



# Redemption

*B.J. Daniels*

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**Redemption** B.J. Daniels

*The hunt for justice...and love...begins*

Jack French has had two long years of prison- ranch labor to focus on starting over, cleaning up his act and making things right. When he comes home to close-knit Beartooth, Montana, he's bent on leveling the score with the men who set him up. The one thing he doesn't factor into his plans is beautiful Kate LaFond.

With adventure-seeking in her blood, Kate's got big dreams to chase and a troubled past to put to rest. And even though a red-hot connection to a woman with her own set of secrets isn't part of Jack's plans, he just can't resist Kate and the gold cache she's after...even if it comes at a price.

But when Kate is accused of murder, he realizes she's not only a suspect, but a target. In the Montana wilderness, he'll do whatever it takes to keep her safe from a killer on a quest to rob them of their chance for a new, passionate life with each other.

## Redemption Details

Date : Published January 29th 2013 by Harlequin HQN (first published January 1st 2013)

ISBN : 9780373777570

Author : B.J. Daniels

Format : Paperback 384 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Mystery, Westerns, Western Romance

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## **From Reader Review Redemption for online ebook**

### **Linda says**

REDEMPTION is the 2nd book in BJ Daniels' Beartooth Montana series. The books do not have to be read in order to fully enjoy them; however, some of the characters in this book are introduced in the 1st book. I have not read these books in order and I can assure you that it did not diminish my enjoyment of these books.

We met Jack French BRIEFLY in UNFORGIVEN, the 1st book. In that short introduction, I didn't like him so I initially thought I wouldn't care for him in this book. WRONG! It didn't take long before Daniels' had me fully in his corner. Jack is the type that has TROUBLE written on his forehead; Trouble seems to find him wherever he goes. He has just returned home to Beartooth after serving 2 years in the pen for being falsely accused of rustling a prize bull. His main goal returning home is to stay out of trouble.

Kate LaFond grew up with with foster parents and never knew her parents. She was waitressing just outside of Las Vegas when Claude walked in the door with talk of an inheritance in Beartooth Montana. It's not long before she crosses paths with Jack French.

I love BJ Daniels' writing. There is always a romance but the book is primarily a mystery with lots of suspense. I actually had to put this one down and get my breath a few times. I also appreciate that even though this is a series, the books do not end with cliffhangers. The author leaves me wanting to read the next book because she is an awesome storyteller, not to find out what happens next.

I've now caught up with this series having started with Book #3, FORSAKEN. I've thoroughly enjoyed each one. The setting of Beartooth Montana at the foot of the Crazies mountains is a huge plus. LOL! I learned all about hitching horsehair and branding in this book.

I highly recommend this series to anyone who enjoys a good story, a suspenseful mystery, cowboys, surprising twists & turns and a light romance.

5 STARS!

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### **Kimberly Rocha~ Book Obsessed Chicks says**

One thing you can be assured of when you pick up a B.J. Daniels book, is you are in for one wild ride. Action-packed and chock full of suspense, B.J.'s books always have the reader sitting on the edge of their seats gnawing on fingernails. as is the absolute case here with Redemption, the second book in the Beartooth Montana Series.

Once again we are in Beartooth, Montana. Jack French has just gotten out of jail after spending two years in Ranch labor for bull rustling, although Jack insists he did not commit the crime, that in fact he was set up. Jack returns to his old town of Beartooth to mostly familiar faces, but one new one, the new owner of the Branding Iron Cafe, the mysterious Kate LaFond. He hasn't decided yet whether he plans on staying in the town teaming with memories. The solitary and attractive Kate LaFond is a font of secrets just waiting to be discovered by the conflicted Jack, who is torn between staying on the straight and narrow or seeking revenge for whoever had him set up to go to prison.

When Jack comes across Kate for the first time, she is being accosted by a man in back of her cafe, and Jack reluctantly steps in to protect Kate, who insists she needs no one to protect her. Trouble seems to come to Kate's doorstep which has Jack stepping in as her savior again. As much as Kate tries to deny, she begins to have feelings for Jack, but her inability to be honest with him puts a roadblock that prevents a relationship from happening.

