance. Besides ... to allow himself to be hurt like his dad was... is not something Ian wants. His mother left when Ian was 5... and never looked back. She wanted the city and not to be stuck on a ranch. Ian learned first hand the feelings of abandonment...from his own experience and his dad's.

While in the diner waiting for service, a flash grease fire happens in the kitchen. Right away Scarlett jumps into action. She has dealt with these situations tons of time. She stops Ian from using the fire extinguisher which would be a disaster and quickly does what needs to be done. She puts a huge lid over the flames stopping the fire, pulls Ruby away and then whips out an ointment she uses whenever she has a burn.

After everyone settles down, Scarlett steps up and says she will finish the breakfast run and for them to let her. The "in love with Ian" waitress wants to know why they should and Scarlett says, I think I am Ruby's Granddaughter... so let me cook.

This is basically the set up however there is so much more to this book. There is the look at how people can be tied to the land of their forefathers... how it can take hold and become everything to them. It brings up the idea of family and how deep down we need the feeling of belonging. It also talks of the need to let go and not be against new ways which would rejuvenate a dying community.

And most of all, it presents the idea of two people who really are right together and only need to be willing to take the leap of faith... to be truthful of how they feel.

The town was called Sweetwater...and I felt this was a sweet read. It is part of a huge series by this author so if you love reading continuing connections with characters through more than one book, this series would do the trick.

*This was free on Amazon 12/19/2015*

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**Ness says**

FREE on Google Books

Scarlett - Petite New York chef

Ian - Hot Cowboy

I love Ruby! Who wouldn't want a Nanna like that? Normally the heroine's dilemma of whether she should stay/go would frustrate me to no end (I know, I know, there are always obstacles to romance) but this particular storyline worked for me. And I felt for Ian, he's such a decent guy who is so remote and isolated, and lonely. I liked that other characters I've met before made an appearance (Boone & Maddie, Morning Star Book 1).

I looked at the other books in this series and saw that even Tank finds love (Texas Strong). I don't think I could read that story, bullies shouldn't have happy endings!

I wouldn't mind reading the story of Henry & Brenda, that sounds like a sweet story, appropriately named, Texas Sweet. Shy girl gets happy ending, yay!

Texas Rebel - Jackson & Veronica, might read this one day too.

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### **Vikki Vaught says**

This is a delightfully, light-hearted read. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to this book. The narrator was excellent. The story line was great, and the characters are awesome, hero and heroine, along with the secondary ones as well. Happy reading!

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### **Connie Lewis says**

I love a good story set in the Texas Hill Country.

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### **Cindy says**

I loved the people of Sweetgrass Springs!

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### **Cassie says**

Read this in a boxed set.

Loved these two stories, and then the coming together of all the clan in the third.

The first, Ian's and Scarlett's is a great romance. The girl finds the family she never new she had, a man to love and a town that embraces her.

The second Mackey and Rissa's story of a childhood crush. Mackey with his issues from the war and Rissa's from being left behind by her family. But in the end love wins out.

The third story brings everyone together in a double wedding.

Now don't forget the lady ghost waiting to pass over, because the man she saved never returned.

Narration was superb.

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### **Janga says**

Texas Roots (February 2013) introduces another Gallagher series. The Gallaghers of Sweetgrass Springs, Texas, are cousins to the Gallaghers of Morning Star. When chef Scarlett Ross, a descendant of Sweetwater Springs founder Josiah Gallagher, leaves her suddenly messy and dangerous life in New York behind, she finds a history, a family, and a place she never knew where her roots run deep. She also finds a hero in hunky rancher Ian McLaren if only she can let her heart trust him. Based on Texas Roots and the legend of Sweetgrass Springs, I think the new Gallagher series is going to offer the same heart-twisting complications and sigh-worthy romances as the first.

See review of all Brashear's Texas Heroes at Just Janga:

<http://justjanga.blogspot.com/2013/05...>

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### **Alanna says**

I loved this series, so far, of the Gallagher's stories. the characters were so rich and so real and the emotions were so weaved into the story that I was truly drawn in and didn't want the book to end. These are the kind of stories that, when you choose the final page, you just sigh like at the ending of a really good movie. I can't wait for the third book to come out. I also loved how the characters from the first book fed right into the second and their stories continued.

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### **Delta says**

Free 11-20-15 (Contemp Romance)

<http://www.amazon.com/Texas-Roots-Gal...>

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