

# **Emma**

Ashley Merrick

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#### Emma Ashley Merrick

Emma Byrne grew up in a Catholic orphanage in Boston, and her prospects are limited. She and her group of girlfriends, who all met in the orphanage, are barely getting by, working as nannies, cooks, and live-in maids for rich families. When Emma's employer, Gerald, threatens her with losing her job if she doesn't submit to his very unwanted advances, she stumbles onto an opportunity to be a mail-order bride and decides that couldn't possibly be worse.

Except that the groom in question had no idea that his brother sent for a wife. When Emma shows up, at the train station in Bozeman, MT, it's her groom's brother, Joshua that is there to greet her. As it turns out, Ethan is furious that his brother went behind his back and sent for a wife. He's still grieving from the unexpected death of his wife Allison only a year earlier, and spends all his time when he's not working, being a good dad to his only child, Emily, who is three.

Montana is hugely different from Boston, and Emma is surprised that she immediately falls in love with the area. Though taken aback at first to discover that Ethan wasn't aware that she was coming, she's secretly relieved to have a little time to get to know him and her new home. She is also quite fascinated by his family. Ethan is the oldest of ten, and eight of them are brothers, and except for Joshua, all are single. Emma has an urge to play matchmaker, and in book two, her best friend, Julia comes West to meet the brothers.

#### **Emma Details**

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Author: Ashley Merrick

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# From Reader Review Emma for online ebook

# Haley Whitehall says

Although this book is marketed as a clean romance there is one scene after the couple is married that is a little too graphic to classify as clean. Still, it was an enjoyable quick read. I liked the outside plot and will check out the next novella in the series.

# Mandi Murphy says

I'm a bit flabbergasted by the few other reviews of this book. I suppose it could have passed for sweet in some people's worlds, but not mine. The plot and the relationship between Ethan and Emma were incredibly underdeveloped. There was no story, just scenes strung together. I got almost to the end, I could have dealt with it just to get through a short story. But it appears that the author put the whole thing together just to write a bad sex scene. I closed my kindle, and I won't be reading the next book in the series, either.

# Marie says

Good story but very frustrating!

These are lovely sweet historical romance books, with good plots BUT they need a good editor - there are numerous spelling mistakes, typos, incorrect names, etc which is very distracting. I have read Emma, Julia and Colleen but that by point I was completely frustrated with the typos and despite the good plots I have had to give up on this series, which is a shame because if they were proofed and corrected this would be a 5 star series.

## Cissie says

### **A Sweet Story**

Emma leaves Boston to become a mail order bride. Ethan isn't looking for a wife but his family wants otherwise. This is a sweet story of how the two of them meet and grow.

### Gigi Ann says

My Thoughts....

This was just a fun short little story about Emma and how she became a mail-order bride in 1896. It was a nice little "PG" rated book, and I enjoyed it enough to award it 4 Bride stars. This book is part of my Kindle

library, it was also a freebie yesterday on Amazon.

### Marja says

This was just nice and easy read. No real drama, just smooth sailing from the start to finish. I hadn't got a clue that mail order brides were a thing in the 19th century American west. I find myself curious about it but this probably wasn't the best book to get introduced to the topic. It was a pleasant read but there was nothing memorable in it.

# **Cindy Cooke says**

#### Such a great read!

Emma's story has a rough beginning. Her employer has threatened to dismiss her if she doesn't expand her duties to accommodate his personal desires. To escape, she decides to go to Montana as a mail order bride. Problems arise when she arrives....her future husband had no idea she was coming because he had not invited her. As Emma struggles to find her place, she falls in love with beautiful Montana and the new friends she makes there. Even if her arranged marriage doesn't happen, Emma determines to make a life for herself in this wildness land.

Excellent writing by. Ms Merrick draws you into a beautiful love story. I received this book in a mass giveaway. I'll be looking for more by this creative new (to me) author. Thanks for a good read!

### Mum says

Another quick romance, as long as you ignore zucchini break in Montana when it took three weeks to travel by train from Boston. Fresh apples seemed a bit of a stretch, but they do grow there. Glad it was free on my Kindle.

### Sandra R says

The writing and story was so/so. I got a bit bored and DNF - sorry...

### Kristen says

Not sure why the other reviewers are classifying this as clean. Well, it was for 99.5% of the book, then the last two pages or so follows them (married couple) into the bedroom removing each other's clothes and checking out the goods so to speak, I skipped ahead to the Epilogue at that point so not sure what else was described. So, I would've given this a 4 stars had it not had that unneeded scene in there.

So, if you do want to read it and want the clean version, once sweeps her into his arms at the very end of the

book skip to the epilogue and you'll be good to go.

Moral Note: Some innuendos, the scene as mentioned above. Clean language. Some heavy hints from bad guys of compromising her virtue.

### **Christine says**

Cute, but a lot shorter than you'd expect for a first book in a series. I think I read this one in 45 minutes. It's almost as if it would have been more fun to entwine the first three girls' stories into a single novel so it'd have some more meat to it.

There is something in the series that strikes me as strange. The "orphans" are Irish and raised in a Catholic orphanage in the Boston area. So, why are they all married by the equivalent of a preacher? Doesn't that mean that they are not married in the eyes of the Church? Or does this not matter? As Catholics in a religious era, it seemed really strange to have not explanation for it in multiple books.

But, it's a fun read. There are multiple typos in each book, which can be annoying as well. I've read two for free and am on one that I paid \$2.99 for, as it's a fun series.

### Michele says

This was a short, but sweet little read. I've always liked the mail order bride type books. Emma needed to be rescued several times....but she was still portrayed as a strong young lady....which I liked. For a born & raised city girl, she fell in to the country/farm life quite well. It's full of strong family values...a close knit family....hard working & full of love. Which Emma desperately needed. Ethan pulled at my heart strings all through the book. I wouldn't say he was cold at first, just cool....but knowing his story, you can't blame him. For a quick read, it was a nice love story.

## Melanie says

### **Sweet story**

If you are looking for a quick read of a good, clean mail order bride story, and don't get upset when the author doesn't try to be historically accurate, then this is the book for you! It is a sweet story, but it is short, with no real development of the characters or storyline, and there are lots of modern things that shouldn't be included. I did enjoy it though.

# **Susan Preston says**

I enjoyed the book, until the sex scene. It was not overdone, but surprised me with its content as the book is advertised as 'a clean read'. Other than that, an enjoyable book. (It lost a star for the sex)

### Babs says

Emma is a live in maid to a house with a bad man he wants to sleep with her since his wife if pregnant to get out of the situation she confides to a friend and becomes a mail order bride. The groom to be Ethan has no clue his brother and sister in law sent off for her under his name. Ethan is a widower and needs to find a mom for his little girl. He is not happy to say the least when Emma arrives.

Ethan has either other brothers that are free and if things happen badly maybe she can marry one of them but Ethan comes around and he knows Emma is the right woman for him and his daughter.

Emma writes to her friend Julia as one of Ethan's brothers wants a wife and Julia might just come out and see them if things don't go well in Montana.

I enjoyed this book, a quick read at 77 pages with a lot of story packed in. Emma and Ethan are cute together and whole family seems to get great. The scenes are pretty well described and easy to picture in your mind. This is a clean romance. I look forward to meeting more characters.