Beartooth's trustworthy Sheriff, Frank Curry has his own set of problems in the form of a dead body found by the river. This body does not bode well for any in Beartooth. While investigating the crime, Frank stumbles upon a photograph that will have key information. With the help from his former love and town gossip, Nettie Benton, he finds that writing on the back of the photo may be a map. Can this be a map for the treasure Kate is set on finding? While trying to make heads or tails of what's going on in Beartooth, Frank's past begins to catch up with him in the form of a seventeen year old girl named Tiffany Chandler, who rents a room above Nettie's general store. Tiffany comes with a whole set of issues that will shock the normally unshakable Sheriff Curry.

I did not put REDEMPTION down until I read the entire book. I loved it as I do all that author B.J. Daniels writes. She has this unique ability to astound the reader continually with her mystery and suspense. This book was mainly Jack and Kate's book, but I loved B.J.'s secondary story line with Frank Curry and Lynette(Nettie) Benton. They are hands down my favorite characters in Beartooth and I want them to have their day in the sun. The Beartooth Montana Series has become one of my favorites. One thing about this town called Beartooth, at the foot of the Crazy Mountains, is there's always something going on, but the inhabitants always end up taking care of their own.

I highly recommend taking this roller-coaster ride of REDEMPTION which is suspense at its best by the Queen of Western Romantic Suspense, in my eyes at least, B.J. Daniels.....

~KIMBERLY~

5 Stars (Hook Line and Sinker)

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### **Samantha says**

In the beginning and somewhat in the middle, I was sure that I was going to give this book three stars, I only liked it but it wasn't really impressing me. It wasn't very exciting but it had just enough to keep me reading before it did get exciting halfway through the middle and the end, which is why I decided to give it four stars.

I really don't like reading books out of order but, doing a little research, I figured it would be ok to read this even though I hadn't read the first book. This book could be a stand alone, even though there are a couple of mentions to the first book. It's just mentioned in passing and not something that I felt I was missing out on, though I do want to read the first book.

It was full of mystery and kept me wondering what was going to happen. There was also a little side story that kept the story from getting boring.

This could be a stand alone because everything seems to have been wrapped up, and wrapped up nicely, unlike other books that seem to be rushed.

The writing was descriptive but not too long, giving the reader a visual but not going on and on about it.

A western book that I didn't find boring, maybe because it was set in modern times and was written well enough that I could feel the connection between the characters.

Back to the side story. Instead of taking away from the actual story, it added to it and the end of it while leave readers with their mouths hanging open, I know it effected me like that.

Thank you for reading my review.

-Sam

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## **Jonetta says**

*Originally posted on The Book Nympho*

### **Quick summary**

Jack French just spent two years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. He's back in Beartooth and on his way into town, he encounters Kate LaFond, the new owner of the town cafe, being assaulted. When he comes to her rescue, she's not grateful at all as Kate's used to taking care of herself. This pretty much defines their relationship going forward. Kate's hiding a few secrets and has a murky history. Jack's on a mission to clear his name. Their paths will inevitably converge.

### **What I enjoyed**

I really liked Jack and his laid back manner, especially as he seemed to instinctively know how to handle the often prickly, independent Kate. Her story was presented in a series of flashback conversations with someone who was well known in Beartooth. I liked this approach as there were several subplots that connected in someway and this helped provide context, as well as give Kate more layers. In fact, the subplots were just as interesting as the main story!

### **About the narration**

Graham Winton's interpretation of Jack was just about perfect. I could picture him just from his tone and style. I liked his performance of all the male characters but some of the female characters unfortunately came off a bit shrewish, which wasn't the intent. However, overall, I enjoyed the performance.

### **The bottom line**

The mystery aspect of this series is so well done and this story surpassed the last. There are some mean and nasty characters, some showing up shadowy and others with a nice veneer. I had a tough time weaving everything together (a good thing). The romance meter is low but it's just enough for me as the underlying tension heightens everything. I'm really enjoying the series even if the passion of the romance is understated.

(I received an ARC from the publisher in exchange for an honest review)

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## **Annie (Under the Covers Book Blog) says**

As my first book by B.J. Daniels, I immediately fell in love with the authorial voice. Strong and distinctive, it was easy for a new reader like me to fall in love with Beartooth, Montana and the characters.

The careful buildup and the uncoiling of all the action set me on edge and created a story that has suspense to spare! REDEMPTION isn't simply a cowboy contemporary romance. It's a Western Romantic Suspense with bite!

