



## McKettrick's Pride

*Linda Lael Miller*

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With his two young daughters in tow, ex-rancher Rance McKettrick, swearing off women, returns home to Indian Rock where a free-spirited bookstore owner writes a passionate new chapter in his life.

## McKettrick's Pride Details

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Author : Linda Lael Miller

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## **From Reader Review McKettrick's Pride for online ebook**

### **monica says**

#### **Cuando llegues a mi lado**

Muy linda donde los protagonistas tendrán que enfrentarse a un pasado doloroso para superarlos y tener un futuro pleno. la he disfrutado mucho.

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### **Maggie Shanley says**

Straightforward contemporary western romance.

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### **Miss Kim says**

First off, I hate the names Rance and Echo. Rance? It sounds like a disease. Echo? puh-lease.

Anyway, I did enjoy their story. Rance is an executive with his family's empire and is also a widower with two young girls. Echo breezes into town in her pink VW bug, and opens a books store. This is an opposites attract romance. He is uptight and stuffy; she is the 'new age' hippy that sells love spells.

I look forward to reading Keegan's story in final book.

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### **Cindi says**

Have read quite a few in the McKettricks series and like them all. Like how all of the McKettricks are so different, yet so much alike. Will read more about them and more Linda Lael Miller.

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### **Joanne says**

Echo bought a bookstore on-line and came to Indian Rock to start a new life for herself. She meets Rance McKettrick who is a widower with two girls. Echo has a big heart and is afraid of being hurt again and Rance is still running from the death of his wife. But true love prevails in the end.

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### **Dawn ♥ romance says**

I enjoyed this installment in the McKettrick series with an exciting ending and the whole pink car business

was cute but the first half moved kind of slow and I didn't feel the hero gave enough atonement. I'm not convinced he changed his habits toward loved ones. Single father Rance is attracted to the new book store owner Echo who just moved to town.

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### **Stacie M. Ritchie says**

This is a re-listen for me. It is the story of Rance Mckettrick and Echo Wells. The book opens with Echo driving to Indian Rock, AZ. She comes across a stray dog, Avalon, and takes her along for the ride in her pink Bug. Rance has focused on work since the death of his wife and leaves his daughters with their grandmother most of the time. The Mckettricks are rich and have a rich history on the Triple M Ranch. He meets Echo when she comes to town to open a book store. He lashes out to her and immediately gets on a plane with his cousins. Echo settles into life with new friend Cora and her granddaughters. Through differences of opinion Echo is target by a redneck-like man who wants Avalon for her puppies. Echo understands the tension with Rance, but doesn't want to be involved. They become involved and through more disasters, Rance realizes what is important. They come together in the end with their love. A great little read, and interesting book in the Mckettrick legacy.

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### **Stacy says**

As usual, yes this was cheesy and tropey and the romance moved way too fast but I can't help it with these smutty romance novels. They make me laugh and cry and want to fall in love.

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### **Melissa says**

This is the 2nd in a little mini-series that Miller has written about some modern McKittrick men. It isn't necessary to read any of the rest of the series or other books about the McKittrick's, but it is a little nice for background. To me, this was actually one of the better ones.

Echo Wells has just moved to town to open a bookstore, and in the process she nearly runs over handsome Rance McKittrick. Ranch is a widower with two young daughters who spends his time mostly away from his home on big business deals. He doesn't really need to work, but it helps with the pain of losing his wife. Initially wary of Echo he finds himself attracted to her and wanting to protect her. But there's not much to be protected from in their town, or is there?

Echo was a great character. Unlike most of the other women roles in the McKittrick series, she wasn't volatile or super-independent. Not that those things are bad at all, it just made for a nice change from the other books. Rance is a little less likable but at least Miller takes the time to explain why he acts the way he does. He has a lot of conflicting emotions, which is pretty realistic compared to some of her other characters. The side characters in this book actually aren't as prominent as they usually are but they are characters we are all familiar with from the other books (if you've read them that is). They were just kind of there instead of moving the story along. I do have to say that I liked Echo's dog though; maybe its just because she's an animal but I thought her mentions in the book were very sweet.

For a plot this one was actually pretty tame. There wasn't a whole lot of serious action or adventure or large

plotlines; but there were some minor plotlines carried throughout the book. Which made it seem more like real life than a book because often big events don't happen to everyone and its more the minute day to day life that people deal with. This was a romance so if you're not into the more risque type of reading, you probably don't want to read this one. Miller's writing style is pretty easy to read though and makes for a good book when you just want to relax.

