



Promised to Me

Robin Lee Hatcher

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Dear Mother and Father,

After all those years, I was certain Jakob Hirsch had forgotten me. Then came his proposal of marriage. With more impulse than wisdom, I crossed the ocean to begin a new life with him in Shadow Creek, Idaho. Little did I dream of the changes eleven years had brought to the man I once loved---which included three small children waiting with him at the station.

I will not marry a stranger who no longer loves me, but I have agreed to look after Jakob's children until the harvest is in. A cabin on his property provides me with respectable living quarters. If only it were as easy to separate my heart from this family! It will be difficult to leave when the time comes, for I am falling in love with these little ones---and, truth be told, with Jakob.

Your loving daughter,

Karola Breit

In Idaho, the land is good but life is hard for a German emigre whose dreams have turned to dust. Love found and lost can shatter a man's faith. But it is about to strengthen that of the woman to whom he turns---and in the drought of summer, a withered promise springs to life.

Promised to Me is book four in the Coming to America series about women who come to America to start new lives. Set in the late 1800s and early 1900s, these novels by best-selling author Robin Lee Hatcher craft intense chemistry and conflict between the characters, lit by a glowing faith and humanity that will win your heart. Look for other books in the series at your favorite Christian bookstore.

Promised to Me Details

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Amy says

To be honest, I really liked the earlier books in this series much better. It might be because the three previous books for all sort of interconnected because all three women arrived in America at the same time. I'm not sure. Not that this was a bad book, as a matter fact I really enjoyed it. I just got into the first three books in the series much easier.

Robin Hatcher says

The Coming to America series was birthed in my imagination the day I stood in the large building on Ellis Island, looking at the passenger logs with the names of people from Ireland, Sweden, England, and more. My Swedish great-grandparents came to America in 1868, and I have often pondered the courage needed to begin that journey. I loved writing these stories. They felt very personal to me.

Brooke says

This is the fourth book in this series by Robin Lee Hatcher. I read the first three several years ago and remembered liking them. This book did not disappoint. If you like historical Christian fiction you'll enjoy this book. The characters were well-developed and it didn't seem like any part of the book was rushed. I highly recommend this book!

Beata says

Christian historical romance with many good thoughts, lessons and a wonderful Christian message!
Enjoyable, interesting and very wholesome read! Robin Lee Hatcher is quickly becoming one of my favorite authors!

Heidi Pack says

long, as beautiful of lessons as it teaches.

Lynnda Ell says

Promised to Me is a surprise book. I thought that, with the publishing of book three, the series would end. Book four features a young man from the same ship as the three young women main characters in the previous books. Jakob, however, has no relationship with any of the young women, so the connection ends

with the prologue.

This book is about a promise unkept and a love betrayed after Jakob's move to America. Ten years later, he remembers his sweetheart from home and arranges for her to come to him. Due to the many changes that have occurred over the intervening years, the story of their reconnection is anything but smooth.

Leslie says

One thing that I really like about this series is that the story doesn't end with the marriage. That tends to happen early on, and we still get a look into their lives.

Ambrayulin says

I really enjoyed this book! A very easy read. It was 100% wholesome from start to finish, maybe too wholesome at times... The author is a Christian and tidbits about prayer and close relationship with God are peppered throughout the entire novel. (As a Christian myself, I'm not bothered by this.) I could picture each scene as I read it. I very much enjoy period pieces on paper as well as on screen. I loved the window into 1908 that this book was, and it held my interest until the very end. I look forward to discovering more from this author.

Martha says

This is the final book in the Coming to America Series. I was expecting something similar to the previous books and that's what you get. If you have enjoyed any of the other books, you will enjoy this one too. I would give the book 3.5 stars. I thought it was a good book, but not great. A lot of the things that happened in the book were very cliché. It's something I have read in multiple Christian fiction novels. The story was very predictable. The book won't be memorable, but it was a quick and easy read. I would recommend the book to fans of Robin Lee Hatcher.

