



Tucker's Crossing

Marina Adair

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Sweet Plains, Texas, wasn't so sweet to Cody, Noah, and Beau Tucker. But now the Tucker boys are men, ready to take on the questions that have haunted them since they left home...

Cody Tucker shook the dust of his two-bit hometown off his boots ten years ago—right about the time his college sweetheart, Shelby Lynn Harris, married his so-called best friend. But when his dad dies, Cody finds himself home again and knee deep in the past. Except now his rowdy beer buddy is the sheriff, his housekeeper is a blue-ribbon chili chef, and the family ranch is in the red. The only thing that hasn't changed is Shelby Lynn...

Shelby Lynn has gone through a lot of heartache thanks to Cody. But that's all over now. She just wants a chance to live the life she's made for herself in peace. The trouble is, the Sweet Plains chili cook off is heating up, the Ladies of Sweet are as riled as hornets, and as soon as Cody gets near, she's forgets all about peace. Cody is pure temptation—and she knows just how good it feels to give in...

Tucker's Crossing Details

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Author : Marina Adair

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From Reader Review Tucker's Crossing for online ebook

Jill says

3.5 stars

Cody Tucker hasn't been home to Sweet Plains, Texas in ten years. With his father's passing and a stipulation in his will that one of the Tucker boys has to live at the family homestead for a full year or forfeit any claim to inheriting the land, Cody takes on the task. And for Cody it is a task. Between the bad memories of growing up at Tucker's Crossing with his despised father and the heartache of losing his girlfriend to his best friend years ago, Cody's never wanted to return.

Shelby Lynn Harris is the girl that Cody loved and left ten years ago. When her marriage ended and Cody's father became ill, Shelby nursed him until he died. Now with the death of his father, Shelby expects Cody to turn up for the funeral.

This is I'm guessing, the first book in a series of the Tucker brothers - Cody, Noah, two years younger and a Texas Ranger, and Beau, the youngest. There's also a potential romance brewing with the Sheriff and his ex-sister-in-law as well.

This is not a bad start to the series, although the writing tends to be a little uneven at times. There are some cute moments with the locals and their annual school fund-raiser. Cody's father seems to be two different people. The man that Shelby cared for is at odds with the father Cody remembers as a violent, abusive man. Not all the family secrets are revealed and I guess that's going to be an overriding arc in the series.

If you like contemporary cowboys, lovers reunited, smalltown romances and series featuring brothers, then you should enjoy this one.

Steam: 3

ARC courtesy of Kensington via NetGalley

Lori says

I love this book! It's such a sexy book and I love the small town feel. I can't wait to read more from Marina. She's on auto buy for me.

Holly says

The premise of this story is one of my favorites. Reunited lovers. Yum. While in theory this should have

worked, I'm afraid it didn't come together well here.

The secret-baby plot works for me here, because Shelby thought Cody knew about the baby. Just thought I'd put that out there.

It was easy to fall into the story. The first chapter really had me hooked. Sadly, it started to fall apart shortly thereafter. The writing was choppy, which made for some confusing reading. Plus, both Shelby and Cody blew hot and cold. One minute they hated each other, the next they'd never gotten over each other. Cody wanted Shelby, then he didn't. Shelby wanted Cody to be part of her son's life, then she didn't. All the back-and-forthing made my head hurt.

I did enjoy a few parts here and there. The son was cute and I liked seeing him and Cody find their way together. Sadly, that wasn't enough to save the story for me.

Kat ~ Forever Book Lover ♥ says

You can find this review and more at [Forever Book Lover](#).

My heart is lifted after reading this book. I'm always nervous about picking up a book by an author I have never read. In this case, I need not have worried. I think that is why this was sitting in my TBR pile for a few months, finally getting caught up on my other books, I decided it was time to give this one a try. You know when you read the first few chapters of a book if you are going to like it or not, it took me just a few pages and I knew I was in for a treat.

Tucker's Crossing is sexy, humorous, unexpectedly moving, and Adair is a heck of a good writer. This story had so much to offer, the lost childhood of what a family could have been had it not been for the loss of their mother at an early age. A fun loving family who crumpled after the devastating loss of their mother, his father turned to drinking unable to cope with losing the love of his life. Turning violent and abuse to his three young sons, running away from this violence was all these boys knew to do.

