



# Coyote Dream

*Jessica Davis Stein*

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## **Coyote Dream** Jessica Davis Stein

Smart, sophisticated, urbanite Sarah Friedman jumps at the chance to journey to the Southwest to buy American Indian art for her family's successful Manhattan store, determined to set aside personal disappointment and seek new perspectives in the serenity of the vast desert landscape. When her car breaks down on a remote part of the Navajo reservation, fast-paced Sarah finds herself stranded in a slow brown world.

After years of turmoil, Ben Lonefeather has finally gained control of himself and his life. Solitary, self-sufficient, and tightly wound, he devotes his time to work and caring for the coyotes he rescued as pups. The intersection of two lives that would not ordinarily have crossed for more than a moment deepens into a connection that leaves both of them passionately alive and profoundly changed. Within a layered collision of cultures, Coyote Dream explores the tension between society's surface and nature's undercurrent.

## **Coyote Dream Details**

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Author : Jessica Davis Stein

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## **From Reader Review Coyote Dream for online ebook**

### **Amanda says**

Coyote Dream for me was one of those well written love stories that really hit the spot. I loved the two cultures mixing in together with the big happy romantic lust you get when falling in love and also the heart ache that comes with it too.

A must read for the hopeless romantic.

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### **Jaime says**

Sarah Friedman was a Jew from New York City who falls for Ben Lonefeather, who is a Navajo from the Southwest. They met when Sarah travels to the Southwest as a buyer of Native American art for her father's business. Her car breaks down and Ben, an artist who has coyote pups as pets, takes her in. Not to mention the distance, culturally these two didn't seem like they could be together. Can their strong connection fight through their differences?

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### **Connie says**

Great love story. If you love the southwest, nature, and art, you'll love this book. Great correlation between different heritages as well.

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### **Amanda says**

This book was exactly what I needed... a predictable fun read that didn't require me to think or analyze.

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### **Shirley says**

A beautifully written book. Explores some of the difficulties native American Indians and their partners have, beyond the usual ones all people have. A most interesting study of the coyote, and their interaction with humans. All and all an excellent read.

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### **Louvaine says**

Feels like a dream on a hot Saturday night in the American Southwest. You can almost feel the shimmering heatwaves rising up from the desert. Not what I expected when I began reading, this is the story of a Jewish woman and a Native American man meeting, falling in love, and marrying. It lures you into a state somewhat between dreaming and wakefulness, or what I imagine a peyote vision must be like.

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### **Megan says**

I loved how absolutely realistic this book was - not your typical fantastical love story. Two real people, accidentally falling in love in the "real" world, and finding a way to make it work, despite their differences. I also found myself suddenly wanting to cook more . . . you'll see why (:

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### **Katie says**

This is one of my favorites for several reasons. I love the diversity, the traveling, the split stories, the description of the cooking and of course the love story. But mostly I love this book because I found it at a dollar store randomly. I've read this book three times. I'm looking forward to reading it again.

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### **Cristy says**

Predictable (sometimes that's what you want) but readable!

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### **Karen says**

I really enjoyed this book. Loved the Jewish family and the Native American culture intermingled.

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### **Donna says**

I listened to this on audio. It was great! Indian stuff, mystery, love story AND coyotes!

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### **Tasha says**

*Really loved this book! The chemistry between Ben and Sarah was great. It really tugs at your emotions; some parts you are happy and laughing, and other parts will have you on the verge of tears. Definitely worth picking up.*

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### **Rosina Lippi says**

I hesitated about reading this novel. In part because putting the words "romance" and "Native American" or "Indian" near each other in a plot summary raises the specter of horrific novels like Sweet Savage Love, which exist to (1) peddle poorly written soft core porn; and (2) exploit indigenous cultures in a kind of

hallucinatory, self-congratulatory voyeurism.

Of course there are novels that fit into this general category but are skillfully done. Kingsolver's *Animal Dreams* is one example. Fully developed characters in which culture clash takes a back seat to far more serious human infelicities.

So this is the story of Sarah Friedman, a Jewish woman who lives in Manhattan and works in her family's store, specializing in antique furniture and folk art. It's not where she wants to be in her life; it's not where her mother wants her to be, either. She ends up traveling to the Southwest for business, as her father had done for some forty years previous, to visit artists whose work the family sells through their shop. Hopi and Navajo, primarily, artists and people who are hugely important to Sam Friedman. But his health is iffy, and so Sarah goes in his place. And comes across Ben Lonefeather, a man settled in his ways whose life is diametrically opposed to Sarah's in every possible way.

How they come to fall in love is not really the heart of the story. This is more about divided loyalties, about living life as it has been laid out for you, and about expectations we are raised to fill. And how sometimes it becomes possible to break out of the mold, but at significant cost. Until the very end I wasn't sure how things were going to turn out, which is unusual for a novel of this kind.

I wish I had come across this when it first came out in 2004, as I really, really liked it. Sometime it's almost solemn in tone but it's still full of bright imagery, painted with strong colors. Both main characters become so very clear.

One little niggle, and that is the fact that the author pulls an old plot trick out and dusts it off: a letter gone missing. A really important letter that would have changed everything, made everything better. On the one hand it does fit the picture we are given of the cultural differences in the way Sarah and Ben communicate, but on the other it turns into a bit of a magic wand. And I still loved the novel. Loved it. Go figure.

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### **Marilyn says**

Are dealer from NY falls in love with a Native American from Arizona. Current times.

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### **Shannon Donnelly says**

One of my all-time favorite books -- beautifully written, the type of book you want to savor and read just a little bit every day since you don't want it to end.

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