



Moon Women

Pamela Duncan

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In the lush North Carolina foothills, the Moon women have put down roots: matriarch Marvelle Moon, who's losing her grip on the world after more than eighty years of life; her daughters, Ruth Ann and Cassandra; and Ruth Ann's nineteen-year-old daughter, Ashley, fresh out of rehab, unmarried, and three months pregnant. Despite Ruth Ann's best efforts to live a life that's all her own, her family is coming together around her. Marvelle and Ashley need a place to live and Ruth Ann is unable to turn them away; and her womanizing ex-husband has been coming around again, dredging up the past. Now a flurry of outbursts, emotions, and outrages is shattering Ruth Ann's separate peace.

For here is Ashley, who has spent nineteen years running furiously away from home, now finding herself on a strange journey with her unraveling grandmother. And here is Cassandra, protected by layers of obesity and loneliness, wondering how to put magic back in her life. And Marvelle, slowly losing touch with reality, privately contemplating the story of her life and the secret that would change everything for everyone—if they only knew.... By turns fierce and tender, harrowing and heartbreaking, **Moon Women** resonates with emotional power, holding us captive under its beguiling spell.

From the Trade Paperback edition.

Moon Women Details

Date : Published (first published August 7th 2001)

ISBN :

Author : Pamela Duncan

Format : Kindle Edition 386 pages

Genre : Fiction, American, Southern, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Adult Fiction

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From Reader Review Moon Women for online ebook

Wilma Eichler says

Loved this book! Many insightful statements throughout.

Shelby *trains flying monkeys* says

I enjoyed this book. Marvelle's character reminded me so much of my grandmother.

Linda Branham Greenwell says

This is a book describing the interactions between 3 generations of women ... their eccentricities and relationships.

A lot of time is spent on character development... but their characters are each influenced by the others... It will make you laugh and cry. You will recognize yourself, and come to understand how many of your idiosyncrasies are related to your family

Susan says

This book is about three generations of women of the Moon family who live in the mountains of North Carolina. We have the youngest girl, Ashley 19, who has been in all kinds of trouble and ends up pregnant and back at home. We have her mother, Ruth Anne who is at her wits end dealing with her daughter and her ex-husband. We have Ruth Anne's sister Cassandra, who at 40 is overweight and still single and we have their mother Marvelle Moon who is battling dementia. In this book the women all come together and learn life lessons from each other. I especially loved Marvelle who had so much wisdom to impart; she is the reason I finally gave this a five star rating. I loved the writing - it was very authentic. I also loved seeing how the characters evolved during the course of the book. There were also some great verses in this book such as...

"Creation," Marvelle said, "A baby's head has the smell of the creator's touch still on it, fresh from God, all new and untarnished by this world."

I recommend this book to anyone who loves to read about the strength of women and the love of families.

Tammy Adams says

Note to self - do not get any others books by this author! I don't like her writing style.

LyndaIn Oregon says

Reminiscent of Karen Spears Zacharias' work, this novel deals with three-going-on-four generations of women in a small North Carolina town, dealing with the changes in their lives, and with the things that don't change.

Ruth Ann Pratt is reasonably happy, alone in the neat little house salvaged from her divorce from the philandering A.J. Her mama Marvelle, and younger sister Cassandra live just down the road in an uneasy truce made wobblier by Marvelle's tendency to come unmoored in time and wander off. When Ruth Ann's wild daughter, Ashley, returns home from rehab pregnant and moves back in, things begin to change rapidly.

Donna says

A light, enjoyable read. No surprises (well, maybe one), no horror, no evil. Just a story about three generations of North Carolina women and their men and family joys and heartaches. Written in the dialect of the area, this book is engaging and earthy. I felt as if I could actually see and hear the characters as they went about their daily lives, and their relationships were realistic. This book reminded me of Fannie Flagg's novels. A nice break from some of the darker books I read. Very well-written.

Cindy says

What a delightful book! Three generations of Moon women living together and each has a story to tell. The characters are so interesting that you want to hug each and every one of them! I highly recommend this book and would most likely read another book by this author.

DeB MaRtEnS says

Long, long ago... I read this novel. I forgot that I had read it, and I read it again, in 2012. I have never reviewed it... Just one of those books from days before I did so, but it has never left me. I believe that I will read it again, if I can find a copy, and perhaps this time I should keep it.