Not a bad book in the series. I definitely enjoyed it and it helped me to look forward for more from her.

McKettrick's Pride

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Review by M. Reynard 2011

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### **Suze says**

#### **MCKETTRICK'S PRIDE**

Enjoyable western romance, good characters, loved the dog. One glaring problem, Echo left in the middle of the night from Rance's ranch-without a car?

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### **Shawn says**

Rance McKettrick is a single father trying to hide from the guilt he carries for his wife. He blames himself for her tragic fall. He can't look at either of his daughters without seeing her staring back at him. His daughters practically live with his mother-in-law, Cora, while he jet sets around the world on business. He's shut down his heart and has no intentions of ever reviving it...until a little lady in a pink beetle bug almost runs him over. Echo Wells, online entrepreneur, has arrived to open a bookstore. There's no time for men when there's books to be stocked and love potions to be mailed. With a little bit of Cora match making and two daughters in desperate need of their father's love, Rance must swallow his pride and decide what's important in life.

I liked their story best so far. While I consider Jesse/Cheyenne young lovers, Rance/Echo are wiser and more cautious. They make a good couple and the passion is hot. This is a definite keeper for my library.

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### **Emily says**

Best cowboys Series.

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### **Preeti ♥? (Romance She Reads) says**

The good, the mundane and the cheesy.

The story takes a while to settle in its skin. Being a part of a big hist-contemp series, the author felt the need to explain/mention certain things again and again, which was irksome. Also the characters, though individually well drawn, took time to mesh into a tangible landscape. But midway, the book gets more engaging, even with all the tropey-cheesiness.

There were times this book made me smile, enjoy the banter and the Texan-speak\*. It also made me swoon – even the easy-peasy romance and hea. But what made it a winner was when it started twisting and squeezing my heart - and not just because the h herself is overly emotional and fragile. The few *New Age* hs I've read before have been more cutesy-meets-brassy. So this h's always-close-to-tears persona and loneliness both draws and chaffs. But like the book she endures.

The h is named Echo, which was just short of weird-quirky. But when the story behind her being 'Echo' gets explained (view spoiler), I found it intensely poignant. All the angst is provided by her past and how it shaped her. And I totally got her reason to wait to use her real name again.

The H's ex mother-in-law was a much-needed positive and supportive character. The H's daughters, who bore the brunt (read neglect) of his own heartbreak over his wife's death, were real and lovable without being too clever or too cute.

And Avalon/Snowball, the dog brings up the rear for the unforgettable sec. characters.

As for the H's own hurting of the h (knowing she was in a fragile state of mind), I found it deserving of more groveling. But he wanders back with a charming grin and some Knight-Hero moves, and gets forgiven and taken back – into her bed.

But by the end, I was glad I'd read this book and known these characters – especially Echo, Rianna and Avalon.

\* 'Most Americans spoke English. Jesse spoke Texas Hold 'Em. Fluently.' So is Texan-speak equivalent to cowboy-speak? Because this book is Arizona based. Just asking, as a non-American.

\*\*The blurb is a bit misleading and confusing. When the book opens, we learn that the H keeps flying away often to run the family company – and would rather be a businessman than a cowboy. Only midway, he decides to settle as a rancher and give up going away so much to concentrate on his hitherto neglected daughters.

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## **Emily says**

Rance McKettrick can't believe the little pixie standing in front of him, with her pink VW and interesting outfits, he can almost forgive her crazy driving. When he decides to give her his opinion, she has no issue letting him have it causing the successful businessman to balk a bit.

Echo Wells has had enough heartache in her life and wants a second chance at finding a place that she can call home. Even though the ruggedly sexy cowboy has her flushed with desire, she doesn't plan to repeat the same mistakes twice.

I always like Linda Lael Millers books and this was another great one, the ending was a little too wrapped up in a big pink bow but aside from that entertaining throughout. Both Echo and Rance have their own demons they need to slay, together though they can do it.

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**Pam M says**

I really loved this book..it would have gotten 5 stars but the ending seemed abrupt to me. It was heartwarming, heartbreakin..I even cried. Would definitely recommend it

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**Una says**

I do love a good cowboy romance and this is one of the better ones that I've read in quite a while.

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**Linda says**

Good plot and interesting characters make for a good read!

