

The Jewel

Beth Williamson

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When life falls apart, love can make you whole again.

As the "beautiful" sister, Isabelle Chastain always struggled to be taken seriously. But as her family immigrates to Oregon Territory, she loses her sister Francesca to marriage, and her parents to dysentery. It's time to take control.

With an empty wagon and a broken heart, she and her younger sister Charlotte turn for home to search for another sister, Josephine, left behind to recover from typhoid. The last thing Isabelle needs in her path is a naked, bleeding man left to die in the dirt.

Dazzled by a friend's stories of California gold, college professor Mason Bennett left North Carolina to get his share. All his dreams of adventure and riches got him, however, was robbed, beaten, and left for dead.

As Isabelle stitches him up, he discovers her wit is as sharp as her needle. But when vagabonds seize their wagon, they must band together to save themselves—or any hope for a happy future could disappear.

The Jewel Details

Date : Published August 12th 2014 by Samhain Publishing

ISBN: 9781619224445 Author: Beth Williamson Format: ebook 261 pages

Genre: Romance, Western Romance, Historical Romance, Historical



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From Reader Review The Jewel for online ebook

Kimberly Walter says

Isabelle Chastain is the "beautiful sister" of her family and it is a struggle to be taken seriously. As her family immigrates to Oregon, a series of events change her world forever. With the death of her parents, she takes control of her life.

As Isabelle and her younger sister Charlotte travel back to find their other sister Josephine, they come across a naked man badly beaten and left to die.

Mason Bennett left North Carolina for gold after the stories he heard from his friend. But he was betrayed by the very same "friend", beaten, robbed, stripped of his clothes and left for dead. He thought it was the end for him. But then an angel appeared and saved his life.

After finding Mason and getting him healthy again. Isabelle tries to keep a distance from Mason, trying to deny the attraction between them. They keep going in the hopes of finding good shelter in the winter storm but all they found were scoundrels that seized their wagon. Now they have to figure out a way to escape. Once they do, they make their way to find Isabelle and Charlotte's sisters. But their lives are forever changed after that experience, especially Charlie. She isn't the same.

The Jewel was devastating and heartbreaking in the beginning. It totally caught me off guard, so did not expect that. And during their journey to find their sisters their luck keeps getting worse. But in midst of all this trouble love finds a way between two totally different people. It was heartbreaking sad, but filled with action, trouble, but most of all deep passion that burned brighter then a jewel.

I absolutely loved reading The Jewel and I am looking forward to Charlotte's book, because she is going to be the most trouble. Can't wait.

Monique Ito says

I was lucky enought to get a ARC of The Jewel. I have read a lot of Beth Williamson's books and every one of them I have read I have loved this one is no different. I love the Malloy Family series and I was happy when Beth said she was going to tell us the story of the Chastain sisters. The Jewel is Isabella Chastain and Mason Bennett. This story has everything you wanted in a book or else what I want in a book. A great stroy line, a ending you will like and a love story that you will be happy to read about. Beth gives you two strong women, one trying to keep what she has right now together, one who is trying to understand what is going on and trying not to show how hurt she is. A man you did not think he would find love or have a family. If you have not read the series you do not have to read it. But once you read The Jewel you will want to go back and read the rest of the series.

Tabatha says

This was my first read of Beth Williamson, and it certainly will not be the last. I was captivated from page one with The Jewel, and I think that Williamson is a very talented writer. I felt like I was taken back to the past with the focus on the details and historical facts that Williamson was able to creatively weave into a romantic story full of hardship and determination. The story is led with a great cast of characters with Isabelle, Charlie, and Mason. I actually read this in one sitting, because I just couldn't put it down. This is the type of romance that I just love to read!

The story opens with Isabelle and Charlotte Chastain dealing with the loss of their parents along the Oregon Trail. When they decide to turn back and seek out the sisters that they have parted ways with along the way, they come across a battered man and save his life. Mason, having been left for dead, is grateful for the Chastain sister's generosity in saving him, but he also develops intense feelings for the ever stoic Isabelle. Together these two fight the immense odds that are set against them in their journey to reunite her with her other sisters.

