



A Stolen Heart

Amanda Cabot

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From afar, Cimarron Creek seems like an idyllic town tucked in the Texas Hill Country. But when former schoolteacher Lydia Crawford steps onto its dusty streets in 1880, she finds a town with a deep-seated resentment of Northerners--like her. Lydia won't let that get her down, though. All will be well when she's reunited with her fiancé. But when she discovers he has disappeared--and that he left behind a pregnant wife--Lydia is at a loss about what to do next. The handsome sheriff urges her to trust him, but can she trust anyone in this town where secrets are as prevalent as bluebonnets in spring?

Bestselling author Amanda Cabot invites readers back into Texas's storied past to experience love and adventure against a backdrop of tension and mystery in this first book in a brand-new series.

A Stolen Heart Details

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Author : Amanda Cabot

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From Reader Review A Stolen Heart for online ebook

Hannah says

I really enjoyed this story, set in 1860s Texas! It reads smoothly and is interesting from start to finish. I loved Lydia's sweets shop and her relationship to Aunt Bertha. Travis is a nice, manly sheriff, and their romance is sweet and realistic. It was a nice surprise for me to find a strong mystery thread in the story, with a mysterious person attacking people, stealing items, and engaging in other criminal mischief.

I loved that the romance wasn't all touchy-feely sensual, but was about two mature adults coming to care for each other in a way that wasn't merely physical lust. I also was glad to find no profanity or crude speech as well.

The one thing that bugged me was that someone forgot that measles patients were always subject to quarantine. :)

Thanks to NetGalley for a review copy.

Deanne Patterson says

A Stolen Heart (Cimarron Creek Trilogy #1)

Reading this book was like enjoying a confectionery treat! I enjoyed it that much.

I experienced so many emotions while reading this.

Lydia travels from New York to Texas to become a bride. Ladies want to befriend her on the stagecoach until they hear her Northern accent. Upon arriving she learns the man she is to marry has disappeared. The town of Cimarron Creek is non trusting of her at first. Even though the war has been over for 15 years the townspeople don't trust northerners because they have been taken advantage of by carpetbaggers. The local lawman, Travis helps her and she is taken under the wing of his aunt.

There was definitely an air of mystery here and I had no idea who was causing all the havoc until the very end. I really enjoyed this and look forward to reading the other books in the series!

Pub Date 14 Mar 2017

Thank you to NetGalley and Revell for a review copy for my honest opinion!

Laura says

A STOLEN HEART is Ms. Cabot's newest book. Lydia comes to Cimarron Creek to marry her fiance who promised all kinds of fresh starts for both of them, but when she arrives, Edgar has gone missing and not only that but he's married!!! What's a girl to do?

The sheriff, Travis, expects her to return to New York, to her prestigious lady's school she taught at. But Lydia seems determined to stick it out, despite the fact that she's a Yankee (in a southern town) and despite that fact that all the eligible bachelors are suddenly interested....

Lydia is a strong heroine, knows what she wants and determined enough to work for it. I had to admire her

pluckiness.

I did find some of the story predictable -- the cover gave one thing away before I even opened the book -- but it was an enjoyable read and like the sheriff and everyone else in town I wanted to know what happened to Edgar.

If you like historical romances set after the Civil War, then you'll love A STOLEN HEART by Amanda Cabot. A must read.

Haley S says

This is my second book by Amanda Cabot. The first book that I read was At Bluebonnet Lake. That was quite a while ago so I barely remember the book.

I had high hopes for this book, but unfortunately, I didn't enjoy it that much. I am a sappy person. I love the romance in these types of books. But, this book had only a few 'sappy scenes' so I am disappointed. It seemed like all Amanda did was write something like 'Lydia and Travis had wonderful conversations during their walks.' I wanted to read those scenes, not just hear about them!

The cover is cute. I like the sign in the background because Lydia....never mind, that would be a spoiler! I am going to give the cover 4 stars!

The book was all right. I am going to give it 3 stars. I wouldn't recommend it for those who like the sappy romances, but I would recommend to those who like a slight romance with a bit of a mystery.

Title: A Stolen Heart

Author: Amanda Cabot

Author's Website: <http://www.amandacabot.com/>

Reading Resolution: #50 (This book took place during the end of summer. So, as you can guess, the summer/fall seasons are my favorite seasons in the year!)

