



The Tender Texan

Jodi Thomas

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Anna Meyer offers one hundred dollars to the Texas cattleman who can help her forge a frontier homestead. Chance Wyatt agrees to settle down and build a home with a lovely stranger. The boy in him never considered the possibility of love. But the man in him can't deny the passion that Anna brings out in him. They vowed to live together for only a year, but as the challenges of the savage land bring them closer together, neither can resist the aching desire that inflames their hearts-and touches their souls.

The Tender Texan Details

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Author : Jodi Thomas

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From Reader Review The Tender Texan for online ebook

Tabitha (Lovely Books Blog) says

I've been hovering between giving this book a three and a four for a couple of days now. It was just right on the edge between being a three and four and I just can't decide. There were some things I really enjoyed about this book and some things that drove me crazy.

As for the things I loved - nobody can write a western romance quite like Jodi Thomas. There's just something about the way her books feel that transport me to another place and time. I loved Chance as a hero and I loved the changing perspectives between him and Anna.

As for what I didn't like- there was almost no communication between Chance and Anna. Half of their problems could have been solved in no more than a sentence. I suppose there would have been no story otherwise but sometimes the two of them made me want to scream. All of their problems and worries could have been solved so easily!

Overall an enjoyable novel but by no means Jodi Thomas's best. Fans of Jodi Thomas will no doubt enjoy but I wouldn't recommend starting with this one if you've never read a book by her before. There's much better ones to start with!

Jeanette says

It took me a long time to read this book. I am not one to give up so I finished it even though I didn't want to. Anna may have been the "older" woman but she sure didn't act like it. Her temper tantrums and "stubbornness", for lack of a better word, put me off. She may have been beautiful but she sure acted stupid! Chance was the reason I kept reading although he did get on my nerves too with the way he "handled" Anna. Back in those days, a man didn't let a woman run roughshod all over him. I understand the need for a strong heroine in books but this one did not turn out the way I hoped a strong heroine should. Anna was more flitting with her emotions than Selma was while dancing love circles around Carl.

Lusie says

I enjoyed this historical romance. It's about Anna from Germany who emigrates to the USA in 1840. Her husband has just died and to be able to get a large plot of land, she wants to get married again as soon as possible. She marries Chance, even though she has just met him and doesn't even know his name. They agree to stay together for 1 year and then Chance will leave. They make their way across dangerous territory, while getting to know each other better. This book has got interesting characters, like Tobin. What Annoyed me a bit was that Anna could not decide if she wants Chance or not. At times I wanted to scream at both Anna and Chance to stop acting so foolish. I liked that the book was packed with action. Times were hard, and the story gives you a taste of that. This was the first time I read something by this author, and will certainly read more of her books

Christine (Cagnes) says

3.5 stars.

Diane K. Peterson says

4.5 stars. A lovely story of a temporary marriage of convenience that blossomed into a real marriage. Pregnant, widowed German immigrant Anna Meyer needs help to claim her land in Texas. Chance Wyatt needs the money she is offering to pay for the support of his younger sister. Anna is deeply afraid of intimacy due to her abusive husband, but Chance falls for her anyway. The story covers the year that Chance committed to helping her get established.

Jodi Thomas's writing style is smooth and steady. No fast action here. Just a slowly developing relationship between two people that need each other. Nice, nice story.

Sandy Forman-Johnson says

it was ok, not the best I've read but not the worst

Becky ?The Bookworm? says

I'm a HUGE Jodi Thomas fan and love her Historical Western Romance novels, but I'm sorry to say that I had some problems with this heroine. I'm not without compassion and I do understand that Anna is carrying a tremendous amount of baggage when she first meets Chance Wyatt; however, I would think after a year of living together as man and wife, she would've let down her emotional walls. Her behavior just doesn't add up or make any logical sense to me.

I found her moody behavior to be nothing short of shrewish. She would turn on Chance over the smallest issue, yet put them both in danger any time he insisted she stay put for her own safety. She places Chance under tremendous pressure by going anyway (on more than one occasion), then gets angry over his brooding, repeatedly failing to understand she's forcing him to protect both of them from the elements, accidents, illness, hostile Indians, etc. Logic tells me that she would stay home, especially being pregnant. This led to many fights between the couple. I lost count of the times she sent him packing, only to go after him in tears. I understand that she doesn't want to be alone, but then why be so hesitant to trust him with her safety *and* her heart?

Very frustrating. I kept reminding myself that the book *is* titled *The Tender Texan*, not the "The Texas Shrew," but it could've gone either way for a little bit.

Speaking of the tender Texan in question...

