



Three Wishes

Lisa Tawn Bergren

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BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR. BECAUSE YOU JUST MIGHT GET IT.

Zara Ruiz is a normal California girl on the verge of graduating from high school and thinking about her dawning future. But when dusk brings a shattering loss—and she discovers a priceless object in the shallows of a tide pool—she is thrust a hundred-and-eighty years into the past. There she meets handsome ranchero Javier de la Ventura—who has big dreams and secret sorrows—along with his enchanting family, in a land that is at once familiar, and yet utterly foreign.

Between cattle rustlers, pirates and a growing call for statehood, it is not a peaceful time to be a Mexican settler in young Alta California. But Zara must decide if she's discovered what she longs for most in the past, or if her heart's THREE WISHES can only be found in the present.

Three Wishes Details

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Author : Lisa Tawn Bergren

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From Reader Review Three Wishes for online ebook

Haley S says

I honestly don't know what to say. This book was just so good!! I couldn't put it down. Since I was on vacation and I had a long drive, it was a perfect time to read this book!! Lisa Tawn Bergren does it once again! It captivated me from the first page to the last page!

I also don't know if this is all of the editions of this book, but there are a few chapters in the next book, Four Winds. That got me even more excited.

Anyway, back to Three Wishes! There were crying parts, laughing parts, sighing parts, and everything in between. That is totally my kind of book! I fell in love with Javier and the rest of the characters immediately. The storyline and plot was quite awesome. I really liked how this series, River of Time: California, is set in old California a little before the forty-niners. I mean, there was nothing missing!

So I am happy to say that I would give this book 5 bright stars!!

Title: Three Wishes

Author: Lisa Tawn Bergren

Author's Website: <http://lisatawnbergren.com/>

If you are interested in more time travel adventures and romances, check out the River of Time series here! The River of Time series is a story of time travel to medieval Italy! It is one of my favorite series! But, if you read my review, you will hear all about it!

This review was written with my own opinions and words.

Chantel says

Wow. I. liked. this. book!!! Three Wishes is a thrilling time-traveling adventure with a sweet core of love and the importance of family. I had to admit I was a little nervous going into the spin-off of The River In Time series because I loved the prior books sooo much! I thought I would find myself comparing this book to the others. But I should have known I was in good hands with Lisa T Bergren! She made a beautiful story that kept me engaged every minute. Just get ready cause your feels are gonna go for a ride as you time-travel with Zara from present time CA to 1840 Alta-California. The author does an excellent job of making history come alive by her descriptive writing of the scenery, smells, music and Mexican culture. I felt like I was submerged in the beautiful world of old Californio. But she also displayed the struggles of that time as well.

Zara Ruiz is a character that has become a fast favorite for me. She learns to be independent and strong early on, especially after the loss of her beloved grandmother. But Zara always dreams to find love, and family. She had a strength and vulnerability that just made her so likeable and real. It was fun reading through her p.ov. in this wild adventure! Plus, the girl can throw a punch!

I just adored the opening scene between Zara and Javier it was hilarious and exciting. The romance between them made my heart melt like Velveeta cheese! All I know is that on my shopping list I'm adding "find Moroccan lamp", lol!

I cannot wait to read Four Winds to see how everything plays out for Zara, Javier and the Ventura family! :-)

Amber Flynt says

Not as good as Lisa's other books, the romance was pretty darn cringe, and it was predictable, BUT... It was so hilarious and I loved all of the characters.

I am in Mexico right now so it has been SOOO much fun reading a historical fiction book about Mexico! I only wish that more problems/disasters had arisen. It was just Zara debating whether or not to leave.

I feel like nothing really happened even though it was very entertaining. I just expected more plot twists from Bergren, like I've been blown away by in her other books.

The main girl had a lot of unusual talents that were put in to make the story more interesting, but it just made it sound fake. What poor girl with no money had serious self defense classes? Why is that even needed to explain a girl knowing how to punch a pervert? Why can't she just smack the crap out of a guy on instinct? So many times Bergren put useless little details of hidden talents about Zara into this book. It was meant to make Zara seem special and diverse and unique but it just makes her less relatable and the writing more cringe worthy.

It also seemed like Bergren wrote this one night on a whim. Like she spilled it into a diary and never read through it before publishing. I feel like she needs an editor to go through each page and highlight stupid sentences. There were so many times when I thought, ooh here's the villain! Or ooh someone is going to almost die on this page, I just know it! Or ooh a super emotional scene is coming, let's get some tear action going! Then. Nothing. Happens. That happened like a dozen times. Lame. Lame. LAME!

