



# The Promise

*Freda Lightfoot*

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## **The Promise** Freda Lightfoot

San Francisco, 1904. Georgia Briscoe, a young woman from a good family, is unwillingly betrothed to businessman Drew Kemp when she falls for handsome British sailor Ellis Cowper. Drew had the charm to dazzle everyone around him, but when the couple are married, it soon transpires that Drew's charm is only skin-deep, and that he is in fact a greedy gambling addict with a penchant for other women, including Georgia's maid Maura and jealous sister Prudence. When Georgia and Maura become pregnant, both women decide to escape to be with the men they love, providing Prudence with an opportunity to seize Drew -- and much more besides.

London, 1948. When Chrissie Kemp travels to the Lake District to visit her grandmother Georgia, she is not prepared for the shocking revelation that is about to throw her family into turmoil. As a last act of vengeance on her death bed, Prudence claims that Chrissie's mother Vanessa and her late father Aaran are brother and sister. As the truth unfurls, the passion, emotion and astounding love that occurred in San Francisco forty years ago is revealed, and three generations of the family are tested to their limits.

## **The Promise Details**

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Author : Freda Lightfoot

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## **From Reader Review The Promise for online ebook**

### **Rosie says**

Very good!

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### **Tori says**

This book had potential to tell a great story but I got lost in the very confusing plot line. As much time as the writer took to build up to the end, it seemed the final telling of the story and the revealing of the promise was rushed. It was an entertaining enough read but not one I'd recommend putting at the top of a reading list.

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### **Karen says**

#### **A good story**

I liked the story, but it didn't come near the "high water mark," of "The Amber Keeper". I really did enjoy the mystery, though.

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### **Mandy says**

Potentially an intriguing storyline, but spoiled by immature writing and flawed characters. The book skips between two time frames quite well, but I really struggled to believe in the characters. They were either overly sweet, or ridiculously bitter. And I felt that the second half of the book did not match the first....it was almost as if the author started out on one route, and then decided to do something else.

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### **Veronica says**

This is the second book I have read from Freda Lightfoot and I wasn't disappointed second time round. I love how she paces her stories and each chapter compels you to read the next. Loved this book.

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### **Laureen says**

The story was very engaging and mysterious but the writing was "immature". A good light read.

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## **Andrea Barthorpe says**

Absolutely brilliant book, little weak ending though

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## **Alka says**

though it is a love story but the curiosity is kept up throughout the narrative. though it has a historical setting, as in younger protagonist is war widow, it is not a saga. though it has a family theme, with the aim of the protagonist to affect a reunion of sorts within the family, it doesnt degenerate into the weepy, emotional drama. I am planning to read more of the author.

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## **Peter Wilson says**

Really disappointed read. I agree with other reviews regarding 'immature writing '. At times its wishy washy and over sentimental but the biggest problem to me is that the story was just not believable. Two people came back from the dead, babies arriving them swopping them over . The final part of the book seemed hastily written and ended up like a later episode of ' Dallas '.

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## **Sandie says**

THE PROMISE doesn't quite fulfill the requirements of being an epic saga since the time period involved in this story does not span the requisite number of decades that I associate with those words. It is, however, one of those dual time period family tales that fans of writers like Kate Morton are familiar with. Freda Lightfoot's THE PROMISE falls into a genre somewhere between historical fiction and romance novel and explores the relationships between mothers and their grown daughters, sisters and husbands and wives, while detailing many of the ignominious social pressures suffered by women in the early twentieth century.

With its multi-layered perspective, this is a narrative filled with betrayal, loss, family secrets and a cast of well developed and interesting, if not necessarily likable, characters populating a story that seamlessly moves between locations (in this case San Francisco and England)as well as time periods. THE PROMISE delivers both a captivating tale that keeps the reader turning those pages and an ending that was, for this reader at least, thoroughly surprising and unexpected. I just love endings that you can't see coming from a mile away and Freda Lightfoot really delivered an unusual, yet satisfying, "reveal" with this one.

This is my first experience with Freda Lightfoot, but it will certainly not be my last. Oh, and one other thing. Don't start this book at bedtime or you will find yourself reading into the wee hours of the morning.

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## **Ilovetoread2 says**

At first I was upset that this was yet another story that skipped about in time, but I soon got into it and could

hardly put it down. I did find some of the detail of life in San Francisco in 1904/06 a little difficult to relate to. The denouement was quite satisfactory.

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