



Between Heaven and Hell

Jacqui Nelson

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On a trail full of danger, will he guide her to heaven or hell?

Fort Leavenworth, Kansas - 1850

Hannah knows one thing the moment she enters Fort Leavenworth-she's arrived in Hell. But inside is the means to a new life, a position as a scout on a wagon train bound for the Western Territories. All she has to do is convince the wagon master, Paden Callahan, she's the right person for the job.

After his wife was murdered by the Comanche, Paden let his work as a Texas Ranger consume him. Now he wants nothing more than to disappear into the West. Unfortunately, the one man he can't refuse has asked him to guide a wagon train full of tenderfoots across thousands of miles of Indian land. But Paden's greatest challenge turns out to be Hannah, a woman his heart won't allow him to ignore even though she was raised by an enemy he hates.

Between Heaven and Hell Details

Date : Published June 19th 2014 by Jacqui Nelson (first published June 18th 2014)

ISBN : 9780993638701

Author : Jacqui Nelson

Format : Paperback 360 pages

Genre : Westerns, Romance, Historical Romance, Historical

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From Reader Review Between Heaven and Hell for online ebook

Philomena Callan Cheekypee says

When I was a little girl I loved sitting watching westerns with my dad. When this book came up for a blog tour I couldn't resist having a go- although I haven't read many westerns before. This was a fantastic surprise for me.

The author has a great way of telling a story. I felt as if I was right there with the characters. This story had lots of twists and turns. While reading this I could actually picture it as a movie. If you like western romances then I certainly recommend this story. Will be keeping my eye out for this author in the future.

Eye Candy Bookstore says

4.5 Stars

The Western Frontier called to many settlers in the 19th century. Some were looking for land to call their own, to find lost relatives or simply to start anew. Hannah is looking for just that - a new start. Orphaned young and taken in by Indians, Hannah has now become an outcast in both societies. Unfit for civilized settlers and unworthy for the Osage Tribe. With two warriors intent on fighting for her, one for her death and the other for her love... nothing is certain.. except for bloodshed.

I am a big fan of old western romances! It always piques my imagination and wonderlust of a time long gone. I became Hannah's big sister by the end of the prologue and was hooked the entire book. I loved the timing the author created with the characters in the beginning and in the middle. The end did seem a bit hurried for me. I wish there was a little bit more information on how Hannah and Eagle Feather made such personal character progression in the last few pages. However, I ended this book with a smile on my face and joy in my heart! If you enjoy tales with cowboys, indians and the wild west.... you will love this!

Reviewed by: Maggie Wadsager

Heather says

This book is breathtaking from the first pages until the very end! For readers who love western romances, Jacqui Nelson creates an adventure into the wild west that will never be forgotten.

Hannah is torn between two worlds - the world of the white settlers she was born into, and the world of the Indians who raised her as their own after her parent's cruel deaths. Taught patience and kindness, Hannah's life is shattered a second time when the tribe she calls family is attacked. Banned from remaining with her

Indian tribe and marked to distinguish her from the whites, Hannah is searching for refuge and a place where she can finally call home. She is so very tired of being on the run.

Paden Callahan is a striking and forceful wagon master who is determined to keep his wagon train safe from harm. He is running from a past he can't forget, with vengeance fueling his fire to move forward. When he dismisses a drunken ruffian from being a scout, he never imagines that the person who steps in to take the open position will be a frail beautiful blonde dressed in Indian clothes with the deepest sky blue eyes he has ever seen. She is a remarkable horse rider and shooter, but even more stunning is the effect she seems to have on him. After years of coldness and unfeeling, his heart begins to melt as she draws closer to him.

With her being raised by his enemies and with his dark past still haunting him, Paden knows it would be wrong to allow Hannah anywhere near him. However, he cannot resist the urge he feels to be near her. With her life on the line, he can't bear to make the same mistake twice. He can't let another women he loves be killed.