**Read this review in its entirety at Fresh Fiction**

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## **Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews says**

Shey's review posted on Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews

4 Stars

I have enjoyed this series so far Ms. Daniels definitely knows how to write about enticing cowboys with added mystery behind them as well as the dangers they seem to get themselves into. I expected this 2nd book to be about someone we had met in the first book, UNFORGIVEN, but to my surprise it was about Jack French, and except for a brief conversation and knowing a small amount about him from the first book I was just a little skeptical about why she would bring us Jack now. I have to say that it didn't take long for me to stop with my damn questions, and just latch on to the sexy ex-con cowboy.

Having spent two years in prison for stealing a prize bull Jack French has finally been released. Not sure if he is going to stay in Beartooth but knowing he can't go back out to his family home where he had been arrested he's not sure what he wants to do except to clear his name. His first mistake had been being wild in his youth his second had been to date a judge's daughter. Knowing he didn't steal the bull and said judge giving him two years for it he wants to show himself and everyone else he's not the same Jack French from two years ago. Finding out who set him up isn't about revenge but more about showing the town he wasn't who they thought. However, his first night home he over hears an altercation and comes to rescue Kate LaFond the owner of the town's café.

Kate didn't need anyone's help she never has, being on her own for so long. The minute Jack step in she knows he's going to be trouble and not just for her life but for her heart as well and she has too many secrets to get involved with anyone. Only living in Beartooth for a short time after taking over the café after the previous owner died Kate is on the search for an elusive treasure that is said to be up in the Crazies, the mountains surrounding Beartooth.

Kate's secrets come out so does trouble and the only thing Jack can think of to keep her safe even from herself is to partner up with her and head for the mountains and the treasure.

I love how Ms. Daniels doesn't just make this book about Kate and Jack but we also get the continuing story of Sherriff Frank Curry which as it unravels is a freaking shocker! We still have Nettie the nosey gossip and owner of the general store. I just hope that soon the Sherriff and Nettie can get their crap together. Yes they

are an older couple but they deserve there HEA, darn it!! Then Carson Grant, he's definitely the cowboy I am ready to get my hands on.

The life in the small town of Beartooth, Montana is definitely not a boring one and I can't wait to read the next adventure because that is what you get every time!

Review copy provided for an honest review.

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## **Susan says**

Good book with plenty of suspense. It kept me turning the pages as I wanted to find out what would happen next, both with the mysteries and with the relationship between Jack and Kate. Jack is back home in Beartooth after getting out of prison for a crime he didn't commit. He had been fairly wild before but is now determined to make a better life for himself. He also wants to find out who set him up. He doesn't expect to get involved with Kate. Kate was left the diner and is using it as a base for her treasure hunt. She has a bunch of secrets that she doesn't plan to share with anyone, but she didn't count on her connection with Jack. When those secrets bring danger to her door Jack is the one who steps up to protect her.

I liked both Jack and Kate. Jack just wants to start his life over. He grew up while in prison and realizes that being a hell-raiser is part of what got him in trouble. He's not sure if he'll stick around or sell his ranch and move on. When he hears a woman being attacked he can't help but step in. Her attacker runs off, but Kate isn't too pleased with his interference. He backs off and plans to stay away from her but keeps finding their paths crossing. He can't get her off his mind and is soon helping her with her treasure hunt. He also wants to clear his name by finding out who set him up. He has his suspicions but he needs to find the proof. I liked the way that Jack protected Kate, even as she was fighting him about it. He was attracted to her but fought it because he didn't want to deal with her secrets. In spite of it all, his feelings for her kept growing. I liked their solution to the treasure hunt. I also enjoyed seeing him figure out who set him up and the way that he ended up getting the proof he needed.

Kate was a very independent woman. She didn't like to rely on anyone else for help. When she was approached by the owner of the diner and told about it and her past she wasn't sure she wanted anything to do with it at first. She soon came to care for Claude and accepted what he told her. After his death she followed his instructions but soon found herself in trouble. As she searched for the treasure supposedly left to her by her mother she was attacked on several occasions by men who were her stepbrothers and also looking for the treasure. Jack is the one who keeps coming to her rescue. She doesn't want to get involved with him but she finds she can't stay away from him. She finally trusts him with her secrets and together they try to find the treasure before her brothers do. There were times I wanted to shake her for pushing Jack away when it was obvious he was coming to care for her. She was also beginning to settle in to life in Beartooth, even though she kept thinking about leaving. I liked the way she finally accepted that she loved Jack and didn't really want to leave.

