



Heart of a Cowboy

Kristin Vayden

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A stubborn cowboy has sworn never to forgive or forget—but one special woman may find a way to change his mind . . .

Hospice nurse Laken Garlington helps people face the end with peace and dignity, surrounded by their loved ones. But the son of her new patient didn't come home to reunite with his dad. So why is Cyler Myer back in horse country? It's clear the sexy, six-three hunk with the steely eyes has a score to settle, and Laken doesn't plan on being collateral damage . . . no matter how irresistible she finds the prodigal cowboy.

Dying is too good for the father Cyler will never forgive—not in this lifetime. Showing up at his family's Washington State ranch is the first step in his plan. But revenge takes a back seat to desire when Cyler meets a bossy beauty who arouses feelings he isn't ready to face. As they work together to save an ailing mare, Cyler realizes he must decide where his true destiny lies. With darkness . . . or with the woman who offers the promise of redemption with every kiss

Heart of a Cowboy Details

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Author : Kristin Vayden

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From Reader Review Heart of a Cowboy for online ebook

Heather says

Cute, predictable love story about two people who meet during one of the darkest times of one person's life.

I wanted Larken to have a little more of a backstory, but it is what it is. The story itself was predictable but I still enjoyed it.

White Hot Reads says

A poignant book that reminds us even in the hardest times love is what we all need to survive. ~ Heather, White Hot Reads

"Life is full of things that can either give us joy or steal it. But Laken, that's part of its beauty. So enjoy it. "

Meet Laken and Cyler, two people who couldn't be more wrong for each other, except they're not. They're so right! Their banter and quips kept me both on the edge of laughing, crying and wanting to shout throughout this whole book.

I've sat on this review for over a week now, because I just didn't know how to put into words what my heart felt after getting to know these two. They're both mischievous and full of life. They look at the world through their own colored glasses but are willing to accept the colors of the other.

I loved this book from the bottom of my heart.

The feels.

The love.

The lessons.

Yep, I said it --- the lessons.

Vayden may be a romance writer, but in Heart of a Cowboy she's teaching us more about loving life than how to fall in love -- and I felt it to my core!

Le Ann Foster says

****Reviewed for CherryOBlossoms****

I gave this book 4.5 stars!

From the moment you meet Jack, Laken and Cyler you will be on a emotional roller coaster, so be forewarned. This book will tear you apart, put you back together, give you all the feels of a great book and I'm so glad I had a chance to review this new to me Author. The storyline is not for the weak or faint of heart....no were not talking of murder or anything but does touch on a very sensitive subject of Cancer and death. As a CNA, and have worked in the field I am very moved for people like Laken and the compassion

that they show. I have the upmost respect and this book brings that to life.

Jack is Cyler dad and he has stage 4 cancer...he has been given weeks to live and wants to make a mends with his son. Because of their past in might be easier said than done. Laken has been hired to be Jack in home hospice nurse and knows that she needs to stay out of the way of the family drama. But when she meets Cyler for the first time, sparks fly. Can she keep her head and heart on straight or will she will she loose everything she ever worked for? Can Cyler and Jack make a mends before its to late?

I love that I get to find new authors and that I have found another one, I will be checking out Kristin out works and I highly recommend this Amazing story.

Kathy Coopmans says

My first Kristin Vayden book and I'm now a big fan.
Heart of a Cowboy is incredible. This lady and her words lit me up and set my heat factor soaring.
She did more than that too.
She made me laugh, cry, and gave me all the feels we love in a book.
I loved this couple and her name, Laken. Perfect.
I've come across a genius with a gift in reading Kristin.
I can't wait to read more of her books!!

Kathy Rouchelle says

Beautiful story! A different type of second chance at love read (at least that's how I saw this story). This wasn't about a second chance at love between a man and a woman, but a dying father and the son he wronged so terribly. Its a story of letting your guard down and allowing love to enter once again, to learn to trust someone with your heart. So, you could say it was a second chance at love, just not with the same two people. I loved this story. I loved the detail that was given to the hospice nurse's duties and her feelings. I loved how she handled her patient and his son's situation and allowed it to surface when it needed to. I loved these wonderfully written characters who were so very well defined and so enjoyable to read. I loved Jack and Laken's quick witted banter, Jack and Cyler banter and mostly their last words.

