



From This Day Forward

Lauraine Snelling

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From This Day Forward Lauraine Snelling Revisit Old Friends in Blessing in This Heartwarming Series Conclusion

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When Anton Genddarm, the new schoolteacher, comes to town, the young women of Blessing see a chance to force Toby's hand with a little strategic matchmaking. But real sparks fly between Deborah and Anton, and she finds herself in an even more complicated situation. The attention she gets from Anton makes Toby do some serious soul-searching, but is it too late?

Then Deborah receives an invitation to study the latest advances in nursing at a hospital in Chicago, and she faces a hard choice. To leave or stay? Should she give up on the dream of Toby and accept the interest of Anton?

From This Day Forward Details

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From Reader Review From This Day Forward for online ebook

Kristine Morgan says

It is always wonderful to come home to Blessing! Most of my favorite characters still reside there with a few new faces thrown in. There are problems, but the folks always come together and make the most of things. Ingeborg, Kaaren and Pastor Solberg are there to help everybody through the twists and turns of life. Lauraine Snelling has created a saga with the Bjorklands. If you have never visited Blessing ND you can get started with: <https://www.amazon.com/Untamed-Land-R...>

From Amazon:

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About Lauraine Snelling from her Amazon page:

Award-winning and best selling author Lauraine Snelling began living her dream to be a writer with her first published book for young adult readers, *Tragedy on the Toutle*, in 1982. She has since continued writing more horse books for young girls, adding historical and contemporary fiction and nonfiction for adults and young readers to her repertoire. All told, she has over eighty books published with more than 4 million copies in print.

Shown in her contemporary romances and women's fiction, a hallmark of Lauraine's style is writing about real issues of forgiveness, loss, domestic violence, and cancer within a compelling story. Her work has been translated into Norwegian, Danish, and German, and she has won the Romantic Times Career Achievement award for Inspirational Fiction, the Silver Angel Award for *An Untamed Land* and a Romance Writers of America Golden Heart for *Song of Laughter*.

As a sought after speaker, Lauraine encourages others to find their gifts and live their lives with humor and joy. Her readers clamor for more books more often, and Lauraine would like to comply ... if only her paintbrushes and easel didn't call quite so loudly.

Lauraine and her husband, Wayne, have two grown sons, and live in the Tehachapi Mountains with a watchdog Basset named Winston. They love to travel, most especially in their forty-foot motor coach, which

they affectionately deem “a work in progress”.

Shantelle says

From This Day Forward by Lauraine Snelling is a historical novel following the Bjorkland family. It's the first book that I've read of this authors in quite awhile.

Grandmother Ingeborg, Deborah MacCallister, Toby Valders, and a couple other relations are the POV characters. This book centers a lot on Ingeborg. Some of the characters I remembered from Lauraine's past series, but this is the first book from the SONG OF BLESSING series that I've read. I have to say, it wasn't my favorite read.

There were some things I enjoyed, like the prayer sessions between the woman of Blessing town. It was really heart touching. And there was a sweet wedding. Some faith moments that were really good.

A lot of the rest was about family gatherings, family fights, baking, talking about matchmaking, Deborah wondering how she can win Toby's heart It was pretty slow-paced and really, really focused on everyday life. So yes, *From This Day Forward* just wasn't really my type of book. If you've enjoyed Lauraine Snelling's other books about the Bjorkland family (Ellie, Sophie, Grace, Rebecca, Deborah ... etc.), then you will probably like *From This Day Forward* too! *smiles*

I received a copy of From This Day Forward from Bethany House Publishers.

Debbie says

I have to start by saying I love Lauraine Snelling. She is one of the first Inspirational/Historical authors I started with when I switched from Contemporary Romance. This novel is just as good as all her other novels, which I have read most of and several at least twice.

It is so good to read Deborah's story. Deborah MacCallister was in several of Mrs. Snelling's books since she was first discovered with her sister, Manda, when they were small and abandoned by their father after their mother died. Zeb MacCallister found the girls and adopted them then settled in Blessing, North Dakota. After Zeb's wife died, he and Manda, along with her new husband left Blessing and Deborah behind because she was too young to make the journey they were going on.

Deborah was taken in and raised as their daughter by Pastor John Solberg and his wife Mary Martha. All grown up, Deborah is now a nurse at the hospital in Blessing and in love with Toby Valders, but he doesn't know it. Though they grew up together, Toby doesn't seem to know Deborah exists anymore since he has been so busy with his construction business.

When Anton Genddarm, the new schoolteacher, comes to town, Deborah's lady friends get together to matchmake. Toby is not very happy that this new guy is showing an interest in Deborah, but he doesn't know why he feels that way.

Then Deborah gets a chance for some advanced training that will help her and the Blessing hospital. So she jumps at the chance to go to Chicago for the training, hoping she can forget about Toby and get on with her life. With Deborah gone, Toby does some serious soul searching and can't wait for Deborah to return. If she returns.