I received this book from the Revell Division

This review is written in my own opinions and words.

Joleen says

A Stolen Heart by **Amanda Cabot**

Year: 1880

Location: Cimarron Creek, Texas

Main Characters:

Lydia Crawford: Northerner (Yankee) in search of her fiancé in Texas

Travis Whitfield: 2011. Town sheriff and lawyer

Aunt Bertha: Aunt to about half the town, matriarch of the town

Porter, and Warner: brothers, plus Travis' cousins and best friends

Catherine Whitfield: Cousin to Travis, Porter and Warner, also town teacher

Nate Kenton: Goat farmer and man Catherine is in love with

The new beautiful young woman who just got off the stage suddenly stole the hearts of most of the bachelors in town. Travis, the extremely handsome sheriff who seems immune to Lydia at the moment thinks this woman, who can't find the person she's looking for and has nowhere to stay, may be an answer to his prayers....his elderly Aunt Bertha lives alone and could use a companion.

So while several men showed Lydia way too much attention for her liking, she and Aunt Bertha become like family. Meanwhile crimes across the town have Travis stumped. Seeing to Lydia's safety when he walks her to and from work regularly (as a conscientious sheriff...wink wink), his feelings begin to grow

Sweet story with a compounding mystery and a bit of romance to boot.

What I liked: The Christian element was woven throughout the story, not added here and there to make it Christian Fiction. Well done.

What bothered me... and this may spoil the story, so for those wanting to read it, please don't read on...
(view spoiler)

But the writing is good and the characters are well done. I like all the family members making up so much of the town and I especially like Aunt Bertha. She's wonderful.

Samantha says

WHAT A BREATH OF FRESH AIR! I simply adored this book – I couldn't put it down. I often read on the drive home (don't worry, I mean when I'm at a red light) and this is a book that I had to keep out of reach because I wanted to read it while I was actually driving!

Set in the late 1800s, Lydia Crawford is a school teacher who leaves her home and job in Syracuse, NY to follow the man she loves, Edgar Ellis, to Cimarron, Texas. Upon her arrival, she discovers that he's not only disappeared, but has left behind a pregnant wife. With nowhere else to turn, she decides to stay. The newly elected sheriff, recognizes that as a "Yankee," she won't be accepted well and takes her under his wing. Suddenly, there a bunch of petty crimes that begin to take place that have escalated to the point that some people feel that Travis shouldn't be sheriff anymore.

This book kept me constantly guessing and wondering! I HAD to know who was behind everything and had to know this instant! I've never ready Amanda Cabot before and while I do enjoy historical fiction, I had no

clue I would enjoy this one as much as I did. I received this book from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review and had hit one of those stretches where I had to set aside the books by authors I haven't read before because the last few had just been so hard to enjoy. I stepped back into the game with this one, and I couldn't be happier. I CANNOT wait for the second book in this trilogy. This book made me yearn to step back into a time where things were so much simpler. I could smell the candy cooking, I could feel the hot Texas sun, I could imagine exactly how Main and Pecan Street looked. I wanted to be there! I HIGHLY recommend picking up this book.

Rachael says

For the most part it's a gentle love story, as Lydia learns how to get past the disappointment of a broken heart and move on. I especially liked her relationship with Opal and the lessons she learned by befriending her; it takes even more character than dealing with certain prejudiced people who haven't got past the Civil War [cough cough, Travis's dad].

Aunt Bertha is a dear--one of those great characters who steals the show from the principal leads. I really liked the supporting cast in general, especially Catherine and Opal (and Bertha, of course). I'm pleased to see it looks like book two will be about Catherine. And even though he's largely a gruff old curmudgeon, Travis's dad cracked me up in his constant reference of Lydia as the "Cursed Enemy." Pretty big title for a girl who was barely born by the start of the war.

There is some mystery and danger, keeping Travis hopping in his role as sheriff. I was pleased to have figured out the villain, though I was disappointed that the person has a villain-reveals-all moment. So many villains in stories would have a decent chance at succeeding if they just kept their mouths shut.

Thank you Revell for providing a free book. No review, positive or otherwise, was required, and all opinions are my own.

Lisa Johnson says

Title: A Stolen Heart (Cimarron Creek Trilogy #1)

Author: Amanda Cabot

Pages: 352

Year: 2017

Publisher: Revell

My rating is 4 stars.