Michelle Robinson says

I read this years ago, I remember enjoying it. I cannot imagine why. Jakob is a troll. He mistreated this woman horribly and now that he needs her, he feels that she "owes" him something. He may have paid her way here but she does not owe this selfish, self-centered man a thing. I don't think she should have married him at all.

Ellen says

Coming to America #4 proved to be better than books 2 and 3, but I found the connection to the series to be brief and tenuous at best. The connection with the other characters in the series consists of a brief vignette

where a Jakob Hirsch sees the three ladies from a distance as they all make their way to America. The promise referred to in the title is one that Jakob made to his childhood sweetheart that he would one day call for her to join him in America after he made his fortune. Several years pass before Corolla finally hears word from Jakob, but nothing is as she dreamed. Jacob, although better off than others in the community, is far from wealthy. What's more, he appears to have forgotten her as he married and had children with another woman! It seems that he only wants her as a housekeeper and nursemaid for the children now that his beloved wife passed away. There is a similar theme from the rest of the series of a marriage born of necessity rather than love, but love does bloom. I found the story itself to be a little more enjoyable than the last two, but I did rate it a bit lower because of the weak connection to the rest of the series.

Kathryn says

karola believed it when Jakob said he would send for her after he made it rich in America, but after 11 years she gets the letter she's been waiting for and accepts his proposal of marriage without the happenings of the passed time. When she arrives in Idaho from the long journey from Germany, she discovers he has 3 children and that his wife has died in the birth of their last child. She was wanted for the care of the children and household not because she was loved and wanted herself. She doesn't marry Jakob as planned but instead becomes his housekeeper and sitter for the children to pay off her passage fair. In the process she comes to accept God's direction in her life and bring happiness to the ones she cares for. Jakob learns to love again even with the uncertainty of life and loss.

Barbara says

This is a very enjoyable Christian historical fiction book about immigrants adjusting to American life and culture. The way Jakob and Karola change and grow during the story is believable, and Karola's struggle with impulsivity is endearing. Farming in Idaho at the end of the nineteenth century was difficult, and this is depicted well.

Shantelle says

Promised to Me is book four in the Coming to America series. I believe all the books are about some sort of mail-ordered-bride or another. *Promised to Me* told the story of a young man and woman in love who separated for a time because of the man's desire to make a life for them in America. He promised that he'd send for her. He never did. Years later, Jakob Hirsch writes his once-beloved, asking if she will join him in America at long last to be his bride. Karola Breit decides to, even after "hating" Jakob for what he did to her. That hate is suddenly renewed when she arrives in Shadow Creek, Idaho and finds Jakob a widower with three children.

This was a poignant, heart-felt tale, with spiritual growth and a sweet, albeit rough at times, love story. I loved the way Robin Lee Hatcher wove faith and struggles and God's wisdom through *Promised to Me*. I like growing with Karola, and watching her leave selfish childhood behind to become a mature, God-honoring woman. So an endearing, thoughtful story overall.

Some part felt a little rushed... or a little drawn out. Karola going from deep dislike, to "I'm in love again"

so fast was a little disconcerting. But it worked out, and felt nicely concluded in the end.

I enjoyed this book. –Thinking about reading the three books that came before it that I happened to have skipped! ?

Sara ♥ says

This book was pretty cute! I liked the idea of reuniting with your first love...

Jakob and Karola were really cute together, and I'm glad they didn't get married right off the bat. They needed some time to get to know one another again... And I didn't question when Karola fell in love with Jakob so quickly, because it was REfalling in love... And Jakob had the hangups with his first wife, and so it made sense that he was slower to catch up...

I really thought Jakob was great. I loved how he was with his kids! SO great! (My husband is like that!) He was actually a LOT like my husband... not always terribly communicative, a really hard worker, etc. So I liked him quite a lot (as you might imagine!)...

Overall, a cute little book!
