

# Past Forward-A Serial Novel: Volume I

Chautona Havig

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(Contains Episodes 1-5)

Alone without friends or family to comfort her after the death of her mother, Willow Finley's idyllic life is over—and just beginning.

When Willow Finley awakes on a hot summer morning, she is unprepared for the grief that awaits her. Jerked from a life of isolation with her mother, Willow learns what alone really means when she finds her mother still in her bed, never to awaken again in this life.

From the moment Willow arrives in the police station with her startling announcement, Chad Tesdall fights the friendship he knows he can't avoid.

This collection of the first five episodes of Past Forward starts with Willow's life-changing discovery and gently guides the reader through aspects of her life--the past weaving through the present and into the future. Experience her first morning in church, her first movie, and the culture shock of her first trips to the city. A birthday party and a street faire add welcome diversion from butchering, canning, and the beating of area rugs. Disaster strikes. Will she be able to continue her life, or will an offer in the city change it all? Find out in this first volume.

Follow as Willow's story unfolds past forward.

#### Past Forward-A Serial Novel: Volume I Details

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Author: Chautona Havig

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# From Reader Review Past Forward-A Serial Novel: Volume I for online ebook

Amy	says
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# No ending!

Cute story, with no ending. Ugh. I don't like that. I was starting to think I found an author i liked, then when ...to be continued.

# Gail Brandt says

Wonderful story! I couldn't put it down and can't wait to continue reading each week's new episode and find out about Willow's life!

# Marylin says

I stumbled onto this series and I don't want it to end.

I've fallen in love with the character and story!

The story is about a young girl who wakes up one morning to find her life is changed forever.

Willow is a breath of fresh air in a world where everything is so jaded. She looks at life in such an innocent way. Even with the loss of her mother she stays true to the teachings her mother instilled in her. Her life slowly changes as she starts to experience and learn new things. What's really fun is to see the changes in those around her. They may not understand why she does things the way she does, but they soon realize their lives have been touched in a pure and tender way.

I also love that the author has woven in Willows' life the strength that we all can experience when we draw upon God.

When I started reading this series I would get a new book each week. It was hard to put it down until I end up reading it all in one day! Now I WAIT patiently each week until the next episode comes. It's like recieving a special present each week. Fortunately I have read another one of Chautona Havig's series which has many of these same characters, so I can guess at the ending! ;0)

I know you will be delighted just as I have been. Enjoy this adventure, Marylin

Am	V S	ay	S

Very good read, starting Vol II!!

#### Rachel says

I'll review the whole 6-book series here. Overall I found this enjoyable. Occasionally the plots were loose and I felt like things got dropped and picked up again randomly, but that could have to do with the books originally being published episodically. It got worse as the series went on. Unapologetic Christianity with some really good points made. A little high on the raw disturbing intensity meter for my preferences but that's just me.

### **Steph Barton says**

Brilliant, brilliant! This book had me from page one and it was one of these books where I read a few lines when I had a few spare seconds free.

Can't wait to read the next volume and definitely happy that I waited for the whole series to be out than having to wait for each instalment.

# Nancy Bandusky says

This is a delightful novel exploring the new life of a young woman after the death of her mother. The interest is held because the young woman (and her mother) had been living as if it were the 1800s despite the story taking place in current time. Reading about their independent and simple way of life was an enjoyable and rewarding experience. The young woman is not one to worship the modern conveniences that save time for just time's sake, but rather is willing to work long and hard to complete a task no matter how daunting.

While the woman appears to be coping with her loss and the changes to her life (men included), by the end of the novel things come to a head with no full resolution provided in this first volume.

#### **Esther Filbrun says**

Great story!

#### Ellen says

#### **Enjoyed reading**

The story was very interesting. I enjoyed getting to know the main character through the authors words. It story kept my interest and had more reading to find out what happened next

#### Lee says

Absolutely love this entire series!! Willow is an amazing young woman who just lost her mother, both of whom had been isoated in their home since Willow's birth, living "off the land" with vitually none of the conveniences we take for granted (no, she is not Amish). Enter Chad.... Less expensive to buy as "volumes"

than individal "episodes" on Amazon if using a Kindle.

## Michelle (Champ) says

I found this a very original storyline. Willow and Kari live in the past, in the present.

I really liked Willow, Chad and Kari. There was one guy, that I didn't quiet trust.

Seems that I will have to read the next one to find out what happens. I think I will.

# **Dorian Goodyk says**

Loved it!! I can't wait to read vol. II

#### **Suzanne says**

Love this book. The characters draw you in and I look forward to reading volume 2 because I must know what happens between Willow and Chad.

If you are looking for love & romance without all of the explicit language and sex scenes then this is the series for you. Would be perfect for teenage girls to read. It contains the kind of love & romance that all girls should hold out for.

#### Jill says

What a delightful surprise I found in this book! It was a free Nook download, and I selected it on a whim--and I'm so glad I did. I just love discovering new-to-me authors, especially self-published ones. And another homeschool mom? Awesome!

Ms. Havig writes in a delightfully understated style, switching POV as she pleases, describing beautifully so that everything necessary is clear in my head, yet never describing things that don't matter. I love how her characters are defined by what they say and do, the choices they make, not the way they look.

This book series was written first as a serial story, and the collection fills four full volumes so far. This is not fast, read-in-one-evening material. It is meant to savor, to live in, to enjoy, just like the novels of Dickens were intended.

Willow's farm is slightly idealized (I've not yet seen a blight, disease, or pest), and yet it is real to me, and I love it. I'm already immersed in Volume 2. The stories are clean, sweet, and appropriate for probably 15-up. There is reference to violence and sex: The main character was the product of a violent rape, but she is a unique and lovely character who grows throughout the stories. I don't want to spoil the plot--you can read the

description and know enough for a start.

If you enjoy a deeply satisfying, slowly unfolding love story filled with a plethora of interesting characters, don't wait to pick up this novel series by Chautona Havig.

# Faith says

"Alone without friends or family to comfort her after the death of her mother, Willow Finley's idyllic life is over—and just beginning."

"Past Forward" is a unique book. The book describes the life of 22 year old Willow Finley. At the opening of the book, her mother dies and we see her struggle through her grief. She has no family and no friends since her mother has kept her from as many outside influences as she can.

Willow's first visits to the movie theater, "the city", a restaurant, and church are eye-opening to say the least. Chautona Havig did a very good job of describing Willow's overwhelming culture shock.

And then there is Chad. He is our reluctant hero. He is reluctantly thrust into the role of Willow's friend. He doesn't want to be the one who is always there for Willow, at least at first, but he does it anyway. Sometimes to the point of frustrating poor Willow.

Two minor problems I had with "Past Forward": 1. I have to wait for the rest of the story, and 2. Willow's chickens. There is no breed of chicken that lays double yolk eggs every day and no chicken lays at the same time of the day, everyday. Chickens are on a 25 hour cycle. If they lay an egg today at 7, tomorrow they will lay an egg around 8.

Other than those two small problems, I loved this book and look forward to reading more about Willow.

Note: I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. I was not required to give a positive review.