Also- MAXI SKIRTS ARE NOT COOL!!!! Actual line from this book- "I had to get back to a time when maxi skirts and a cami were cool" AGH!! You can just tell that a mom wrote this. Drove me insane. Several times it was stated that maxi skirts are apparently the coolest thing a teen can wear. I had to block it out as I read.

All in all though, I loved the way she described life in the 1800's in Mexico/California territory before the gold rush. Very interesting and her research was spot on. This book was also very funny. It made me laugh out loud several times. I loved Zara, the main girl. She was much smarter and less annoying than Bergren's other series main girl- Gabi.

Javier was wonderful. He was so funny and not the perfect hunk like Marcello. He has his own issues which made me like him a lot.

Okay but seriously this wasn't a percent as good as Deluge (#5 in the waterfall series) I will read the second one, four winds, to see if it gets any better. The first waterfall wasn't the best either. I just hope Bergren hasn't lost the ability to write something that I can't stop thinking and crying about for years.

I think if this was by a different author I would LOVE it and have no issues, but just because I know Lisa is capable of so much more I was disappointed.

Storm says

Another River of Time book?????? YAAAAAYYYYYY!!!!!!! Ahhhhhhhhhh I'm so excited!!! =D
throws confetti in air and gains 20 pounds by all the celebratory cake eaten

Rachel'sbookishworld says

4.5 stars

Just as wonderfully amazing as I had hoped!! A million thanks to Lisa, who writes the best stories ever and inspires me with each book she writes!

Sarah Farley says

To start off with, I loooove the River of Time Series, and they are one of my favourite books ever. So I totally flipped when I found out that there was another River of Time book getting released, just with a new story. That means a total new plot with a girl who time travels, with new characters to get to know. Pretty fantastic, right?

So, of course, I kept comparing this story with the first book of the series, which was wrong for me to do. I respect and praise Bergren for succeeding in developing a new lovestory and plot. However, I had the feeling that this story was way weaker than the one of Waterfall. There wasn't a real peak in the story and I couldn't really form an opinion of Javier, because I didn't get to know him well enough. At the point the plot got going, I only had two more chapters to read.

On the other hand, Zara really grew to me and found myself liking her. Bergren made me laugh with her creative ideas, she shocked me with plot twists and her *beautiful* writing made me love her more and more.

Just please let the sequel be build up better and have more pages!

Nicole Magolan says

Deep sigh.

This is the first in a new series by Lisa T. Bergren, a spin-off from the River of Time series, which I really enjoyed.

But it let me down. It really just wasn't good. There were some good elements, I liked the main character and some of her interactions with the others were a lot of fun. But for the most part - nothing happened.

Noothing. The lack of action (and just the plot in general) made this really hard to get through, and for such a short book that's a huge problem.

Though the River of Time series had super cheesy romances, (very present in this book I can assure you) they were balanced with lots of fun and fast paced action, with sword fights, kidnappings, poisonings, all that medieval goodness. But here we're in the late 1800's, and what do we have? Dough making. Horse riding. Fruit picking. And me? I'm YAWNING. There really was nothing happening here and it was just utterly dull.

The synopsis promised pirates, so I spent the entire novel waiting for that but they never showed! At least not in any way I expected. Uuugh.

The romance.....eeeeesh. Very insta-lovey, almost creepily so. It was not well developed, Javier was a super boring character, and it felt forced. If Zara wasn't telling you how ATTRACTIVE he was every other page, I wouldn't have thought they had any connection at all. I was constantly rolling my eyes.

Not a whole lot else to say about this book. I wouldn't recommend it, unless you want something cheesy and light. It's not quite all boring, and there is a chance the romance could be enjoyed by someone else. I'll end here with the worst/best quote:

He was so handsome, so dang *electric*, he was like interference.

Marylin says

Oh Wow....Another spell binding book from Lisa T Bergren!

Three Wishes is about Zara whose life seems to be lost and lonely. Her Abuela the only relative in her life has just died. Now Zara needs to find a purpose to go on with her life. All she really wants is a little bit of adventure, a family, and true love. What she finds is something MORE than she ever imagined!

I don't want to say too much because you really need to experience it for yourself. I hope you love it like I do!

I was given this book from the author to review it AND I'm so happy to have had the opportunity!