Sheriff Travis Whitfield has a problem on his hands. There have been several petty crimes in town as well as the disappearance of a town citizen and he can't solve either mystery. Some are beginning to doubt his ability to be sheriff. On top of that, a young single woman has arrived on the stagecoach and she is from the North! Many in town are still angry over the War Between the States that ended 15 years ago, so he knows she might not have the kindest welcome. She is also looking for the missing man he can't seem to find! However, he feels it is his duty to welcome the newest guest to town. Once he realizes she has no place to stay, he offers his aunt's home as an option. She accepts and he realizes at once how beautiful she is and how many single men in town there are that will be vying for her hand in marriage. He is glad he isn't in the

market to get married.

Lydia has uprooted her entire life in Syracuse, New York to come to Cimarron Creek, Texas to marry a man who has disappeared after he has married someone else! Now what is she going to do? The kind and handsome sheriff has offered her a place to stay, but what will she do with her time? How will she earn her keep? She was a schoolteacher in Syracuse, but Cimarron Creek already has a schoolteacher. She moves in with the sheriff's aunt and the two immediately like one another. Their relationship soon becomes close like that of a grandmother and her granddaughter. As the sheriff's aunt is wealthy, this helps Lydia be accepted in town by most people, but not everyone. Lydia has sworn off men and getting married because men just can't be trusted.

This first book in a new trilogy from author Amanda Cabot is truly entertaining. I especially liked the inclusion of a mystery in this romantic story as well as Lydia's strong faith. After quitting her job, arriving in a strange town across the country and expecting to marry a man who claimed to love her only to find him married to another woman, Lydia prays and believes God has brought her to this specific town for a reason, so she stays. This is a great lesson for me...to follow God's will no matter how much I might want to do otherwise! There are other life lessons in the story that I will let readers discover on their own. I am already looking forward to book two in the series. For those who can't wait, chapter one of the next book in the series is included to whet your appetite!

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received one or more of the products or services mentioned above for free in the hope that I would mention it on my blog. Regardless, I only recommend products or services I use personally and believe will be good for my readers. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255. "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Heather Snyder says

Amanda Cabot's book *A Stolen Heart* is the first book in the Cimarron Creek Trilogy. After reading this text, I am excited to learn about the next two books Cabot will write for this series. This particular story is set in Texas during the late 1800's, and focuses on Lydia Crawford's journey from New York to Texas. At first, her traveling purposes are to reconnect with her fiancé, but soon the reader will discover that her life is anything but settled. Lydia believes her life will fall into balance after her marriage, yet surprises await her in this southern town of Texas.

Lydia believes her betrothed loves her; however, her hopes get dashed and are replaced with unanswerable questions as soon as she steps off the stagecoach. The future she had counted on beings to unravel as she starts to figure out what to do next. She never dreamed she would be walking the streets of this town alone. On top of her bad news, she realizes Southerners still do not care for Northerners—even though the Civil War ended over a decade ago. There are many in this town who would like to see her go back to where she came from—especially considering another Yankee has already recently come to reside in Cimarron Creek.

Travis Whitfield is the newly appointed sheriff in town. So far, there have been only small troubles in town, yet things begin to come to a crashing halt when a man goes missing. Already, it is presumed he is dead, but Travis must figure out where this man could have gone and why. Was he kidnapped? Did he abandon his wife and child? Things become even more confusing after he meets a woman named Lydia. Her manner of speech is foreign to this state, but what is worse is who she is seeking. How can Travis do his duty in caring for the town and this new guest while also declaring that he cannot keep up with all the new crime that has come to town?

There are so many twists and surprises within the pages of this story—more than I ever considered, which made for a better read. Although some of the turns are heartbreakingly sad, they make the story stronger and the characters more relatable. This book is more than your typical Christian fiction book, because it contains an element of mystery to it. Even though the plot of fiction prevails, I would still categorize it completely different. After the characters reveal this part of the story to the reader, the entire text comes alive with several sub-plots. Both Lydia and Travis find themselves in places they never dreamed, and both are put to the test. Can they withstand what life throws at them? And can Lydia embrace a new life? Soon all these characters will understand that man plans his ways but the Lord directs his steps (Proverbs 16:9).