There was also a secondary story starring Sheriff Frank Curry. He is still nursing his feelings for Nettie Benton. She is still technically married so all he can do is continue their friendship. She rents an apartment to a young woman who seems obsessed with watching Frank and it begins to worry her. Frank talks to the young woman and discovers that she is the daughter he never knew he had. She is exhibiting a lot of anger toward him, having been told a bunch of lies by his ex-wife. Frank really wants to have a relationship with her but her actions are very erratic. There is quite a shock at the end.

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## **susana says**

Nota Geral: 3.3/5

Escrita: 3

Cenário: 3.5

Originalidade: 3

Personagens: 3

Suspense: 3.5

Humor: 3

Romance: 3.5

Capa: 4

Aditivo: 3.5

Previsível: 3

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## **Katie\_la\_geek says**

For this review and more visit my blog

Redemption was more or less what I expect from a B J Daniels romantic thriller. The storyline was complex, the romance was sweet and relatively clean and the pace fast. But the characters didn't feel as well developed as I have seen from her in the past.

Redemption is first and foremost a thriller which is what B.J Daniels is great at writing. The romance always comes in second place which is great for creating an exciting and fast paced thriller. If I am honest, although I enjoyed Redemption it was not as exciting as some of her previous works and I felt like some of the POV's sub plots could have done with a little tidying up. I do love that she focuses on so many characters but this time it didn't work as well. I think all in all the same could be said about the main plot. It was good but not the best. Daniels is the queen of writing deception and in the past her books have put me on edge but this one didn't. There was a twist at the end that I didn't see coming which was very well done.

Characters were also a bit of an issue. I liked Jack, I thought he was a sweet and caring cowboy and I liked him but I couldn't really connect to Kate. She was so cold and I never really warmed up to her at all.

Redemption is a good western romantic thriller but it is not as good as other B.J Daniels books.

**The publisher provided me with a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review**



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## **Tria says**

looking for other books casted out of Beartooth, Montana.

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## **Julie says**

Redemption by B.J.Daniels is set for an early 2013 release. This book is published by Harlequin.

Jack just got released from prison. He spent two long years for cattle rustling. The judge was overly harsh in his sentencing and Jack didn't even commit the crime. Now he has returned to Beartooth, Montana, the only place he has ever called home. His goal is to keep his nose clean and to try and determine who set him up and why. He also has to decide what to do with the rest of his life.

Kate is new to Beartooth. She inherited a local cafe' from the previous owner and no one in the small community seems to know why Claude gave her the diner or anything at all about Kate. On Jack's first night back in town he sees a man threatening Kate and steps up to help out a damsel in distress. Only Kate wasn't all that grateful for his help.

Jack's friend, Carson and several other town residents seem to think Kate is trouble. It's true that she has her secrets and a hidden agenda.

Things really get strange when a man's body is found out on an abandoned piece of property that was the scene of an horrific crime many years ago. Kate comes under suspicion and because Jack had been in prison, he too gets a few questions.

No matter what though, Jack can't seem to keep away from Kate and soon finds himself helping her accomplish her goal, which is to find a buried treasure. Jack is skeptical about there being any gold, but he thinks Kate is in danger and so he plays along.

Meanwhile, Jack begins to piece together the events that led to his arrest and who was behind it.

The side story involving the local sheriff was part mystery, part tragedy. I wasn't sure how I felt about this part of the novel. It was a really sad story, but there did seem to be some hope for those involved.

This was a absorbing mystery, suspense, romance, with just a dash of adventure. Redemption was an apt title for this book. Lots of wrongs get righted as best as they could be and the last few chapters are sweet and uplifting as two people discover what the most important things in life really are.

Overall I would give this on a B/B-

Thanks Edelweiss and the publishers for the advance readers copy.

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## **Rhonda says**

5 STARS

Redemption was full of suspense,mystery,danger. The book kept me guessing till the end. Every time I thought the drama was over more surprises were to come. Some of the people that were hiding secrets made me mad. So much hate, lies were told so people could get thier way.

I thought by previous books that I would not like Jack and Kate. Thier story was good. A slow build up in thier characters before I came to understand them and care about them.

The story takes place in Beartooth Montana with the Crazy mountains in the background. A lot of characters took after the mountains. Lots of these characters were introduced in other stories set around Beartooth. It was good to come back and see how some of the characters have grown and changed.

I was given this ebook to read in exchange of honest review from Netgalley.

