



Marnie

Shanna Hatfield

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Condemned to a future of shame and regret, Marnie Jones battles herself to keep going one day at a time. Divested of hope, she's all but given up when a handsome stranger arrives in town. Desperate for the marshal to ride on out of Pendleton, Marnie fears he'll rekindle the embers of her broken dreams into a roaring flame before he leaves.

Married to his career, US Marshal Lars Thorsen avoids relationships of any kind. Spending his days transporting prisoners, guarding political figures, and chasing down fugitives, he doesn't have room in his life for feelings or emotions. Especially not the tender, protective feelings stirred by the woman who wants him or the two orphans who need him.

Marnie Details

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From Reader Review Marnie for online ebook

Annie says

I loved this book! Marnie is my favorite in the series.

I am not sure I have a favorite part because it was all written wonderfully. Marnie's role in the family reunion was well done and her maternal love for Sarah and Noah was beautiful.

I do hope there will be a story about a grown-up Sadie in the future because she was priceless.

The hardest thing that we have to do is accept that God forgives our sins and then to forgive ourselves. I am so glad that Marnie learned that lesson. I really love that a majority of the town was loving and open-minded towards Marnie. They seemed to remember "but for the grace of God go I". I actually cheered when Marnie finally stood up to the two narrow-minded women who thought it was their job to hurt her.

Tina at Mommynificent says

This was my favorite book in this series since the first one. I am a sucker for a good redemption story so I loved seeing Marnie, a woman who had turned to prostitution out of desperation, be loved and accepted and restored. Even though this is not a religious book, the theme of redemption is so beautiful that I found it very uplifting spiritually. I also really appreciated that the author portrayed the vast majority of the church-goers in the town as open-minded and loving and presented the condescending, judgmental jerks as the exception to the rule. Well done, Mrs. Hatfield! The author also does a good job of keeping this book clean despite the job Marnie has.

My only complaint about this book is that I didn't think Lars, the main male character, treated Marnie with enough respect. He was far too handsy and kissy for someone who was not interested in being married for the vast majority of the book. For the time period, I think if he wanted to show her he respected her as a real lady and did not see her as a prostitute, he should have kept his hands to himself and not been alone with her in her rooms a whole lot more! I can't imagine anyone in that time period but a prostitute or a very foolish woman allowing a man to treat her the way Lars treated Marnie. Just my opinion.

I loved the way Marnie took in orphans and needy children with such a heart full of love. And I did love all the scenes of Lars with children. They were tender and really funny. And the ending of the book was beautiful and very satisfying. I loved how it ended with Marnie not only restored and loved but ready to spend the rest of her life restoring and loving others in desperate situations. Well done!

Patricia says

love the story of Lars and Marnie if you have read any of Shannas books you need to read this one

Donna says

...or four stars

Well written, emotionally moving, suspenseful, and heartwarming. It's interesting to read about Cowboys, telephones, and cars in same story as you get sucked into this tale of danger, love, forgiveness and life changing adventure. It had good flow and only a few overly wordy parts. The subject matter was a challenge and though I wouldn't condemn her for her choice of vocation... I wouldn't be overjoyed to have her marry MY son.

JaneReads says

Loved Marnie and Lars! She was looked down on from society because of her profession, but she was strong, smart and did what she felt she needed to in order to survive. She has overcome challenges in life and her love shines through. Lars is a US Marshal and arrives in town with one mission however it changes his whole life. He reconnects with his two sisters (thanks to Marnie), finds love, family and a whole new purpose for his life. Lars and his family show Marnie that she is not set to a certain path in life, but that she can make any changes she would like. Once she realizes this and takes steps to make the changes, her happiness greatly increases. The two kids that Lars and Marnie look after were a nice addition to their story, Noah was so cute and Sadie was a spitfire. One quote that will stay with me was what Marnie said in response to when Lars asked her why read a book when you know how it's going to end and she replies with, its not about the ending its about how they get there, the human struggle, heartache and challenges that happen along the way.

Robyn Echols says

Wonderful

Excellent story about accepting people and seeing the good in spite of outward appearances. It is also a romance about being willing to change, and to give up current goals for something better. Great characters, including some children that tug at the heart.

Michelle Dillon says

Such a delight

Good clean turn of the century fun. This is not my usual type of book. I usually read mysteries and thrillers. The Hatfield western romance series is a wonderful departure. I love her style. Keep up the good work.

Vikki says

Marnie is 4th in Shanna Hatfields Pendletons Petticoat series. Marnie has been introduced slightly in the earlier books but definitely needed a storyline of her own. This young lady is a "soiled dove" as they called her in the book. The layers to all that constituted this complex woman gradually peeled back revealing more and more about her heart, soul, mind and past life. Her confidence and self respect restored, Marnie earned her upstanding place in Pendleton. Looking forward to the next book.