I highly recommend this new novel by Amanda Cabot. In fact, I plan on checking out her other books. Happy reading!

This review is my honest opinion. Thanks to Revell Publishers for my copy.

Amy says

A Stolen Heart was a historical tale that took me by surprise by the plot and the intricacies of the suspense. Lydia sets out toward Texas to reunite with her fiancé, Edgar, only to discover that he had not waited for her. Not only that but discovers his very pregnant wife is having the sheriff, Travis, look into Edgar's disappearance. That is only the first of a slew of strange and foreboding crimes that is happening in this idyllic little town.

Ms. Cabot really brought me into the setting of her story by describing the town and the residents of Cimarron Creek and giving us the history behind its founding. She has even included a family tree at the beginning of the book to help us see who is related to whom and who is from the original founding families.

This is a story of new beginnings but also touches on the prejudice that still existed several years after the Civil War ended and the affect the Reconstruction had on the South and its people. Lydia being a northerner had many obstacles to face in addition to her broken heart. The romance was a nice slow buildup of two people getting to know each other on a daily basis and working towards a common goal of finding the evil person/persons involved in making the town less safe for its residents.

The thread of mystery and suspense was very well done. I had not guessed the culprit/culprits at all. As the story went along, it almost seemed everyone had a shady past and could be the villain(s). That being said, my only quibble was that the story wrapped up too neatly at the end. I felt something was missing, the crimes solved too easily especially in the wake of some very shocking plot twists. There are still a few loose threads that I hope the author will address next in the series.

I received a copy of this book for free from the publisher. I was not required to post a positive review and the views and opinions expressed are my own.

Tim says

Lydia packs up her entire life and moves to Cimarron Creek to be with her fiance, Edgar. But when she steps off of the stage coach, she's met by the sheriff who informs her that Edgar is missing and his pregnant wife is very worried about him. Lydia manages to hide her dismay and soon learns that the town has many secrets and a not so secret dislike of Northerners. But she shoulders on and insists on calling this small town home.

The story started out with rich details and captured my attention immediately. I've read a series by this author before, but it was a contemporary setting. So this was a change for me. I enjoyed this book even more than her previous ones. The characters were very well defined and stood out. They all had flaws and quirks that made the story come alive. The romance was clean and the plot had elements of faith woven throughout. There was a little mystery mixed in with the romance and drama that added a touch of suspense. The author did a great job of tying everything up together in the end, while leaving an opening for the next book. I loved how she set the scene and found myself wishing she'd hadn't limited herself to only three books by calling this a trilogy. I can see an entire line of books with different characters from the town. Can't wait to read the second book.

I received a copy of this book from Revell Reads. All thoughts expressed are my own.

Emily says

When Lydia Crawford travels to Cimarron Creek in post-Civil War Texas, she expects to be greeted joyously by her fiancé and married within a few days. Instead, she finds his pregnant wife wondering where he has gone. Discouraged but with nowhere else to go, Lydia accepts the reference of the local sheriff, Travis Whitfield, and begins boarding with his elderly aunt. The two women decide to open a candy shop even as half the men in the town want to marry Lydia while the other half reject her as a Yankee. Meanwhile, the missing tavern-keeper is not the only mystery plaguing the town.

A Stolen Heart is the first book in Amanda Cabot's newest series. The setting was one of the first things I noticed. Only a decade had passed since the Civil War, and like many Southerners, the residents of Cimarron Creek refused to let go of the past, which makes Lydia's job as a Northern newcomer and shopkeeper all the harder. The novel did not dig too deeply into the historical setting, but used the customs and culture of the time to frame a lovely romance between Lydia and the local sheriff. It was obvious from the beginning that the two of them would fall in love, even though two of Travis's friends set their sights on Lydia the moment she stepped off the train. Travis and Lydia were a cute couple to watch fall in love. Both had initial misgivings about marriage, but they let God and their love for each other overcome their fears, showing character growth. And, yes, I'm giving that away because A Stolen Heart literally speaks romance in the title, so the ending is obvious. Something that is not obvious from the title is the mystery that helps bring them together. There are at least two missing people in the town along with some unexplained vandalism, and since it is the Sheriff's job to solve the problem, the characters find themselves in the middle of the problem early on. The development of the mystery and the ultimate solution were intriguing and satisfactory. And can I just say that I loved the prose itself? It dragged me into the story and kept me involved from the beginning, banishing thoughts of finishing the other books I was already in the middle of until this one was finished.