What didn't I like, well only one thing..or person. Breelee. She could have just stepped off into the canyon, but since she didn't, I really kept waiting for more trouble from her, something a little more, not to break the couple up, but maybe have Laken just really lay into her. But other than that, there wasn't anything else that I didn't like.

This is a wonderful story, with wonderful characters and some very hot scenes to satisfy those who love some "spice" in their reads. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THIS BOOK.

Ang -PNR Book Lover Reviews says

For a short book, it sure does pack a punch! This was so well written, with beautiful writing, sexy characters. I couldn't believe I was crying a lot throughout this story. I loved everything about this world, and I look

forward to the next book in the series. I'm not going to spoiler it, because wow. It's quit an emotional story, that everyone should read. If your looking for something that will make you feel, give you joy and laughter whilst bringing you to tears this story is the one for you. I was lucky enough to have received an arc from the publisher.

1-Click Addict Support Group says

4.5 "But first, coffee" Stars

Laken is a palliative care nurse who cares for people in their most darkest times. She goes to a ranch for an interview where she meets Jack a grouchy straight talking Cowboy who I fell for straight away with his sharp wit and sarcasm, it could also be his love for coffee.

"Good. I was worried for a minute. You can't trust a person who doesn't drink coffee. Unnatural."

Jack is in his early 70's and has been given 3 months to live after refusing medical treatment for cancer, which is why he hires Laken to help him in his final months.

Jack has a son Cyler, they have been estranged for some time but Jack makes an effort to reach out to him and to Jack's surprise Cyler comes back to the ranch.

Cyler has every right to hate Jack in my opinion, what he did to his son was just wrong. So at first Cyler's reason for returning were more to see Jack suffer than to make amends. When Cyler meets Lanken there is an instant connection, not insta-love just chemistry. Laken and Cyler start to get to know each other while poor Jack starts to get sicker.

So we have a lovely love story blooming but on the other hand we have to watch as Jack the strong hard talking Cowboy fades away as his cancer takes over.

I was taken on an emotional rollercoaster, constantly switching from happy to sad. I found Jack's battle very confrontational and it really got to me, not necessarily in a bad way it just had me thinking about things deeply.

This was a story of forgiveness, acceptance and self acceptance. For me the love story of Lanken and Cyler took a back seat to Jack's story and although this was nothing like I thought it would be I am very glad I read it. It has been a long time since I shed tears while reading a book, I suggest having tissues handy if you are going to start this one.

"Death is the least fair. But I've never seen anything less powerful draw a family together, mend broken fences, and heal wounds that were impossible to repair. The

beautiful part about death is that most times, it leaves life in its wake."

?*? Alicia ?*? says

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? Reviewed on behalf of the 1-Click Addict Support Group

Britt Red Hatter Book Blog says

Heart of a Cowboy has a beauty about it that knows no bounds. More than just a simple story of two people falling in love, it's filled with loss, pain, but even more hope, forgiveness and healing. Deeply touching, and truly sweet Heart of a Cowboy is a romance that goes beyond. You'll definitely need to break out the tissues for some parts with this one, but it's perfectly balanced with a sweet romance and plenty of humor too.

Laken and Cyler were amazing together, from their hilarious banter to their sweet (and steamy) love they were an absolute joy to read! Exceptionally kind, wise beyond her years, perfectly sassy, and a woman who knows good coffee, Laken was everything I adore in a heroine. One second I'd be cracking up at her great comebacks and the next I'd be admiring what an amazing woman she was. I adored her!

Cyler was just as awesome. He had so much that he had to overcome, but unlike most heroes, he never aimed that bitterness towards Laken. It was pure beauty seeing him not only heal old wounds but fall head over heels in love with her. This one is an absolute must read!

Wriwra says

3,5 or maybe 4

What I loved most about the book was the dialogue, it was clever and witty, even the story was nice and emotional and the characters lovable but the style was a little outdated.