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**Layne says**

The first three-fourth of the book was boring. Not enough about other family members, events in their lives, etc. But the last fourth of the book finally got interesting and exciting with a robber, a near drowning, a wife begging for forgiveness of her husband, loss of a uncle, a list and found dog being found, a marriage of Jesse and Cheyenne and more.

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**Shirlene says**

Echo Wells relocated to Indian Rock from Chicago. She was left at the altar and chose to move and start over again. She purchased a store front location in which to open a bookstore. She also had a web site from which she sold Love Potions. She picked up a stray dog along the way that she discovered was a white lab after giving her a bath. She called the dog Avalon and found out that the dog was pregnant. She posted notices on the web that she had found the dog.

She arrived in town just as Rance Mckittrick was dropping off his two daughters, Mauve (10) and Rianna (8) and his deceased wife's mother's (Cora) place. The Curl and Twirl was next door to Echo's bookstore. He had just gotten out of another lecture for leaving the girls with Cora again. He hadn't been around much since his wife died.

He was attracted to Echo and tried to stay away but with Cora doing things that brought them together and the girls seeing a lot of her while staying with Cora, they were bound to run into each other often. With the arrival of Echo, things started to change for Rance and he made a decision to let some of his business go and try his hand at ranching again. He had the property and he would be closer to home and his girls.

While Avalon was on the road she was picked up by Bud Willand and he is the reason she was pregnant. He and a friend found another purebred lab and got her pregnant with intentions of selling the puppies for money. Bud had lost his job. Bud found out about the ad and came to claim Avalon. The dog tried to bite Bud so Echo wouldn't let the dog go with him. Rance also paid him off. When the money ran out, he came

back and broke into Echo's place and Rance's brother and cousin had just picked up Echo to take her to dinner to interrogate her due to her involvement with Rance. Bud was caught and put in jail. Rance was called and came home from Tiawan where he had run off to escape his feelings for Echo. Bud made bail and tried to break in again at Echo's place. This time Rance was there to stop him. He went back to jail. His wife came to see Echo and asked her to let Bud off. She came with a note from his old boss stating that Bud's job was available again and he would leave her alone once he got back to work. She dropped the charges and he left town.

Part of Rance's problem with having a relationship with Echo was based on the fact that his first wife and he were having problems when she was killed. She had asked Rance for a separation because she was lonely while he was working and she was at the ranch alone. She was communicating with a man named Sam in California by e-mail. He didn't want to share information about their problems and he thought no one knew. He felt guilty about her dying. She had fallen from a horse and broken her neck at a horse show. Rance didn't know about the communications. He only knew that his wife had asked for a separation. He got up the courage one night to go through her computer and found the e-mails. He printed them and gave them to Cora. He found out that Cora already knew about them. Mauve found them in Cora's purse that night and told Rianna. Rianna ran away and it was storming. Rance was out rounding up his cattle so she called Echo. Echo drove from town trying to find Rianna who had headed to town in her pink, battery operated car. Avalon found Rianna who had overturned her car and was stuck in a creek. Echo got to her just as Rance, Jesse and Keegan arrived. They were OK, just wet and cold.

Echo's parents had died and she was raised by her aunt and uncle. She was not given much love by them and left home as soon as she was able. One thing that she had wanted when she was a young girl was a doll. She never got it. She resented her aunt and uncle for getting her things and she felt their children were given more. She received the doll one day out of the blue. There was a card with a note from her uncle apologizing for never providing much for Echo. Echo called the number on the card and the phone was answered by Hospice. Echo's uncle told her that he had always felt bad and he and his wife had divorced. He didn't see his children any more and he was dying of brain cancer. He didn't want to see her. He just wanted to apologize and tell her to have a good life.

Echo had also been contacted by Avalon's real owners and found out that her real name was Snowball. Snowball had four puppies the night she pulled Rianna out of the creek. Snowball's real owners eventually showed up to pick up Snowball and promised that she would return in the spring and give one of the puppies to Echo because they were too young to leave with her then.

The town found out that Echo was selling love potions and people arrived by the bus loads to pick up the love potions. Echo felt bad but they seemed to work for lots of folks. She sold a couple to people in town and they got dates for a dance coming up. The dance was the same day as Echo's 30th birthday. Rance asked Echo to go and he also asked her to marry him. Echo finally told Rance that her real name was Emma Wells. The book ended with Jessie and Cheyenne's wedding.

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### **Regina Mastrogiacomo says**

Wonderful books with romance, horses, dogs and more romances. I found this book very touching and I loved how all the characters fit together at the right time and place. It was never awkward, but very supportive.

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