The secondary characters are quite interesting, yet none of them succeed in distracting attention from Shelby and Cody's hot, very troubled relationship. Although ten years have past, there is an instantaneous chemical reaction between Shelby and Cody, their relationship is so incendiary that they have to go back for seconds - and thirds.

"Do. You. Love. Her?"

"With everything that I am. "

What a emotional read, from the humor, to the suspense and to the satisfying end, this is a great book, the kind I'll want to reread. If you're like me and you like a little spice - make that a lot of spice - don't hesitate. You won't be disappointed.

tina says**Nice romance dirty deals and sex. Cant wait for the next one**

I was gripped from the beginning. The story had just the right amount of everything. Enough erotica to make it interesting but not so much that the story became irrelevant. Great read. +++++

Jessica Call says**Author Marina Adair does it again!!**

Honestly, I don't know how Author Marina Adair does it!! Every book I read of hers constantly blows me away! I'm so addicted as soon as I finish one I'm immediately craving more! She is hands down one of my most favorite authors. Her books are simply irresistible. Her characters are always fantastic and her towns are a place I'd love to live or even visit. She never fails in making you feel like you are a part of her story. You get sucked in and it's impossible not to see in your mind's eye every detail in the story. A truly gifted artist she is! Turkey's Crossing is an amazing start to a new series and I just can't wait to see what's/who in the Tucker clan is next to fall next to heal. Her stories are so real, so vivid that you can't help but feel like you've known her characters your whole life and you just can't help but feel like you've finally come home where you belong during and after reading her books. Simply put I love her and you will too! If you are new to her books don't waste another second contemplating on whether or not you should take a chance just do it you will never be disappointed because she puts heart and soul, Love and loss, fun and laughter and just life in all her books. You need to take a chance and get this and I promise you will fall in love too!!

Phuong says

I loved reading Tucker's Crossing, the debut novel by Marina Adair. The story was well-written and the author did a great job developing all the characters and their emotions. The love story of Cody Tucker and Shelby Lynn Harris captured my attention from the beginning and I devoured this book all in one day. I found myself rooting for this couple as they got their second chance at love. I enjoyed the vulnerability that Cody displayed throughout this book and the strength and determination that Shelby showed as she fought for them to be a family along with their son, Jake. I liked watching Cody and Jake get to know each other and seeing their relationship develop and getting stronger. The sex scenes in this book were sweet, sexy and hot all at the same time and I found myself melting whenever Cody and Shelby were together. I also enjoyed the secondary characters and their backstory immensely such as Mrs. McKinney and Ms Luella's antics leading to their cook-off competition, Ms Luella's firing antics, the unrequited love between Sheriff Logan and Gina, Shelby's best friend and of course, we got glimpses of Noah Tucker in uniform and a bit of action. I'm so looking forward to his story in this series and many more by this wonderful new author.

Andrea says

I really loved this debut novel! I loved how strong but torn Shelby was. The relationship between the son and Cody was so sweet! And I was pleasantly surprised on how hot the sex scenes were! That tack room scene was super sexy!! I can't wait to read more by this author.

Hannah says

Honestly, I was skeptical of this book at first because I'm generally not a romance reader and the cover looked a little sweet for me, but I got an ARC from the publisher and oh my god, I think I'm a romance reader now! Yes, I realize that there's sex in romance (Hello 50 Shades...), but the scenes in this book were totally steamy (I'm looking up "how to get a tack room" when I'm done with this review) without seeming contrived. I thought the "Ladies of Sweet" were hilarious, and being a (part-time) Southerner myself, totally spot-on. I found this book funny, sexy, and just a little bit sweet. Definitely not your typical swooning damsel in distress, Alpha-male jerk kind of romance! If you like smart chicks, hot sex, and humor, grab this one!