Chance is a fabulous hero and about as close to a saint as I've come across in quite awhile. He is genuinely a nice guy - clearly exhibited by his relationship with his sister - and probably has more patience in dealing

with Anna than any other man in Texas.

There are many wonderful and emotional scenes in this book, mainly surrounding Chance's acts of generosity and kindness, but Anna's dysfunctional personality pulled the story down a couple of stars by invoking the wrong kind of emotion...like frustration, or wanting to smack her into next Tuesday for not realizing what a great guy she had caring for her.

I'm still a huge fan of the author and plan to read more of her books in the future, hopefully with a better heroine.

Dawn says

Rant to follow...

Quit at 53% because there is nothing remotely likable about this heroine. She is a total psycho bitch, and I have no clue why the hero wants her.

She has done nothing but treat him like dirt. She is one minute wanting him and making him think he has a chance then she's pushing him away. She is basically abusing him and all he does is break his back to please her.

The writing is also IMHO horrible. There is a psychoticness about it. Haphazard best describes it. I can't take the constant jumbled thoughts of the MC's that also contradict each other. The characters also come up with ridiculous notions about one another that have no basis given the actions they have seen in one another.

And Geeze even an idiot could figure out the h must have abuse issues or man issues with all her flinching away from him, yet the hero doesn't get it. There is just no logic in the H & h's thinking whatsoever.

The hero's texas accent gets dropped about 10% in too btw.

It also pisses me off how the H has opened up and told the heroine all about himself and she doesn't confided in him about anything. He has more than proven himself trustworthy and yet she still doesn't trust him.

I am so done with this book. Hero virgin or not.

Safety- as far as I got it is safe. No issues except the heroine was raped in the past but it isn't described.

I do not recommend this book

Rochelle says

This book was intense! The summary just doesn't do justice to the story, it is a sweeping saga packed with every emotion under the sun. I haven't read a tale so poignant in a long time, and I'm surprised it isn't a more

popular book.

I think the title is kind of "meh" for me, it's too saccharine sweet and it makes you think you're picking up a cheap, poorly written romance novel, it hardly matches what resides in the pages and it took me awhile to actually pick up the book and read it for that very reason. Thankfully, from the very first pages I was swept up immediately!

Things of mention for more sensitive readers:

I could've done with a lot less lusty admiration on the hero's part; too much running inner dialogue.

The intimate scenes were, I think, too detailed but, I guess, tame from what I hear of the Romance genre in general.

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

If you enjoy an old school western romance, this is a book you will like. The Tender Texan has both a hero and heroine who are survivors. They both have suffered tragedy and turmoil in their short lives. I absolutely adored Chance. He is a true, tough, fierce Texan, but he was also so loving and caring towards Anna. Jodi Thomas knows how to write absolutely scrumptious heroes--both incredibly loving and tender, but also formidable western heroes who know how to handle themselves and to take care of their women.

Chance has moved up near the top of my list. He's probably #3 now, #1 being Carter from The Texan's Wager, and #2 being Winter McQuillen from Two Texas Hearts. Chance lost his family in a renegade Indian attack, all except for his infant sister. His goal has been to make enough money to pay for the care of his sister. When Anna Meyer approaches his cattle campsite and asks for a man who is willing to marry her for a year, he offers himself, even though he's only nineteen years old. That's the kind of man Chance is. He might be young in years, but he's a fully grown man who knows how to handle himself and take care of his own, and he does that and more for Anna. Chance falls hard and soon for Anna, despite the fact that he's spent more time around cattle than women. He dreams of making love with his wife, making her his first and only woman, but he has to get past the wall around her heart first.

Anna frustrated me terribly at times. I did understand her issues, having been raped by her husband, and taken advantage and mentally/verbally abused by her mother. Yet, she wasn't able or willing to give Chance the opportunity to prove that he would be a good husband that she could love. The frustration I felt towards her couldn't be a mere fraction of what Chance felt. She craved his closeness, and was attracted to him, but her past had showed that a man couldn't give her anything but pain and humiliation, and that she was foolish to trust anyone or learn to depend on them. It was sad to read, because they both deserved better. Although Chance was the kind of man no one took for granted, because he was more than able to take care of himself; he had nothing on Anna. She is incredibly stubborn. I think that's a good thing. She couldn't have survived the tribulations she went through otherwise. Anna's not going to be a meek wife. She'll keep Chance on his toes. But, it's more than clear that he wants no other woman than her.

Although there isn't quite as much action in this story as some of Jodi Thomas' books, the depictions of the harsh journey that the German immigrants (including Anna) have to take from the Gulf Coast to their lands in New Braunfels are full of dangers--mainly from sickness and disease. I was actually glad that there wasn't a lot of Settler-Indian conflict in this book--that just breaks my heart. I liked that Ms. Thomas made it clear

that not all Indians were violent towards the settlers. Chance has an issue with an Indian that killed his family, but he's not out to kill them all--he's actually friendly with various groups.