The characters are richly described and masterfully portrayed. The depth of feeling in the story is beautifully done and will linger with the reader long past the final pages. With a plot that is so good you won't be able to put the novel down, Between Heaven and Hell is a must read! Be prepared to take an adventure into the wild west and to fall in love with some very remarkable characters...

Sassy Southern says

I do not normally read what I call westerns, cowboy books, books set in the old west, etc.. But I agreed to this one because it is set in my home state and because the story line did sound very interesting!

I was not disappointed. As a matter of fact, I may just read more! I will definitely read more by J. Nelson. She gives us a wonderful accounting of the feelings of the Hanna as she struggles with where her life is now. The Fate that has pushed her to different places that were not of her choosing, but she didn't regret living that life instead of being brutally murdered like all those she loved had. She gives us a glimpse of the past of both Hanna and Paden, a hard man who has also been a victim of life and its delicate balance. He has lost the only woman he could ever love, fought and killed the very people that saved Hanna. How can she believe he can see her any differently than those? She struggles to be her own person, not someone from the past. She only wants to be accepted and loved, to have a family again.

Paden respects her for the skills she has had to learn to survive in a rough enviroment. She can out ride and out shoot any man around. She has more than proved her worth. But he knows how hard her life will be, trying to get people to see her, not the white girl that was kidnapped by Indians, not the Indian she had become in order to stay alive. He admires her willingness to accept any task set in front of her, as long as she gets a place on his wagon train. Paden understands her needs, wants and desires, but he too, has trouble accepting that a mere slip of a woman can hold up to the hard journey ahead of them. The trail she is to scout out for the them will be rough, hard, and dangerous. But this beauty sets his heart and body on fire! He will have to give her the respect she deserves and try to deal with being stuck between heaven and hell fighting his passion for her!

Nicole Laverdure says

I read this book a while ago, but forgot to post my review. Here it is!

A fun western romance! 4.5 stars

Between Heaven and Hell is a fun read filled with suspense, action, romance, a real FarWest adventure. Jacqui Nelson is a very descriptive author! Lovers of western romances, are in for a treat with her 1st story in the Lonesome Hearts series.

Between Heaven and Hell, is a fun western romance with a well developed plot and two charming characters, Hannah and Paden. Will this brave woman catch his heart? Just follow their journey on the trail filled with twists and turns!

Maria Dariotis says

Between Heaven and Hell by Jacqui Nelson

Kansas - spring 1850

Hannah -Blue Sky as she was known by her adoptive Osage family is fleeing from her Osage tribe after the brutal murder of her mother Morning Star and her daughter by the white man. Looking for a new beginning she enters Fort Leavenworth and stumbles upon the wagon train bound for the West looking for a scout, she's confident that she's the right person for the job. She knows that there will be conflict and scorn towards her but the one man that makes her feel safe is Paden Callahan. She can feel the turmoil beneath the surface of this man and the connection is strong between them but will his past haunt him and his memories be a barrier to a love that's just blossoming?

Paden Callahan is fighting his demons as an ex Ranger his mission was to protect but he couldn't protect the woman that he had sworn too as her husband. Rejecting his Comanche heritage believing they were the cause of his wife's murder he swore to take vengeance. But when Hannah comes in his life running away from Eagle Feather (her Osage brother) who's sworn to kill her, he knows that he'll do everything in his power to protect the woman that has captivated his heart.

A well written story of the trials and tribulations that these people faced while travelling to the West. A journey fraught with dangers of not only the Indians but also amongst themselves . This is an epic tale of action adventure, danger and a love that has proven the hardships and struggles of Heaven and Hell. Jacqui Nelson pulls the reader in this extraordinary tale of love and redemption in the Wild West! I highly recommend Jacqui Nelsons books she will never disappoint, reading her books is a movie for the mind.

Received a copy from the author for my honest opinion.