Britt Bury says

This debut novel from Marina Adair was truly spectacular. From page one, I was taken to a small town with compelling characters and could literally smell the chili cook-off! Cody and Shelby's tension and relationship was spot on with what I'd expect two people of their past to experience (don't want to give away spoilers:)) How they overcome all that's thrown at them (lies, deceit and yes...chili) Adair's book had me laughing all the way through while pulling at my heartstrings. Miss Luella was an incredible secondary character and with her and the gang of "old biddys" there was a perfect amount of comic relief to go with the building tension and dark moments. I cared about the characters from the start and was cheering for them the whole way through. Remarkable, sexy and with a twist of southern sass, this book was one I couldn't put down.

Nate Brightman says

Tucker's Crossing is the first and apparently the only book in what was supposed to be the Sweet Plains Texas series. And I'm not sure why Ms. Adair discontinued the series after its first book? It's a pretty good book and does a nice job of laying the groundwork for future books in the series. Gee whiz, I'd really like to know if Gina is ever able to lay her guilt and disappointment aside to find her H.E.A with Logan. Or does brother Noah the Texas Ranger find his H.E.A. with Faith the medical assistant/waitress? Not to mention our hero Cody Tucker's youngest brother.

Even though I was a bit confused about Shelby Lynn's issue with Cody I still found her a very compelling heroine. Shelby Lynn was strong as a mama bear protecting her son Jake and her sexual passion when she got together with Cody was off the charts. In fact this book probably had more sex scenes in it than any of the many other Marina Adair books I've read. Cody Tucker was a decent hero as a good guy but a tortured soul because of his abusive father. Although the whole "I'm afraid I'll be just like my father" so I can't lose control or commit to a relationship" plot line felt a little thin but no worse than most in a modern romance book. Shelby Lynn's BFF and the twin sister of Sheriff Logan's late wife, Gina was a great supporting

character who just begged for her own book which unfortunately she never got. Jake as Shelby Lynn and Cody's nine year old son was a great character who actually acted like a real nine year old. Just as in her later series St. Helena's Vineyard, Sweet Plains has a couple of crazy old ladies who are constantly at odds adding plenty of humorous moments to the book. Really it seemed like most of the female population in this book beyond Shelby Lynn's two BFFs Gina and Faith were all senior citizens. As were most of the men other than Cody's ranch hands and the sheriff.

I will confess as a man the author had me a bit confused over our heroine Shelby Lynn's dissatisfaction over Cody's ability to let go which is what held her back from fully giving her heart to Cody for most of the story. Most of the time it was represented in how he made love to her. It wasn't that Cody didn't satisfy Shelby Lynn in bed. On the contrary he gave her multiple O's. every time. He knew all of her buttons and pushed them just right, every time. And somehow that was a bad thing? It was as she kept saying, "he didn't let go, lose control." Did she want him to selfishly take care of his needs and leave her unsatisfied? About half way through the book when the big misunderstanding between Cody and Shelby Lynn was cleared up IMHO it seemed like they should have both been able to let down the walls between each other they had built up based upon that misunderstanding and found their H.E.A. But because it happened around half way through the book it felt like the author had to find reasons to keep them apart until the very end. I give Ms. Adair points for the clever conflict at the end of the story. I never saw that coming. And even though Shelby's actions that prolonged the drama are something that could have only happened in a romance novel or T.V. soap opera it still added some real heart racing excitement to the final chapters.

All in all I've got no problem giving Tucker's Crossing 4 stars and I'm truly disappointed that Ms. Adair and her publisher didn't continue the series.

Kathy Neeley says

About Tucker's Crossing

I really enjoyed this book, lots of romance and mystery couldn't put it down. Liked the characters and the way it was written, I give it 5 stars and highly recommend this book to everyone.

Leek says

Mediocre...almost gave up on it half way, speed-read to the end, skipped big chunks. It was just typical: man damaged by mean father, woman has his kid without his knowing. When they come together again, nobody trusts anybody and it's an over and over basically the same blocked up stagnant mistrust on both sides. Dull. Also a lot about some stupid feud between two old women bake-off contestants. Beyond belief stupid and boring.

Meredith says

A fresh take on your "typical" romance novel. I stayed up all night to finish it; couldn't put it down once I started! :)

Stephanie says

I got an arc of this and to be honest, it was great! I don't usually like small town romance novels. But I loved Cody and Shelby-Lynn! Their dynamic was wonderful, constant tension (including sexual) and I was rooting for them from page one.

Really well done!