I recommend this book to fans of sweet historical romance. A Stolen Heart is another fantastic novel from

Amanda Cabot, and I hope you enjoy it as much as I have.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from Revell Reads, via NetGalley. All opinions are expressly my own.

Laura says

What do you do when you are hated simply because of where you are from? You do everything you can to contribute to the community you are now calling home and trust God for the outcome.

A Stolen Heart by Amanda Cabot was not your typical historical romance and I loved it! The moment Lydia Crawford (our heroine) steps off the stagecoach in Cimmarron Creek she is in for one surprise after another. She is hated by the locals (accept for a few) because she is a Northerner. She has come to be reunited with her fiancee, only to find out he's missing and left a very pregnant wife behind. But that's not the only mystery going on in this quaint little town. People's homes and businesses are being robbed, someone is poisoning livestock and a woman has been raped - but the sheriff, Travis Whitfield, can't figure out who the culprit is. So much going on!

Of course Travis and Lydia are drawn to each other and you know (and hope) right away that they will have a happy ending, but the author has so expertly woven in other backstories and mysteries going on that while you are rooting for Travis and Lydia, you are eagerly waiting to find out more about the other characters and happenings in town.

I loved the character of Mrs. Henderson - Aunt Bertha - and how she "adopted" Lydia and supported her in making her way in a town that was hostile towards her. The underlying theme of trusting in God is clear throughout this entire story. If you like historical romances with a good mystery, A Stolen Heart would be a good book to put on your "to read" list! I can't wait for the next one in this series.

Lori says

As always I love anything that this author writes because her books draw me in from the beginning. Generally, it's usually either friends or family that you can't trust. Most of the time for me, it's my friends. I liked this book because it's a who done it and I wasn't surprised in a way since he turned down the job of deputy which of course that made me suspicious.

I enjoyed the plot of this book .

It's not easy being accepted in a new town or a state and I had to do both.

But, unlike Lydia I no one to help welcome me like Aunt Bertha did.

I really liked Aunt Bertha.

As I read on, I felt like I knew the woman on a personal basis. She was like a grandmother to me.

Lydia was like a sister I never had. I loved how she bucked up and went on even though her plans didn't work out.

Travis is a cool guy. I can't explain why he's cool just is.

I guess what I'm trying to say is

Our plans may not always work out. Just because the door closed for that one doesn't always meet the ones

God has.

Yes, there's always lid for every pot out there that just right.

I also loved how God helps us through our time of grief and sorrow.

Even though our Earthly Father doesn't always love us our Heavenly Father does

I received a complimentary copy from Netgalley and was in no way required to review this book but I just had to because I wanted everyone to know I enjoyed this book.

If you like the 1800's then this is the book for you.

Amanda Cabot looking forward to The next one!!!!

I can't forget about the candy treats! In fact, I was eating chocolate while reading a part of this story!

I too had many emotions while reading this book.

Just because there was a war, not every Northerner is bad. Just like not every person is a good person.

I think the townsfolk, especially family learns this the hard way.

And in life (especially me), has to learn the very hard way is not like a box of chocolates

Maureen Timerman says

What a roller coaster of emotions here as we travel from Syracuse to Texas Hill Country and Lydia hits prejudice head on. These people were hurt in the War, and then the notorious carpetbaggers, so when she opens her mouth, they know she is from the North and instant dislike.

When Lydia arrives at her destination, Cimarron Creek Texas, she is surprised that her fiancé is not there to meet her but she is met by the sheriff, all innocent, but her betroth is married to another and is missing. Now what, well she is about to find out what a blessing it was that the sheriff was there, and thus begins her stay at Aunt Bertha's and this part will warm your heart.

This story does have it all and will keep you page turning right to the last page, and what a story we have here. People are missing, or murdered, fires, animals dying, and worse, and all because of a misguided sense of injustice, and you are going to be surprised to what extent this person goes to, and most of all whom it is. I for one cannot wait until the next book, which looks like it is Catherine's story, and that is on my must read list.

I received this book through Net Galley and the Publisher Revell, and was not required to give a positive review.
