



## Behold a Lone Horseman

*Jeannie Hudson*

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## **Behold a Lone Horseman** Jeannie Hudson

Behold A Lone Horseman is the enthralling story of a tender and passionate love between a liberated young heroine and a fearless man, both caught up in the pursuit of wealth, power and artistic achievement in 1876 Colorado Territory. Aiden Endicott, a dashing Englishman already possesses wealth and influence from his gold mines in Colorado and Dakota Territories but it is his gentle, caring insight and worldly perception that captures Regan's heart. Yet, from the onset, their love is threatened by insurmountable obstacles from the past. Since she was a child, Regan was charmed by her aunt, Lareina Charles' success as a journalist in the male-dominated West and has aspired to her own career in that untamed culture. Aware that she must have the very finest training, she spends seven years as an apprentice under her father a world-renowned photographer in Philadelphia who is most famous for his exhibitions of historic images collected throughout the East and Canada. Regan has always believed she has the talent and ambition to do similar work. After her father's death when she is seventeen, she is ready to take up her quest to record for future generations her own collection of historic photographs in the American West. Always encouraged and supported by Lareina, she accepts her invitation to come live with her in Denver where she can begin her career in earnest. As her train from Philadelphia nears Denver, she first encounters the darkly handsome Aiden Endicott who quickly captures her heart and imagination. The pair fall in love in the midst of titanic change and power struggles in the awakening land. Yet, their deepening romance is threatened by the past. Regan opens a portrait studio in Lareina's home to finance her future work in the field. She is stunned by her immediate success. But this triumph is hollow in the face of growing turmoil in her relationship with Aiden. He abruptly severs their bond and flees to Deadwood in the Black Hills of Dakota Territory on the pretense of checking on his mining interests there. Heartsick, Regan follows, joining the Wild Bill Hickok/Charlie Utter expedition that offered miners protection while traveling to the gold fields in the midst of hostilities between the Sioux and the miners encroaching into their Holy Wilderness. During the expedition, Regan is befriended by Wild Bill who is charmed by her spirit and courage. In return, she is intrigued by his heroic history and delights in taking photographs of him for her collection. When she meets with Aiden, a new menace forces them to remain apart. To salve her broken heart, she spends the summer hard at work, collecting photographs of the teeming town of miners and other locations in the Black Hills. She is often confused and bewildered by the growing conflict between the whites' and the Sioux, the miners' hatred of the Indians on whose hunting ground they are digging for gold. Ultimately, another encounter with Aiden ignites a crisis of the heart that forces him and Regan to remain estranged. Defeated and bereft, Regan returns to Colorado Territory. Once back with Lareina, she recovers her faith and tenacity and vows to unlock the mystery that still threatens their future... Behold A Lone Horseman is a feast for the heart and imagination. Readers who enjoy a story of intricate suspense with depth of character set against a colorful historic backdrop will love this novel that will keep them reading long into the night

## **Behold a Lone Horseman Details**

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Author : Jeannie Hudson

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# From Reader Review Behold a Lone Horseman for online ebook

## Nancy says

I won a copy of this book through Goodreads First Reads. I entered because historical fiction is one of my favorites to read. The cover of this book was the first to grab my attention. I knew by the cover that it was a story I would enjoy and was surprised to realize her husband Adam did the watercolor. This story moved along at a good pace and It has strong characters, romance, a great adventure, and quite a few historical figures of the time too. I found the descriptions of how the photographs of that time were done very interesting too. It is a well written story and all the characters just leap off the pages. I recommend this book to all who like this genre you won't be disappointed.

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## Lucinda says

Wonderfully wrought, exquisitely atmospheric historical fiction that's tugs at the heartstrings

Jeannie Hudson incorporates accurate historical details within her novels, so as to create an authentic and vividly realised backdrop for her interesting characters. Full of heartfelt sincerity, profundity and beautiful poignancy this detailed story is a joy and delight to behold. I can honestly state that I have not only encountered an accomplished, assured writer but a real gem of a book that's really rare and unique! Amid the intricately interwoven narrative is a compelling mystery and intriguing concepts, which make you think and keep you sat in suspense and anticipation throughout. I was **so impressed** by this impressive tale told with such convincing insight that transported me back to a past era of intrigue and glamour.

**Behold a lone horseman** is a captivating love story set within the 1800's, in which Regan and Aiden fall head-over-heels in love with one another's magnetic attraction. Set within the vibrant American West this book blends together 'cowboy & Indian' themes with recognizable added characters, such as **Buffalo Bill** and **Wild Bill Hickok** and even **Calamity Jane**!

The deep characters and gripping suspense make you want to read on, hence this novel is a real treat and feast for the imagination. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this compelling story and so I cannot wait to explore more of this brilliant author's books and would rate this read 4.5 stars.

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## Barbara Lynn says

I won Behold a Lone Horseman on the Goodreads Giveway and I am so happy I did!

Behold a Lone Horseman is just what I like in historical fiction: background info about what it was like during the time period, a good plot, and strong willed characters. I especially liked the aunt because she had a strong vision of life and stuck with it so matter what.

The story takes place in the 1876 Colorado territory, and our main character, young Regan, leaves her home and everything she knows to travel out west to start her own career and is totally supported by her loving

Aunt Lareina, and she meets such famous people as Wild Bill Hickock and Calamity Jane.

I lost a lot of sleep over this book, went into work the next day sleepy from reading for hours on end. If you like being swept away by a book that 'has it all' - romance, adventure, history, this is the book for you.

So in a nutshell: Good Book!!!!

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### **Mary Davis says**

In this novel Jeannie Hudson tells the story of a feisty, courageous, strong-willed girl making a career for herself against all odds. Set in the Western Territories in the 1850s, it is more than a love story. I especially enjoyed the historical setting and the appearance and descriptions of some of the well known figures of the era such as Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane. I highly recommend it.