Strong women with screwed up lives - not by choice; circumstance and opportunity, obligation or duty, relationships pulling them away from their gifts. The longer I've known them, the more I've loved them.

An utterly memorable book.

Deb (Readerbuzz) Nance says

I know these women. Actually,
some of them are kinfolk.
And I love these people; you

can't help but love these
ladies. Trouble comes and
the women deal with it, over
and over and over. Recommended.

Debby says

Moon Women is Pamela Duncan's debut novel. What a captivating, heartwarming and funny story with a great cast of characters!! It's about 3 generations of the Moon family women - grandma, mom and her youngest daughter. The story is set in the South and full of family drama, family love and yes, there's a family secret!

I will say for those who don't like to read books written in the manner in which a person who lived in that area would really speak - Moon Women is written in Appalachian English. To me, that makes the story and the characters all the more real and believable.

Moon Women is a very well written and enjoyable book. I will definitely be reading Pamela Duncan's two other books very soon!

Lesley says

enjoyable southern chic-lit book! I think most that like a good fun family inspired drama set in south will enjoy this!

Pamela says

In this local color novel about a family of women in North Carolina, readers watch the cross of generations as the characters grow and develop, even bloom. In fact, the characters almost live and breathe and walk off the page. One woman loses her job but gains a better perspective and acceptance of life. The pregnant out-of-wedlock daughter becomes the caretaker of the grandmother suffering from dementia, while the unmarried aunt learns to love herself. Even the men surrounding these strong women seem flesh and blood and agree that they'll never understand women (wise men!). In addition to the characters (the plot was predictable), the author's command of mountain dialect and the homespun wisdom are the threads that make the novel feel worthy of the reader's time and create an impression. The following passages were especially poignant.

"Sometimes people have said to me, Marvelle, have you had a good life? Well first off I'd tell them, honey, it ain't over yet. And then I'd tell them you can't go putting a whole life in one drawer, good or bad. They's a whole chest full of drawers and all kinds of things in there, little scraps of happiness, wads of sorrow, every now and then a whole bolt of joy. You can't look at the place where that's stored up and name it good or bad. They ain't no name for what it is, and that's as it should be. That's part of the mystery. . . . Before you know it, it's gone and all that's left here is what endures in them that traveled with you awhile, the ones left behind. You try to leave something to help them on their way, whether they think they need it or not. Chances are they won't till after you're gone. Then they'll be glad of it. They'll be glad and marvel at it and say, how'd she know, that crazy old woman? How did she know?"

"Ashley, when your young'uns drives you crazy--and they will, they can't help it--just remember they're only little for what seems like a few weeks, then they're grown and gone and you ain't got nothing but memories of their sweetness to hold on to when they don't need you no more. Even if you only get a minute of that sweetness a day that's what you'll take with you In this life, honey, seems like they's just enough sweet to get you through."

"You don't get tested just one time and that's it You get tested over and over again, and it's true what they say about what don't kill you only makes you stronger. But being strong don't mean you don't hurt."

Diane says

I love books about generations of women, their interactions, their struggles, their conflicts, and the love they share within a family. This is just such a book, about the grandmother, Marvelle Moon, her daughters, Ruth Anne and Cassandra, the granddaughter, Ashley and all the men in their lives. The book begins with Ashley coming home from a half-way house, 19, pregnant, and unmarried. Marvelle is 82, falling in and out of dementia while she remembers her long life with her husband and 12 children. Ruth Anne, divorced, and Cassandra, overweight and unmarried, are in mid-life, coming to grips with being the sandwich generation between their failing mother and Ashley. The plot unfolds and the past plays out for us in Marvelle's mind, and we learn about untold family secrets.

Liz says

The book was about 3 generations of the Moon women - with the grandmother, Marvelle Ann; the mother, Ruth Ann, and her sister, Cassandra; and the teenager, Ashley Ann. Marvelle is an eighty-two-year-old widow who is losing her mind and is ready to die. Ruth Ann is divorced and Cassandra has never been married. Ashley Ann was a runaway, but is coming home because she is pregnant. I enjoyed following their lives, reading how Ashley and Marvelle interacted with each other. A book about relationships between mothers and their daughters as well as the love relationships between Ruth Ann and her ex-husband A.J. along with Ashley with her baby's daddy - Keith. Marvelle also had a secret that she kept hidden even to the end, but she came to peace with it. In fact, all the women in this book came to some kind of peace at the end.