I like how Jodi Thomas shows humanity in all its forms. Her down-to-earth way of writing characters really speaks to me. I like her humor, a welcome counterpoint to the inherent danger and sadness of a life on the frontier.

It was good to immerse myself back into another fantastic romance by a dependably wonderful writer in the western romance genre. Definitely recommended.

Paula-O says

The Tender Texan by Jodi Thomas.

Anna Meyer has lost a husband and if she does not get another to help her take land that she and her husband were coming to live and improve to homestead, she will lose it. She is pregnant and wants it for the child so much that she walks to a group of oilman and ask one to marry her. many laughed and scoffed at her when she ask one to commit to a year and she would give him \$100.

Chance Wyatt thought she was so brave and he needed that money so offered to be the husband she needed for a year.

Chance was young and had never been in love but soon found himself with a desire to know his new wife so much that he decided to court her.

You will enjoy this journey and the characters of Anna and Chance. their courage...their love growing as they got to know one another and to trust one another. I know I did.

Maria Roll says

This book captured my attention, right from the beginning. Anna, who is a widow, was abused and raped by her husband, still needed one to claim her land. To a group of cattle drovers, she makes the offer of one hundred dollars, if one of them will marry her, and help her on her land for one year. Chance Wyatt is the one who accepts her offer. He needs the money for a very special reason. As they make their way across dangerous territory, they learn new things about each other every day. Chance, despite being a year younger, is made of a rugged mold. He has lived a hard life. Living off the land, fighter, and true outdoorsman. He is the best man to have on this arduous trek, in more ways than one. Anna, and Chance, have been through hell in their lives, but on this dangerous journey, to an even more dangerous destination, they slowly begin to realize, that they each have had the best person for them, right there all along.

Michelle Robinson says

I really love Jodi Thomas. I have never read a book by her that I did not enjoy. However, I just could not finish this one.

I believe this book is a horrific tale of one woman who has serious panic disorders after having been raped. I

sympathize with Anna's issues. I like her very much as a person.

However, I could not believe that she was falling in love with Chance. She continually treated him so poorly. I understood the why of her behavior and I don't judge her for it but I just never saw love developing for Chance from Anna. I don't understand why Chance would imagine himself in love with someone, that by his own admission, only had negative things to say to him.

I would love to see Anna develop as a healing, whole woman, in some coming of age novel of a person that had been abused and overcame it. I did not buy it as healing woman who was falling in love with someone. Love is not being hateful. I will read Jodi Thomas again. I love her books but this one did not do it for me.

I would not care for a male hero who spent the majority of the novel being hostile to the heroine so same thing here.

Gigi Ann says

My Thoughts...

Even though I enjoy Jodi Thomas' books, I found this one lacking. It was not a favorite of mine. It was also one of her earlier books, copyright 1991.

To begin with the book was lengthy, and it became repetitious. Especially with Chance having to prove himself over and over and over again. While Anna on the other hand just needs to show up and be sweet, but, then all of a sudden she loses her temper over nothing, at least Chance doesn't know what he did that set her off yet again. This became very annoying after a while, I just wanted to tell Anna get over yourself! and move on.

By the time they have the big love scene I wondered why he hadn't moved on by now. Or maybe not. It's not a bad story, but not a great one either. This story just was not one of Jodi's best.

I decided it was worth 3 "Very Tender" stars. This book is part of my Nook library.

Hopefulpuffin says

I'm sort of torn between 2 and 4 stars. I loved the hero and he's why I'm rating this at 4 stars. He was fantastic. Anna, the heroine, I didn't like very much. For someone who's all about farming, all she did was cook. Granted she's pregnant but still. And I realize she had serious trust issues but up until the 67% point or so, if I was Chance, I'd have walked away.

I also had problems figuring out how much time had passed between major events. It read as if only a couple of weeks (at times) but then BAM Anna's super pregnant. I also had issues with her stopping nursing at 4 months - I highly doubt a frontierswoman would have stopped so quickly. And again, there were timeline issues with her nursing and leaving the baby for hours at a time.

And could anything else happen to the couple? Seriously. Gunshot wounds, fevers, cholera, fights, you name

it they faced it.

I think it would have been a stronger book had it concentrated on the psychological aspects of Anna's issues with men. Chance v. his enemy (Storm something) was over so quickly there was little point to introducing it. And then there was Walter the villain.

So 4 stars for Chance. Two stars for everything else. Averaged out to three.