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### **Y.I. Lee says**

I was delighted to be given a copy of this book by the author, in exchange for an honest review.

I have been privileged to read other books by Ms Hudson. However, I have to say BEHOLD A LONE HORSEMAN is my favourite. This is a book that is hard to put down.

There's a subtle sense of intrigue that draws the reader into the story, and it's a great story!

The characters are well fleshed out...even the lesser, make a strong impression on the reader. I particularly liked Regan's aunt, Lareina, and the gorgeous Aiden, of course.

The author's descriptive writing, really brings the story alive. Transporting the reader to a time when life moved at a much slower pace. A time of romance, beauty, excitement and danger.

Also, I found the information about photography at that time, fascinating. The author must have done quite a bit of research on the subject.

This is a great read, and the stories conclusion is brilliant.

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### **Kim O'Shea says**

Jeannie Hudson knows exactly how to write gripping tales that capture the imagination. I loved this book and was sad to reach the end! If you are looking for bold, sweeping historical romance with well written, believable characters and great plots, I highly recommend this fantastic author.

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## **Joy says**

I won this book from a Goodreads giveaway.

I have to admit I have not finished this book. I became overwhelmingly frustrated when I got to a robbery, or attempted, because that was when I gave up.

For myself I couldn't believe Regan was passing up a chance to go to China with her aunt. I couldn't believe how long the conversation between Regan and her aunt was the first night Regan came to her aunt's home. By that point I was already circling the errors I picked up on, which is saying something because my spelling and grammar are awful. At the point of the conversation I thought, "Edit edit edit."

I hadn't really fallen for the hero yet by the time I stopped reading. I was a little too suspicious.

I might someday find my way back to finish this book, when I have nothing new and am tired of re-reading Jane Austin. It might be a long time.

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## **Stacey Wagner says**

This is the first book I read by this author and is not normally a genre I would choose, but I was very pleasantly surprised. It is a novel that seems to span many genres: historical fiction, western, romance, and women's fiction. The author weaves a tale that captures the reader and makes it difficult to put the book down (my favorite genre of all!) The characters were interesting and came to life off the page. I just got another book by this author "Ten Hours Til Spring" and am looking forward to more great stories by Hudson. She is truly gifted in the art of storytelling.

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## **Jalynn Patterson says**

About the Book:

Behold A Lone Horseman is the enthralling story of a tender and passionate love between a liberated young heroine and a fearless man, both caught up in the pursuit of wealth, power and artistic achievement in 1876 Colorado Territory.

Aiden Endicott, a dashing Englishman already possesses wealth and influence from his gold mines in Colorado and Dakota Territories but it is his gentle, caring insight and worldly perception that captures Regan's heart. Yet, from the onset, their love is threatened by insurmountable obstacles from the past. Since she was a child, Regan was charmed by her aunt, Lareina Charles' success as a journalist in the male-dominated West and has aspired to her own career in that untamed culture.

### About the Author:

Jeannie Hudson grew up on a ranch in Wyoming where her rapport with animals was nourished in a country environment. After college, she became a full-time author and sold four suspense novels.

### My Review:

We are instantly transported to a world full of the pursuit of wealth, the promise of a new life, and pure bonified romance in Jeannie Hudson's latest, Behold A Lone Horseman--throw in a little dust and we are in the Colorado Territory all over again.

Regan Townsend, decides to take her career on the road into unsettled territory. A place behind the camera is usually a place for men only, but she intends on proving to herself and everyone else that she will conquer this feat for all women. But falling in love wasn't something she factored in to the whole equation.

Love out west proved to be adventurous but she and Aiden find out just how much this adventure will cost them. I enjoyed the book because there was an adventure on every page. The story has well developed characters that jump off the pages. A really great piece of historical fiction!

**\*\*Disclosure\*\*** This book was sent to me free of charge for my honest review from the author.

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### **Rachel Parrott says**

A good look at Colorado with glimpses of surrounding states in the late 1800's with engaging characters.

My copy was a gift from Goodreads First Reads.

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### **Patty Brandl says**

In the spirit of full disclosure, I received a free uncorrected copy of "Behold a Lone Horseman" by Jeannie Hudson, through Goodreads' First Reads Giveaway. I LOVE historical fiction, and this one had lots to offer about the Denver territory in the late 1800s. Seventeen-year-old Regan leaves her home (and her cold, emotionless mother) behind in Philadelphia a year after her photographer father's death to start her own studio - and even more importantly, her goal of taking photos for a collection of the rapidly changing West. Although she'll be living with her beloved aunt, Lareina, a journalist working for the Denver Chronicle, she is very independent and mature for someone so young. The novel pulls in a number of familiar names like Buffalo Bill Cody and Wild Bill Hickok, among a myriad of other colorful characters. Learning so much about the early techniques used in photography was fascinating. Having lived near Denver (Boulder) myself for almost a decade in the 70s, I LOVED the descriptions of the city, the foothills and the rougher mining territories. Hudson's writing was so descriptive I could practically smell the aspen trees and the wonderful scent of mountain air! The book was very well written and kept me turning the pages far into the night when I should have been sleeping. In addition to her aunt, Regan's most important relationship is with Aiden, a

handsome older man she meets on the train on the way to Denver. Their mutual attraction is instantaneous, and quite a bit of the story revolved around it. I'm not a huge fan of romance novels, and I would have rather read more about Denver and the Old West. Hudson handles the romantic details deftly, but I might have given this book five stars if less time had been devoted to the intimate details of the budding romance and the roadblocks constantly thrown in the way of these two coming together. Overall, I greatly enjoyed reading this book and would definitely recommend it to anyone who enjoys good writing and stories about the American West!

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