Alyssa says

This book is set in Alta, CA which is very close to where I live. So I'll definitely be reading this one!

Katie says

Oh, my heart.

I've been a huge fan of her River of Time series for a long time, and I was so excited to see her writing a

spinoff series. Though I miss my beloved sisters in Italy, I've gotta say Zara was a wonderful protagonist to follow.

Also, I LOVED that this was set in a time period of history that I honestly don't think I've ever read about before in fiction. The setting leapt off the page, just like in Lisa's other books.

Every River of Time fan knows the best part about Lisa's books is the romance. This one was great. The book is on the short side, so it does develop quickly, but I really didn't care, since I loved every minute. The chemistry was so great. And while Luca will probably always be my favorite love interest in a Lisa Bergren book, Javier might be closing in for a close second. I don't know. Lord Greco will be part to replace in my heart.

Basically, if you're a fan of Lisa's books, you're going to love this one. I can't WAIT for the sequel. I just hope it's a little longer. This one went too quickly!

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

I'm happy to have a new time travel series from Lisa T. Bergren! I LOVED the Waterfall series. I'm not sure this first book is quite as good as Waterfall, but I did really like it. I'm looking forward to the next book. I really love the setting and I'm sure the characters will continue to grow on me.

Galaxy Adventurer says

I loved this book so much! <3 <3 <3 <3
I need to get the next one *grabby hands*

I loved the Ventura family(they are seriously amazing), I loved the setting(I don't think I've ever read a book in this setting before), I loved Zara (amazing mc and relatable), I loved Javier (<3 <3 <3 <3 <3), just I LOVED EVERYTHING IN THIS BOOK
clears throat so yeah you should definitely go read it ;)

(also the original River of Time series is AMAZING if you haven't read that yet ;)

Tito says

This book was made for people just like me. The fan girls missing the River of Time series, and needed their next fix ;) The minute the book got into my hands, I devoured it, and it was a pretty good read too. I love Zara and Javier, and I thought they were really sweet.

Of course I couldn't stop comparing it to the River of Time series, and it isn't as good, but I feel like if I hadn't read that series first, I would love the book more. It's just one of those situations where meeting expectations can be difficult. However it was still a really enjoyable read, and I'm ready to get my hands on the next book. After all, *that ending* just had me like:

Becky Van Daniker says

Let's just say that this is a super fun and adorable read! I need to snag Four Wishes ASAP! I loved this so much! Full review coming soon.

UPDATE: Three Wishes by Lisa T. Bergren is a super fun spin-off of the original River of Time Series. This time we meet a young lady named Zara Ruiz who finds herself time-traveling to Alta California in the 1840s! Now I've only read a couple of novels that take place in that time period in California so I found it super fun and unique.

The book has the same feel as the originals so fans will be happy. It just has a much more lighter feel than the originals. I think that's mostly because we aren't dealing with the harsh times of Medieval Italy this time. Don't get me wrong, frontier-life surely wasn't easy, but it was much lighter and more romanticized.

Zara was an instant character that I fell in love with immediately. Isn't her name unique and beautiful? I love it! When we first meet her in the book, she's grieving the loss of her abuela. She was the only family and person she had in her life. Her three wishes were adventure, love, and family. Except she didn't expect to happen the way it does. It was so much watching her learn to adapt to life and culture in the 1840s while still battling with wanting to get back to her own time.

Javier was also a super fun character. He's the mysterious, rough but gentlemanly gorgeous Mexican ranchero. He is the man who had return home from college and his dreams to take over the biggest and richest ranchero and to take care and protect his family. We don't really get to learn much about his character, although bits and pieces are hinted at. Hopefully we'll learn more in the sequel.

Whether or not you've read the originals, you won't want to miss out on these. While these are much lighter and somewhat different from the originals, you'll still find adventure and the swoon-worthy romance with a dangerous premise that we all love and adore.

Can't wait to the next novel in store which is Four Winds.

Disclaimer: I purchased a paperback copy of this novel. I was not required to write a positive review and have not been compensated for it in any way. All opinions expressed are my own.

★???Ø??★ (Nix) says

Ever since I read the first River of Time series set in Italy, I was in love with Lisa Bergren's characters and settings. This was no exception. If I were the same age as when I read the other series it would have been five stars, but at my current age and season of life, I gave it 4 extremely loving stars. I loved Zara and Javier and can't wait to read the next book!