I loved this book. It is a clean romance and has many of the well loved characters from all the other books Mrs. Snelling has written about the town of Blessing. Including the well loved Ingeborg. I recommend this book to all historical romance lovers. Enjoy!

Maureen Timerman says

We are back in Blessing, North Dakota and back with our dear family from Norway. Most all we come to know and love are back and we are continuing on with their lives.

Some of our dear ones leave right after the book begins, and others find their way home. In this book we have Deborah still wearing her heart on her sleeve for Toby, but will that man every realize what a gem she is, and before he loses her to another.

Come and enjoy the warm-hearted fun of fishing with Mor and the children, and landing a big catfish. Ah, how I wish I were there!

I received this book through Net Galley and Bethany House Publishers, and was not required to give a positive review.

Amy says

I've been hesitant to read this last book in the series because I didn't want to read about Ingeborg dying. Also, I've enjoyed reading this feel-good, easy series as palate cleansers between meatier, heavier books with more world-building. I found myself getting teary throughout the book here and there. I don't know why, except I guess that I won't be seeing any more of these characters in the future. I do look forward to Snelling's next series based in the same time period, about a different immigrant family. Oh, and as for this book itself, I'm not sure I'm really pleased about how it ended (who she chose), simply based on my own personal history, but I guess I can see why it happened the way it did. 4 stars.

Mary says

Once again we as readers find ourselves in Blessing, North Dakota with a familiar cast of characters. Many of these characters have been in the series since the beginning of the Red River of the North series, which began publication in the 1990's.

The town's struggle with growth issues continues. As the men are pushed by the elements of weather, the start of school, and the harvest, they strive to put construction projects together on a schedule anyone would say they are hard pressed to meet. Amidst all the new building and construction projects, the town experiences a loss of some of their most loved citizens and an influx of new citizens to fill much needed jobs.

In the center of the story are Deborah MacCallister, hospital nurse, and Toby Valders, construction manager,

struggling to come to terms with a relationship one clearly wants more than the other. Enter a new schoolteacher in to town to make life interesting and a bit more complicated for their relationship!

The reader needs the background from the previous books in the series to follow the flow of the storyline. I always enjoy returning to the town of Blessing with its familiar townspeople, caring and loyal spirit, and their firm belief in the Lord and his good works.

This ARC copy was received from Bethany House and Netgalley.com in exchange for an honest review. The above thoughts and opinions are wholly my own.

4/5

Courtney Wallace says

I love all of the Red River books. I've read through them three times now. To me, the main theme is trusting God, which is something I struggle with at times.

However, sometimes little inconsistencies pop up:

For example, in this book, it mentions that Elizabeth died of typhoid...but she died of diphtheria. Also, Inga told Sophie that Garth and the others could come out and play with the calves in the barn. Sophie replied that Garth went out with Benny to the Baard farm to stay for a couple days. However, Garth is Sophie's husband, not a child. Grant is their son, and I believe that is who they were referring to.

And, in the book before this, Streams of Mercy, Astrid was glad that Elizabeth's parents did not have a phone, so that she wouldn't have to speak to them about Elizabeth's passing. However, if you go back to the earlier books about Elizabeth and Thorliff, Elizabeth's family did have a phone. It was mentioned several times.

These things are not a big deal, it's just something I noticed.

Brenda says

Deborah MacCallister, head nurse at the Blessing hospital, has loved Toby Valders since her school days, but she's had enough of their on-again, off-again relationship. Toby truly cares for Deborah, but he's never felt like he could commit to marriage or a family.

When Anton Genddarm, the new schoolteacher, comes to town, the young women of Blessing see a chance to force Toby's hand with a little strategic matchmaking. But real sparks fly between Deborah and Anton, and she finds herself in an even more complicated situation. The attention she gets from Anton makes Toby do some serious soul-searching, but is it too late?

Then Deborah receives an invitation to study the latest advances in nursing at a hospital in Chicago, and she faces a hard choice. To leave or stay? Should she give up on the dream of Toby and accept the interest of Anton?

Once again Lauraine Snelling does not disappoint with this new book. As with her entire Red River Valley series Lauraine makes you feel like the characters are people you would like to be friends with. Her

characters seem like they truly are the people who homesteaded this region of North Dakota. I hope she will continue to tell the story of Ingeborg Bjorklund and all the other inhabitants of Blessing, North Dakota. I have fallen in love with her characters. Lauraine does an excellent job of fleshing out her characters so they seem real.

I highly recommend this book. I would recommend that you read the previous books in this series before you read this one.

I was provided a complimentary copy of the book from the publisher, Bethany House. The review is my own, honest opinion without any outside influences or requirements.

Kristina says

This story was so unfortunately boring.

I thought this book was about Deborah MacAllister and Toby Valders but it seemed it was about Ingeborg again. I mean it's fine to have some side story but cmon the book was basically about her.

Near the end of the book, you read more about Toby and Deborah. It was so rushed. Anton, a new schoolteacher, moves to Blessing and connects with Deborah. Yet Deborah, who pines after Toby, is caught in a hard place to decide what her heart desires (yet we know all along, no surprise). So Toby is forced to look inside and see what his feelings are for Deborah. All this action takes place over 2-3 chapters. And the book was over 300 pages? Still don't know why.