Kelsey says

This was an interesting read for me. Being my first Western Romance book, I started this book off with an open mind, and really surprised myself by really liking Between Heaven and Hell! Being an avid equestrian a few years back, I figured I would relate well to the "western" aspect of this book. I'm glad I gave the book a try, and will be looking forward to more of Jacqui Nelson's books! On with the review!

We begin the book with young Hannah ripped from her family after a rogue band of white settlers killed her family. A local tribe of Indians find her days later, and adopt her into their tribe. She is then raised by them until she sets out on her own to create a name for herself - back into the world of white settlers, and who she once was. Unfortunately, she doesn't remember who she was, or what her family was like. In fact, when she reaches Fort Leavenworth, she gives her Indian name first, and stumbles through introductions.

The book progresses well (not too fast, not too slow) as Hannah is induced into the wagon train that is taking the people of Fort Leavenworth out West. Hannah expects the natural turmoil of nature to take place on their journey. What she doesn't expect is the emotional turmoil that takes place between her, and Paden Callahan. Paden has troubles of his own that he is fighting; including keeping his past a secret from Hannah.

Jacqui Nelson takes Between Heaven and Hell to the next level in Western Romance novels by making the two main characters both have troubled pasts that neither of them want the other to find out about. She created some phenomenal characters that really shone through during the entire book. She creates scenes that you can see, smell, taste, and feel with just a brief blink of your eyes.

If you want to try something new this weekend, I highly recommend Between Heaven and Hell. Be sure to check out the giveaway below, and one-click it on Amazon today! You won't be disappointed, and I think she may just change your mind on Western Romances!

Aisha says

I received the book free this review is honest and all view are my own. This of course was another great book. All the characters in the story make some great contribution to the story. Hannah and Paden both come from tough lives and are struggling to out run their past. Fate happened to throw them into each other's path. Paden never wants to love again and is resistant in the beginning but of course he eventually begins to fall. Hannah just wants to put miles behind her on the trail. This book took me no time to finish because I had to figure out how it ended.

A.C. Wilson says

I'm a huge fan of Jacqui Nelson's new Old West creations anyway! That being said, I was moved by this story. Hannah is a young child when she is rescued by the Osage tribe. Growing up as a white girl in an Indian camp couldn't have been easy, but Hannah is protected by a mother and her daughter. Evil rocks their world when trappers come into the camp and kill her adopted family. Suddenly, Hannah is very white and is cast out into a world that is unfamiliar and just as hostile. Moving west seems the only way she can outrun the danger that is following her. In her quest for peace and a new life, Hannah never expects to find love with an ex-Texas Ranger carrying a horribly painful past and a fist full of secrets.

You won't want to miss this story!

Mimi Barbour says

Between Heaven and Hell was an incredible read for me. I love stories taking place in the old west – used to watch the old westerns on TV when they were popular and this book took me back to those days. I could

picture yellow-haired Hannah, fearful but brave, as she rode up to the wagon train in Fort Leavenworth Kansas, facing her deepest fears in order to apply for the position as a scout for a wagon train bound for the western territories. Needed: a cracks shot, a strong rider and someone who could speak different Indian languages. What they didn't want was a woman, especially one who dressed like an Indian herself. But when Hannah proved her worth by outshooting and outriding a barrel-chested braggart who wanted the job himself, she made one more enemy. Now that made two men who would follow her! Paden, the handsome wagon master, wanted nothing to do with this Hannah girl and her problems. But how could he leave her behind to face the wrath of the man she'd taken the job from? He had to protect her and from that moment on, life became very complicated and dangerous. Which just made this intriguing story hard to put down! I loved the characters, even the secondary ones whose experiences constantly added more adventures. Not only was the book well-written, for me it was a winner!

Linda says

Brings back memories of the first books I fell in love with - historical romances, and this one is set in the wild west.