As I said before, this is the best type of romance to read. It was full of suspense, mystery, and above all...sweet romance. I admired Isabelle so much for her strength, Charlie for her foul mouth, and Mason because he was discovering a side of himself that he never knew existed. They each were wonderful and strong characters that I could read about over and over again. I'm eager to read more from Williamson, so I will definitely be going back to the previous books in this series. I will say that I wasn't really lost with this being number eleven in the series despite my having not read any of them previously. It definitely stood on its own, but I want to know about the other sisters now too. So overall, this was a delightful read and I definitely suggest it.

I received a review copy from the author in exchange for my honest review

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Cindi says

Another great addition to the Malloy Family series. In this book there is loss, endurance, love and hate. Life keeps challenging the characters in this book forcing them to dig deep inside themselves for the strength to keep going even when all seems hopeless. With a great storyline as well as characters I recommend you read this book.

Sasha says

Another wild west adventure

A perfect addition to a wonderful series! As always Beth Williamson takes you on a wild and exciting adventure in the old west with strong characters and lots of love.

Terra Oenning says

Isabelle Chastainher younger sister Charlottecollege professor Mason Bennett

Isabelle Chastainber and her younger sister have to bury their parents when they decide to head back to put back what is left of the family and find a man near death. Mason bennett was a professor and decided to leave that life being and head west to find gold only to be beaten and shot and left for dead. Isabelle cant leave him so she takes him and nurses him back to health only then will the sparks to fall between them and it builds up to something more. On the way they encounter a dangerous family and have to fight for their lives again. Isabelle has to step up again to save them from danger. They finally get to the place where her sister was and she is no longer their and there is another twist to the story. I have to say I truly am thankful I got the chance to read this book and the series is going to be awesome. I am a country girl by heart so reading about the old west romance is so refreshing. I loved this book and can't wait to read the next one.

Kimberly Rocha~ Book Obsessed Chicks says

Sometimes, there are no words to describe how it feels to come back to a series of books that makes you run a gamut of emotions, a series that makes you feel like you are one of the family. The Malloy Family series does this to me. It started with Beth Williamson's pivotal, The Bounty and so strongly continues with the Chastain sister's stories.

Utter devastation has wreaked the Chastain family. The two remaining sisters on the wagon train to Oregon have faced a loss like no other. Both of their beloved parents have succumbed to a fast moving illness, leaving their daughters to bury them along the bitter trail. When told they must marry in order to continue their trek to Oregon, eighteen year old Isabelle and fifteen year old Charlotte (Charlie) decide that parting ways with the wagon train is much more desirable than finding husbands. They want to be reunited with the sisters they have left along the trail and become a family again, so they redirect their wagon going East.

Mason Bennett is left for dead along the path. He is beaten to a pulp and naked when the Chastain sisters happen upon his sorry hide and stop to save his life. A professor in his early days, Mason set out from the Southeast to make his own fortune in the gold rush, but was betrayed by his partners and left to die. The privileged son from a rich family, Mason has never had to endure the trials and tribulations of the road he has followed. When the beautiful Isabelle Chastain, tends to his wounds, he aptly names her his Angel, and his cynical mind and empty heart begin to soften towards her.

Isabelle has never been put in this type of situation before, but her parents taught them to help those in need, and Mason is definitely one in need. When they are basically taken hostage by a ragtag group of criminals, their struggle to survive takes the forefront and Mason becomes the man he always should have been when he claims Isabelle and the mouthy Charlie as his to protect. While they are attempting to survive and escape from the danger that's befallen them, Mason and Isabelle's feelings for one another blossom and in the midst of pain and evil, comes enlightenment and love.

I have to say that THE JEWEL by Beth Williamson has got to be one of my favorite books yet. This story

just grabbed a hold of me and wouldn't let go. Already engrossed in the plight of the Chastain family, I felt my heart being squeezed throughout this tale. Isabelle, so beautiful and yet so strong, surprises many with her evolution. Charlie's wit and foul mouth remind me very much of the author's personality and I could imagine, Beth was very much like Charlie in determination, if not in speech. Mason should be disliked from the background from whence he came, but his metamorphosis from rich son to downtrodden man makes me adore him all the more. His will to show himself and those around him his strength makes him one of my favorite characters. THE JEWEL by Beth Williamson is a remarkable read which I most highly recommend.