BOOK discription taken from Netgalley.com

The hunt for justice...and love...begins

Jack French has had two long years of prison-ranch labor to focus on starting over, cleaning up his act and making things right. When he comes home to close-knit Beartooth, Montana, he's bent on leveling the score with the men who set him up. The one thing he doesn't factor into his plans is spitfire beauty Kate LaFord.

With treasure-seeking in her blood, Kate's got big dreams to chase and a troubled past to put to rest. And even though a red-hot connection to a woman with her own set of secrets isn't part of Jack's plans, he just can't resist Kate and the gold cache she's after...even if it is cursed.

But when Kate is accused of murder, he realizes she's not only a suspect, but a target. In the Montana wilds, he'll do whatever it takes to keep her safe from a killer on a quest to rob them of their chance for a new, passionate life with each other.

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## **Virginia Campbell says**

The distinctive romantic-suspense storytelling style of author B.J. Daniels serves the reader well in "Redemption", the second book in her exciting "Beartooth, Montana" series. Jack French didn't have to look for trouble--it always knew exactly where to find him. The wild ways of his youth had made him an easy mark to be framed for rustling a bull, and the judge on the case had been the father of Jack's girlfriend. Since the judge never cared much for Jack, he sentenced him to two years labor on a working-ranch prison--a harsh sentence for the crime of which Jack was accused. Serving out his time at Deer Lodge, Montana State Prison had given Jack much opportunity to think about how and why he was framed, and who hated him enough to set him up. Back in his little gold-rush hometown of Beartooth after completing his jail term, Jack decides to play his cards close to his vest and not reveal his hand too soon. This time, he'll stay far away from trouble, and take careful steps. His plans go awry on his first night back in town when he "rescues" a woman being roughed up by a man in an alley. After a scuffle, the man takes off, but the lady is not so grateful for Jack's help. Kate LaFond, the new owner of the Branding Iron Cafe, is used to fending for herself. She doesn't need a tall, good-looking cowboy to complicate her life. Fate, however, has other plans for Jack and Kate, and the time they end up spending together has Jack involved in Kate's search for a lost treasure in gold. Matters take a serious turn when the man who accosted Kate turns up murdered, and she is later accused of the crime. The attraction between Kate and Jack becomes more personal, and once again, he comes to her defense. The local sheriff, Frank Curry, is working on solving the case and finding resolution to his own personal issues, including a second-chance romance with Nettie Benton. Known as "Nosy Nettie", she owns and operates the local general store, and not much escapes her persistent attention. Gold fever can never really be cured--its

lure is often lethal, and it seldom leads to happiness. For Jack and Kate, will the real treasure be a once-in-a-lifetime love? Beartooth, Montana has its share of legends, lives lost, and love found. I greatly enjoyed the first book in the series, "Unforgiven", and "Redemption" is equally enjoyable. If you love romantic suspense, you will be captivated by the complexities of the intertwined lives of the characters and the intrigue and danger of the promise of a fortune in gold.

Review Copy Gratis Amazon Vine

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### **Cheshire Public Library says**

This is an entertaining, fast paced, contemporary western, romantic suspense thriller. It is book two in the Beartooth, Montana series. The books do not have to be read in order.

The story centers around cowboy Jack French, who spent two years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. On his first night home, he comes to the rescue of a woman who is being assaulted in an alley.

Kate Lafond is the mysterious new owner of the Branding Iron Cafe. When not working at the cafe, she is secretly looking for buried lost gold. When a stranger helps save her from an assault, she rudely tells him she doesn't need or want his help.

Jack wants to clear his name and find out who framed him for the crime he was sent to prison for, but he can't get the lovely, secretive Kate out of his mind.

No one knows how Kate became the new owner of the Branding Iron Cafe. She keeps to herself which leads the residents of Beartooth wondering what is behind the elusive Kate. She, like Jack, is trying to resolve some issues from her past.

The author weaves an intricate tale of intrigue, romance, lies, murder, cattle rustling, and treasure hunting. You are kept guessing the outcome of the two main characters while being introduced to some of the other town residents. The secondary stories are just as intriguing as the main story, the characters just as complex.

This was a very enjoyable journey that highlights the wild, wild west in modern times.

- Reviewed by Linda <http://cheshirelibraryblog.wordpress....>

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### **Brenda says**

Love western romance!!!! Jack just wants to close out loose ends and move on,,Kate just wants to find what's due her.But they seem to keep getting in each other's way

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