As a young girl, Hannah witnessed the death of her parents at the hands of renegade white men. She was found hiding by a band of Osage Indians, who took her in and cared for her until tragedy strikes again, and she is forced to seek out a new beginning amongst the very people that have twice stolen those most dear to her. Shunned by most white folks for her time spent with the Indians, and being hunted by the very ones who raised her, she hires on as a scout for a wagon train heading west to California. It's a hard, dangerous job and one that wagon master Paden is not inclined to let her do, but he also didn't want to leave her at the mercy of those at the fort who treat women who are alone and with her background poorly.

Paden is an ex-Ranger helping an old friend lead a group of people out west. His past is complicated. Hailed as a hero for his efforts against the Indians, he just wants to get the wagon train safely to California and head back to his home in Oregon. With a troubled past of his own, he didn't expect to meet someone and fall in love. Add in the dangers of that past coming back to haunt him, Hannah's past coming back to disrupt their budding relationship, and others seeking revenge, and this is one trip that is fraught with more danger than is typically expected on the trail.

If you love historical romances, and like westerns to boot, this is a cute one, but for one flaw. It is a little raw and needs some editing. There are missing words throughout. Typically preposition words like "as". It gets a little distracting when reading, but overall written well except for this.

Lustful Literature says

**** JOSIE'S 4 STAR REVIEW ****

Let me start off by saying I am not a huge Western or history fan but I found myself really loving this novel, the characters and the entire premise of it. Hannah our heroine is the shit! She's kick ass, deep and sensitive.

Hannah is on the run from her enemy and she is psychologically and physically damaged. She is constantly shunned by the white world and the natives who took her in and adopted her. In the start of the Novel, I was left an emotional mess, literally crying my eyes out mess. At the age of 9 Hannah witnessed her birth family killed. Later on in life she also witnesses her adopted mother Morning Star and adopted sister Laughing Eyes get massacred. These traumatic losses were both done at the hands of the white men who wanted to hold the blonde hair and blue eye girl captive. She has had to live with that knowledge, guilt and blame after that. If you think this is bad, just wait. Things only get worse for her. God she suffered so much my heart broke for her over and over. Her adoptive brother rescues her, avenges his family's murders only to banish her from the tribe. He threatens to kill Hannah if he sees her again and because of that she's forced to live on the run. She's constantly living in fear that Eagle Feather will find her and kill her.

Paden Callahan (ladies hold on to your cowgirl hats) is an empty man, has suffered and knows all too well about death and vengeance. Texas Ranger Paden was married to a woman who was raped and killed by Comanche Indians. He avenged his wife's murder by tracking the Comanche down and killing all of them. He leaves the Rangers and settles in a small town in Oregon where he runs a lumber business. That is until his old Officer General appoints him as leader for a wagon train from Fort Leavenworth Kansas to California.

Hannah arrives in Fort Leavenworth, hungry, cold and terrified but knows her safety depends on her riding with the wagon train. You are all going to love Hannah, she is smart and fierce. In order to ride with the wagon train she has to challenge and win against a scout name Dawson. After she wins, she gets appointed the new scout. However, this only ends up adding to her troubles. Dawson wants to get even.

Dawson is a drunk, racist and chauvinist. Paden doesn't like him and does not want him with the team. When Paden lays eyes on Hannah, he is memorized by the petite woman with golden blonde hair and blue eyes. Eyes that he can get lost in. He finds himself so attracted to her. Something he has not felt since his wife. Paden keeps Hannah at a distance because anytime they are near each other or he touches her he has this overwhelming sexual and primal need for her.

Unbeknownst to them, they are being trailed by 2 of enemies. This is where things really started to get so hard where I was emotionally distraught. The way Hannah is treated is awful. She is treated like a savage and a whore. Paden feels protective and possessive of her. He wants to wrap her up and keep her safe, but his deepest desire is to have Hannah in his bed and underneath him. Paden and Hannah are so loveable, although Paden is trying to fight what he is feeling he has to constantly touch and kiss her. While trying to balance and find out what he is truly feeling, Paden discovers Hannah's scar. He knows there is something she is not telling him and he wants to know what happened to her.