~KIMBERLY~

Jackie Ferrell says

I was honored to have been given an ARC of The Jewel to read. I am a big fan of Beth Williamson's books and The Malloy Family series!!

I loved this book as much as the others!!!

In the Jewel we meet Isabelle and Charlie (Charlotte), two of the Chastain sisters on a trip to reunite with their other sisters. They have many hardships along the way, starting with the loss of their parents.

During the trip they find Mason Bennett. Mason is a professor who is on his own trip to California because he has heard about the gold rush. When Isabelle and Charlie find him he has been beaten, shot and left for dead.

Having been taught medicine by her mother, Isabelle takes care of Mason and he travels with them while he is healing. During the trip a romance begins between Isabelle and Mason. They also have to deal with horrible weather conditions as well as undesirable criminals.

I'm looking forward to reading the next book in the series about Charlie's story!!

I would recommend this book very much!! If you haven't read the other books in the series, you would love them also!!

Valerie says

One of the things I love about the Malloy Family series is that Beth Williamson always keeps me guessing! You can read the blurb and think you know where the book is going, but that is never where it's going. I love that she keeps surprising me. The mixture of historical fact with sensuous romance is just right. Beth Williamson is one of those authors who once I finish the book I want to read the next one immediately. One book is never enough.

Gina says

I think this is the most intense book of the Chastain sisters thus far....tho I'm nervous about Charlie's book. I'm kinda bummed that Isabelle's dream was ruined by the evil people but her HEA was never in doubt. I think the best part was seeing Mason have to be taught by the sisters because even tho he had a privileged upbringing he was soft and his massive education was definitely lacking in the real world. I like a story that has a strong female and this is a big one. Awesome story and definitely left me wanting the next one!

Stephanie says

Jewel was a great read with historical facts mixed in with a thrilling romance. Most wouldn't think that a young lady would be able to find love on a road full of hardships but isabel managed. Isabel with her sister charlie was going through a hard time after there parents died so they changed directions and headed back towards home so that they could reconnect with their possibly dead sister and there recently married sister. Little did they know that they would find a mysterious stranger, some ruffiums looking for a quick score as well as murderers. This book managed to keep my attention where few other historical romance books have managed to do so. Beth williamson writes a thrilling tale that keeps the reader pulled in no matter what the reader would usually want to read. A great read by a great author. Thanks ms williamson.

J says

A little different kind of read for me (I like to try various things). This historical western tale was romantic and had the feel of being a real look at going west in a covered wagon and the hardships that one had to endure. It also seemed a little superficial to me. I would have liked a lot more of the characters in depth, their feelings and background.

Mandi Suddath says

Loved this book, I haven't read the entire series but this book made me want to! I loved Charlie she was outspoken and spunky my kinda girl! Isabelle was a very strong lady who kept her cool through things most women would have been weeping over! Mason is the true southern gentleman with a little bit of bad boy!! All in all a very good read that will keep you interested til the end! Can't wait for the next one because we need to know Charlie's story!!!!

Hawaiianwahine00 says

Another wonderful story by Beth Williamson. Just finished today and loved it! In this book you experience the strength from both sisters, Belle (Isabelle) and Charlie (Charlotte) through their struggles for survival to reunite with their other two sisters. You will also be introduced to Mason who slowly transform from a

teacher to a hot smoking cowboy and yes you will feel the sizzle between him and Belle. Excellent historical romance that makes you feel like your right there with these characters. If you love other stories from Beth like I do then you will fall in love with this one too. I can't wait to read about Charlie and hopefully see more of Mason and Belle.

Ginny Rodenberg says

This was a good read. I really enjoyed seeing how strong that Isabelle was and how Mason changed as the story unfolded. The story was very believable and easy to read. It was the first I have read of the series and look forward to reading more! Especially Charlie's story! Enjoy!