April Symes says

Heart of a Cowboy (Elk Heights Ranch) by Kristin Vayden is a short story that is about family, forgiveness and 2nd chances. This isn't the type of 2nd chance story which is between a man and woman who find love with each other again but this is the 2nd chance at love between a dying man and his son he wronged so bad. Its also about letting love back into your life after you have been hurt before—learning to trust again and to find happiness. This was a beautiful story because the hospice nurse was the woman who was the key for both the dying elderly father and his son. Laken was a great hospice nurse and she had this innate goodness about her. She was passionate and giving. She stood her ground and fought and yet also knew when to back down and fight another day. Cyler the patient's son was somewhat of a hard case at first yet their love story was sweet and heartwarming. They had a battle on their hands due to his ex. Also I loved Laken and Jack's relationship. She took good care of him and even though she was his nurse, they had a relationship that seemed to be more family type, that patient /nurse type. There are some heartbreaking moments so keep the

tissues handy. I think the only thing that bothered me was what ever happened to the ex Breelee. She caused so much trouble and then BAM, she up and was gone... I was sure she was just going to pop out and do more damage but alas nope. I wish there was more wrap up regarding her but nothing. I kind of wish there had been more clarity about whatever happened with her. Otherwise, this was a beautiful, heartwarming, sweet story that has the FEELS. This is my 2nd book I have read by Ms. Vayden but not my last. She is definitely on my auto list now.

My Rating: 4.5 stars *****

"I received an advanced copy of this book from the author at no cost to me."

Brittany says

Recieved an advanced reader copy in exchange for an honest review

I thought that this was a sweet romance! It is a really quick read so if you are looking for something feel good that you won't have to think too hard about the plot then this is the book for you!

The book didn't breaking any new ground. The story was predictable but I was still able to enjoy it. There wasn't any unnecessary drama and the characters in the story seemed to be down to earth. I think that the relationship between the two main characters happened a bit too quickly for my taste. There was a bit of insta-love thrown into the mix which was bothersome. There wasn't really a lot of time to establish a relationship though considering that the book was only about 188 pages. It felt like more of a short story than a book. I think that many of my favorite parts of the book involved Jack, Cyler's father. He didn't mince words and was hilarious!

<https://fictionedtodeath.blogspot.com...>

A.BookNerd.Bookseller&Bibliophile.Blog says

This was my first book written by the author. I'm not one for "cowboy" books but this book was so much more than a book about a cowboy and a ranch.

This book was about family, forgiveness, life, death and finding love when you least expect it. Laken and Cyler's relationship was perfectly developed.

I look forward to reading more from the author.

Cathy Geha says

Heart of a Cowboy by Kristin Vayden
Elk Heights Ranch #1

This book hit close to home. With two parents having died of cancer and both having home health workers having the heroine such a lovely caring wonderful nurse made me happy to think there such wonderful

people who help those moving from life to death do so with grace and dignity.

So, if you had not picked up on this already...this is the story of Jackson Myer "Jake" and his hope to redeem himself with his son, Cyler. Jake was a sh*t to his son over a decade ago but is hopeful the estrangement can be breached and common ground found before he dies. Jake's nurse is young, attractive and dedicated to the profession she has chosen. Laken Garlington is usually able to keep her thoughts to herself and not be judgmental. She overhears Jake calling Cyler, meets Cyler and there is definitely attraction BUT she must keep things professional, right?

This book is about family. It is about anger, hurt and forgiveness. It is about the impact humans and animals have on our lives. It is also a romance. This is the first book I have read by this author and I enjoyed it. I will look for her work in the future.

Thank you to NetGalley and Kensington Books-Lyrical Press for the ARC – This is my honest review.

4-5 Stars

KA Graham says

Heart of a Cowboy (Elk Heights Ranch)
by Kristin Vayden

???5 stars???

Amazing and beautiful story of second chance love, overcoming tragedy and facing past mistakes. Jack and his son Cyler have a very complicated past, bringing a head to the present, when they meet again after years apart.

Laken has been brought in to care for a poorly Jack, but what she steps into is so much more than she ever bargained for. She's a beautiful soul, who not only cares deeply for her patient, but brings together a father and son. In the process, learns there's so much more to the troubled and angry Cyler.

Like any great story, there's a villain in the mix, by the name of Breelee. She's a she-devil in heels, bringing trouble to everyone in her wake.

The comical yet angered banter between Jack and Cyler is amusing and heart felt, showing the emotional build up between the two of them.

What begins as a struggle between father and son, turns out to be a chance at love and redemption for not only the men, but Laken and Cyler. They have an attraction that can't be denied, even though they both fight it at first.

Absolutely wonderful story, and I'm excited to see what comes next in this heartwarming series. Bravo Kristin Vayden!