Paden's protective urges for Hannah intensifies after he realizes how much danger she is actually in. He lost one woman and he will not lose another. He will do anything to protect and save her, even if he has to kill.

Can he save Hannah from the evils that surround her? Will Hannah choose to stand by her new love, her new family or will her loyalty go to her adoptive family? Can Paden, let go of his past life with Jeannie and find happiness with Hannah?

This was an awesome book. It was enthralling, captivating from start to finish and considering this it is not something that I would normally read, it kept me engrossed. I hope people give this one a chance because it is definitely worth picking up.

E.E. Burke says

Between Heaven & Hell is a fire-cracker of a love story with the perfect blend of fascinating characters, intense emotion, historical interest and fast-paced action. Once I started reading it, I couldn't put it down until I finished it. The story follows a wagon train journey across the American frontier. Along with the romance, there are multiple story lines woven together that give the book greater depth and interest. The author's lyrical narrative is a joy to read and she truly brings the setting to life.

The conflicts faced by these characters are serious and believable. Hannah, who lost her parents as a child and was raised by an Indian tribe, feels more Indian than white. Paden Callahan, the wagon master who hires her as a scout, is a tortured soul with a violent past that includes killing Indians in retaliation for his wife's vicious murder. These two tough survivors are drawn to each other, yet they struggle with painful pasts, preconceived notions and even prejudice. Kudos to Jacqui Nelson for introducing a multi-cultural cast and taking on tough issues with understanding and sensitivity. With this book, she's raised the bar for Western historical romance.

Patty McKenna Van Hulle says

A kick a\$\$ heroine is running from an enemy & memories & an emotional scarred hero must fight the white world & the misunderstood native world together to survive!

Hannah has had 2 families killed in front of her eyes, when she was 9, her birth parents & then her adopted Osage family, Morning Star (her chosen mom) & Laughing Eyes (her sister) are massacred. Both times, the white men wanting a blonde hair & blue eyed captive & she has lived with the guilt. Eagle Feather (her adopted brother) tracked her, with the help of Hannah's horse, White Cloud, freed her & avenged his family's murder, but kicks Hannah out of the tribe & threatens to kill her if he ever sees her again. Now she must get away as fast as she can, before Eagle Feather can find her & as far from the memories of getting her native family murdered.

Paden Callahan is a man who know loss, death, revenge & has an empty heart & soul. While he was a Texas Ranger, he married his commanding officer's daughter, Jeannie & She was raped & murdered by Comanche. So he tracked them all down & killed each & ever one of them. After he avenged his wife, he quit the Rangers, went to Oregon, built his lonely home & started a timber business. Now a call from General Sherwood (his old commander) has made him become the commander of a wagon train from Fort

Leavenworth, Kansas to California.

Hannah is starving & frightened of Fort Leavenworth, but she needs to travel with the wagon train for survival. Paden is so sick of the bigot & drunken scout Dawson, so he is trying to get rid of him. Hannah sees a way in as the new scout, so Dawson & Hannah have a Western challenge & she kicked his a\$\$. She becomes the new scout, but made a nasty enemy & Dawson always gets even. When Paden looks at this itsy bitsy woman with golden hair & memorizing blue eyes, he feels the attraction he hasn't felt since his wife died. Hannah is welcomed into the small family with understanding General Sherwood, his welcoming son, Gabe, flirty Alejandro & crusty Virgil. Paden may respect her skills, but he keeps his distance because when they touch a warm & sensual vibe flows between them.