I didn't read any of the other books in this series, so maybe if I did I would feel more connection between these two. But knowing how she writes, prolly not.

Once Upon a Romance Reviews says

Reviewed by Trudy

Sexual Content: None

Language Content: None

Violent Content: None

As we take another trip back to Blessing, we find that one of the nurses, Deborah, has deep feelings for Toby but he seems to be on-again and off-again with his approach to Deborah. The town of Blessing is growing by leaps and bounds and Toby oversees some of that building but doesn't seem to be able to take the time to think about what he truly wants out of life. He needs to take it to God to get the peace and direction for his life.

As Ms. Snelling writes the story and gives us a glimpse into the lives of the other characters in the series, it makes you want to keep turning the pages to see what will happen next. As the series goes on Lauraine's creativity in personalities of these characters is a wonder, as there are so many of them to keep track of and each has a different personality. Each one also has God who is primary in their lives.

Lauraine has given a twist or two in From This Day Forward and this storyline is an obvious continuation of the series; with strong inspiration to give her readers something to ponder for a long while after the story is over. I don't think that we have heard the last of the Blessing series and it is one that I am anxiously awaiting what will happen next. Don't miss traveling to Blessing in this next book as the history of Blessing continues.

-- **TRUDY**

Haley S says

Confusing. That is the only word for this book. I was not at all impressed. I am pretty positive that the reason I was confused was because this is book four in the Song of Blessing series. But, I should have been able to read this book without being confused.

First things first, I did not like the fact that there were a lot of different point of views. I was lost. There were way too many 'main' characters. I am good with there being a lot of side characters. I hate it when there are like...five main characters. The back cover said the story was about Toby and Deborah. There were more chapters about Ingeborg than there were about Toby and Deborah.

Also, the book was kind of slow. Anton doesn't show up until three fourths of the story was done. I mean, again, he is on the back cover of the book! He should have arrived sooner!

I am so sorry about writing this bad review, but I have to. I did not enjoy this book at all. I had to force myself to read it. Believe me, I never have to force myself to read books.

I liked the book cover, though! It is very well done! It pretty much summed up the story between Toby and Deborah. Three stars to you!

As for the book, I am very sorry to say that it deserves one star.

Title: From this Day Forward

Author: Lauraine Snelling

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

I received this book from the Bethany House Division of the Baker Publishing Group for this review.

This review is written in my own opinions and words.

Brianna says

Sniffles. It was so good. So sweet, so moving. I love the Bjorklands, and everyone who comes with it. Only reason it isn't a 5-star is because I didn't like Deborah and Toby's love story as much as the other ones, and I'm sad that Anji and Thomas left, but Ingeborg and her story was amazing as always. That fight between Astrid and Thorliff was amazing, and I love how that storyline played out.

And now I need more books about them.

Paula-O says

Series Song of Blessing book#1 "From This Day Forward", by Lauraine Snelling

I so enjoyed going back to Blessing and to the characters that I had fallen in love with from the Red River series. Ingeborg is such a strong character and she leads the young women in the area by example. She had so much heartache from the early years yet she stayed strong by her strong faith and the friendship of family and friends.

You will be so blessed to read these books by Lauraine Snelling

This book tells the story of Deborah and her love for a man that cares for her but is afraid to make a commitment. Can she ever get him to get past his heartache from an abusive home before he and his brother were taken in by the Valders and saw a love that he had always wanted in his life.

His brother had overcame his past and had a good life with his wife and family and he is always trying to show Toby that he too can do this if he will only accept Deborah's love. Many in the town are trying to get the two together also.

You will enjoy reading this story of small town living and characters that are just like your neighbors next door.

I received this book from Bethany House publishers and thank them for the awesome read.

Sarah Grace says

Loved this book! Toby is one of my favorite characters and I loved hearing more from him!

Robin Willson says

Just like coming home. A place to belong, a place to wrap around you. There's something to be said about a series and writer that makes you want to keep coming back to see what's going on with the town and characters in the books. And it's written so that you can clearly picture yourself there right away. You feel as though you live there and know each and every person. Ingeborg is like your own relative. This, as the others in the series, is written in a part of time and way of life that is similar to how I grew up. We're all so different, and yet the same.

It's great that Ingeborg is still a pillar of the Red River Valley community and going strong hunting, fishing

and driving farm machinery.

This is a romance centered around Deborah, an Assistant at the hospital, and Toby Valders. They have a history in the series, and are now grown and ready for their own romance. She has an opportunity to leave and study to further her position at the hospital. Will it do Toby good to have her go away for awhile? She's loved him for a long time, but he takes her for granted. Maybe it will shake him up a little bit. Or perhaps she should just move on. Always prayerfully centered, another story of life's normalcies and life's struggles.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from the Bethany House Publishers - Netgalley book review bloggers program. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. 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".

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