Cindy says

Each book in the series just got better and better and I found myself sad when the series ended. Hatfield does a lot of research into her books and always notes at the end of the book some of the things she learned in her research which I always find fascinating.

Melanie Snitker says

This is the fourth book in the series. Aundy, the first, was by far my favorite but Marnie is a definite second favorite. This is a great book full of wonderful characters. If you haven't tried this series, you're really missing out!

Britney says

I loved this story about hope, redemption, and overcoming challenges and becoming better because of them. Honestly I was a little unsure about the story at first, but it didn't take long for me to get sucked into it, and I'm so glad that I did read it! I LOVED the two main characters, Marnie and Lars, but I also loved the continuing characters from other books in the series. The great thing about these books is that you don't necessarily have to read them in order to know who the characters are. I didn't, and I still loved the books! The other great thing is it's still a sweet, clean romance, which is one of the many things I love about this author's books. I definitely recommend this book! I didn't want to put it down, and honestly I was a little sad when I finished it. I wasn't ready to say goodbye to the characters yet. Thankfully, there's other books in the series, so I don't have to say goodbye just yet. :) I think this is one of my top two favorites of this series. So good!

Mandy says

An excellent story in my favorite series written by Shanna so far. Clean romance, a historic town, and a bit of adventure. I especially liked the character development of Marnie, and the kids in this story added some great dimension.

Julie Lence says

Marnie by Shanna Hatfield is a fantastic read! Lars is the hunky, irresistible new Marshall in town, hunting

down an infamous gang of thieves. Marnie is a local soiled dove with a lot of heart and spunk, and a tortured past Ms. Hatfield peels away slowly. Though Marnie has developed friendships with some of the reputable locals, she is unwilling to taint their reputations by accepting a job offer as a seamstress from her best friend, famous dress designer Ilsa. And when she meets Lars and loses her heart to him, she stubbornly cautions herself to keep her distance. With his job, he isn't the settling type, and with her station in life, even if Lars did favor settling in one spot, she isn't the type of woman a lawman marries.

I loved these two! Marnie is such a sweetheart. She tugs at your heartstrings. I couldn't help but want to give her the push she needed to leave the brothel and accept the position Ilsa is offering. As for Lars, he may be a tough Marshall, but he has a heart of gold, which is exposed when he happens upon a young brother and sister in need of adult caring and love. Together Marnie and Lars look after the children, and lay a foundation for happy ever after. These two souls are good for one another, and leave the reader sighing long after the story ends. I especially enjoyed how Ms. Hatfield brought to life Marnie's job as a soiled dove and the brothel without being overly crude. I look forward to reading the next installment to her Pendleton Series.

Renee Kinlaw says

A sweet tale of love that sees beyond what is to what could be.

Jeffrey says

Marnie is the fourth book in the author's Pendleton Petticoats series of faith-based sweet western romances, and perhaps may favorite.

The entire series takes place in and around the town of Pendleton at the turn of the 20th century. Marnie plys her trade as a prostitute in one of the many bordellos in town. Her self esteem destroyed by a brutal tragedy she suffered as a teenager, she considers herself despoiled and not worthy of any deserving man.

Enter Lars Thorsen, the long lost middle brother of Aundy Nash and Ilsa Campanelli who also live in the Pendleton area. Upon the death of his parents Lars fled Chicago as a youngster and his sisters feared they would never see him again. Now working as a United States Marshall, his job has coincidentally taken him to Pendleton to assist the sheriff with the apprehension of the Bowman gang who terrorize the citizens in the territory.

The three siblings are joyfully reunited and he learns of Marnie who they have all befriended, disdaining the condemnation of the citizens of Pendleton as to her immoral status. Polar opposites in life, Lars and Marnie are strangely attracted to each other. He sees beyond her lowly status to a sensitive, intelligent and capable young woman.

At this time Lars encounters the two small abandoned children of one of the Bowman gang living alone on a farm. He and Marnie befriend them and a warm nurturing relationship between all of them ensues.

Lars knows he cannot enter into any relationships because of his rootless profession and Marnie, painfully aware of her outcast status in the community, attempts to avoid him and his sisters, not wanting to ruin their reputation by her association with them.

Can they overcome their impossible circumstances and make a life together? What will come of the two orphaned youngsters? Although the story is timed with some rather improbable coincidences, the blossoming relationship between Marnie and Lars carries the story easily and the non-judgmental love shown to Marnie by her close friends is heartwarming indeed.

Although the story can stand alone, I have read the first three in the series in this proper chronological order: Aundy, Caterina, Ilsa, and Marnie. All four books are easy, rewarding stories and I heartily recommend reading all of them for the best entertainment value.

The author already has plans for a fifth installment next year. I can hardly wait to find out who Lacy is!