When they takes off, they are followed by not one of Hannah's enemies, but 2, Dawson & Eagle Feather. Everyone treats Hannah like a dirty savage whore, except Rebecca Riley, who father is the worst out of the bunch. She's alone, isolated & Paden won't let her scout. Paden is enchanted with her, wants to wrap her in cotton, keep her safe, but what he wants most, is her under him. Just when she is finally allowed to scout, she finds Irish Miriam & her grandsons, William & Charles, & discoverers unconditional friendship & acceptance. Paden kisses Hannah ever chance he gets, he caresses her enticing curves, but questions her scars, from a thorn bush, as given by her Osage tribe. Enemies, new & old, make a pack of trouble & kicks up Paden's protection instincts for Hannah that could save or kill them. So now we have savage white world meets misunderstood native world, can he ever understand that not all native are evil? Who will Hannah choose, her loving Osage family or her chosen new one? Will Paden ever let the anger of his Jeannie go? When Eagle Feather find her, is she dead? With Miriam & her grandson's love & acceptance, will Hannah understand that she deserves to be loved? Will Paden's unseen enemy destroy their blooming love?

This is actually my review Take 2 because my first read was from NetGalley & the ARC was screwed up. I was pissed because I don't enjoy Westerns Historical Romances, but Ms. Nelson changed my tune. She not only created a moving tear jerker, with decadent passions & a great story of 2 conflicting worlds, but she built a loving, slightly kooky, flawed & understanding family. Fierce Miriam, big brother William, questioning Charlie, funny Gabe, macho Alejandro, sensible Virgil, loving General Sherwood, bruised Hannah & hunky Paden. I was welcomed at their campfire, shared their pork & beans, I shared my yummy SMORES, laughed at their stories & I got to watched a heart warming love story of healing unfold. Hannah was such a tortured, scarred (inside & out) heroine & she felt that she had a curse of always losing the ones she loves. Paden was also a tortured soul, but it was of his own making, with to many years killing. There was a great line from Hannah as she tells Paden that his lips & tongue heal her wounds & I had a really ugly cry because these 2 learn to heal one another & themselves. Ms. Nelson writing seduces my eyes with the landscape, filled my nose with dust, stinky oxen paddies & campfires, made my ears craved to learn all the western slang & native languages, my taste was assaulted with the salty beans & my touch has new blisters from all the wagon train set up & take down. But what Ms. Nelson affected the most was my heart & soul with a story that had hate, racism, bully after bully, soul destroying grieve, a heroine stuck between 2 worlds & unexpected challenges, but a true meeting of unconditional love & acceptance for the deeply hollowed out hearts & souls of Paden & Hannah. I want to THANK Ms. Nelson for opening the whole Western Historical Romances genres for me. She has INSPIRED me to expand my read boundaries with sexy heroes, damages souls, kick a\$\$ heroines, trampled hearts & a tsunami of conflicting worlds. I loved this tale & I learned that here is always light, maybe just a speck, between heaven & hell, but you have to CHOOSE to search, reach out & welcome this light! I must give Ms. Nelson my top score of 5 fingers up & 10 toes for this rocking tale!

The NetGalley ARC was screwed, but the author gave me a copy for my honest review.

Tonya Lucas says

From the first page to the last paragraph, Between Heaven & Hell was action packed with pure suspense. Jacqui Nelson is phenomenal in her writing style and delivery of this down to earth, gritty western that isn't just for women. This one is had me on the edge of my seat the entire time. Hannah a blond haired - blue eyed girl raised by Osage Indians after her family was attacked by militia men, must escape those hunting for her as a scout on the western wagon train. She must keep her secrets from everyone, including Paden, the sexy mysterious lead scout who intoxicates her desires and has his own secrets to keep hidden.

I can see why she won so many awards with Paden and Hannah's journey.

"Now she realized where she was didn't matter. A place wouldn't make her feel safe and strong, make her feel whole again."

"A person could. Paden could. But first he had to live."

An intensely gripping book. Enjoy the journey and struggles Jacqui Nelson takes you on, through a dangerous-unforgiving country and the enemies who refuse to stop their hunt for Hannah.
