



The Prisoner's Wife

Susan Page Davis

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Lucy lost Jack years ago. Jack Hunter's father was a drunk and a criminal, and Lucy Hamblin's father believed the apple lay near the tree. When her father forbade their love, Lucy buried her heart out of obedience, but she never stopped loving Jack. On a strange evening four years later, she's summoned to the local jail. Jack has been accused of murder and has a request to make of Lucy. It appears Jack Hunter will hang in the morning, and to preserve his property and provide for the woman he loves, he asks Lucy to marry him. When his trial is postponed and ultimately dismissed, Jack has new worries: Lucy agreed to become a prisoner's widow, not the wife of a man her father despised. Can Lucy and Jack accept the Lord's miracle of preservation - of Jack's life and reputation...and the love they believed they'd lost?

The Prisoner's Wife Details

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From Reader Review The Prisoner's Wife for online ebook

SheLove2Read says

Set in 1720 upper New England, this is the story of Jack and Lucy. Jack is condemned to die for a crime he didn't commit. Lucy is the lost love he had never really stopped caring about. In a moment of weakness, he asks Lucy to marry him so that his farm and possessions would not go to the townspeople who falsely accused him. Lucy agrees, wishing things had been different for them both, but believes in doing this one last deed for Jack, she can give him peace of mind before he is hanged.

Only, surprise, Jack is set free. Now these two must navigate a marriage and life together that they never thought would happen.

I picked this up free on a Bookbub promotion and was pleasantly surprised at how much I enjoyed it. It is an inspirational romance, but that element of the story is negligible. I found it very interesting some of the customs of Puritan times, before Maine, or even the United States was a country. This was very easily a 4-star read but I'm deducting one for how easily all their troubles were resolved. I would have liked to had more angst, even if it is an inspirational romance.

Angie Thompson says

This was an enjoyable read with some interesting twists on the stock marriage of convenience plot. Of course, the fact that the husband is marked for execution was different in itself, but I especially liked the fact that Jack and Lucy had known and loved each other years before and only been separated by her father's refusal to let them court.

I really liked the storyline, even though (or maybe because?) it wasn't non-stop action and drama. There was a lot of normalcy and day-to-day living, even with the unsolved mystery hanging over their heads, but it never felt tedious or boring. The dialogue did seem to waver back and forth between period-appropriate words and more modern-sounding constructions, but I enjoyed the characters enough that it didn't bother me a whole lot. The details of setting, daily life, household chores, etc., on the other hand, seemed very well-researched and authentic.

Jack and Lucy were both very sweet leads, although of course they had to eventually frustrate me by both assuming that the other didn't want any more than a marriage-in-name and that they'd offend each other mortally by suggesting anything more. (I had to stop and wonder, though--I gripe about this kind of thing in books all the time, but would I be any better? No marriage experience to look to yet, but I'm not a confronter. Yikes! Maybe I'd better be more careful how I judge fictional couples from now on...)

Actually, I think one of the things I liked most about this book was the rich cast of secondary characters. I expected from the blurb that just about everyone in town would be narrow-minded and snobbish, but they weren't at all! Of course, some of them were that way, but there were a lot of different shades represented, and some of Jack's adversaries were obviously just regular people doing their best to do their jobs, which was a refreshing change of pace. I also liked the fact that first impressions and suspicions weren't always reflective of the true state of things.

Content--kisses between a married couple (not descriptive); mentions of a married couple sharing a bed;

description of injuries from a beating (not graphic); a boy runs away and steals food, but this is resolved well; mention of a wife having to tend to her husband's needs while he's bedridden, but no specifics

Jewel says

Prisoner's Wife

This is the first book I have read by this author and I really enjoyed the story. It's short, but it packs a punch. There isn't a dull moment in this story and my emotions were twisted, my heart broken for the hero and heroine, then mended when vindication came. I really enjoyed the writing style and how it flowed. A great read.

Melissa says

What an interesting idea for a story. Jack is a good man that just wants to prove to a community he is not like his father. He has been in love with Lucy forever. Lucy is a spunky, hard working young woman I really liked. This is a sweet story with a Christian element that is a nice add in instead of an author using characters to preach. This is more the characters being real and living their faith. I just felt that it was a little silly how long it took them to talk to each other. That was overdone. This is a novella length story. Very chaste, there is a murder and some violence against the main character.

Nanette Littlestone says

Tender and Honest

Charming, tender, and honest, *The Prisoner's Wife* takes you on a journey of a love that is tested before the romance begins. The characters are simple and plain, but full of a deep and abiding passion for life and each other. It was a pleasure to read and I was sorry it ended so quickly.

Christine Byleveld says

Short story, with happy ending.

Jane says

A story of Jack blamed for a murder he did not commit. A town that held things against Jack just because of who his Dad was.

A hasty marriage that wasn't expected to last. A boy who runs away from home.

Forgiveness, Justice, and God's love unfolding in so many ways. God's plan does ever work the way we would think it.

The prodigal son leaves home to join militia but he was too young. Yet he does not return home for a whole summer. God's redeeming mercies and his return to his father. Yet God used all of this for other reasons. A story you won't be able to put down. Each chapter keeps you pushing on. I read it in 2 days. So be sure you have time to just sit and read all of it.

Brenda Poulos says

Love At Last

A tender story of love and caring as it grew out of the worst of circumstances. Faith in God plays a strong role in the lives of two people who reunite at long last and begin a life together as they depend on Him and each other. I thoroughly enjoyed the author's style and message. I look forward to reading more from Susan Page Davis this summer. I am glad to have "found" her! She tops my list of "must-reads" for 2018.

Eva says

Actual rating: 3.5

This was a fun little novel! I liked the characters, how the premise played out, and...the characters. :) So many of them were sweet and lovable.

Anneliese Dalaba says

Unexpected Blessing

“God causes all things to work together for good to those who love Him,” is what this story is about in my opinion. Jack is arrested and scheduled to be hung by the neck for something he didn’t do. In a desperate act to keep a vicious neighbor from purchasing his farm once he’s gone, Jack asks Lucy to marry him before he dies. When things turn out different than anticipated, how will they deal with their marriage of convenience?

I enjoyed both main characters. The story moves along nicely and the reader is left with a satisfying ending. I definitely recommend this book. Good writing and storytelling.

Hannah says

I enjoyed this unusual little tale. The main character was quite brave, and I loved how her relationship with her mother and then her husband played out. It's always refreshing to find eminently sensible, good-hearted heroines in the world of fiction.

Margaret Fraleigh says

This is the first book I have read by this author.

The story is about Lucy and Jack. Jack had asked for Lucy's hand in marriage, but her father would not hear of it.

Years later Jack is accused of a murder, which he had not committed. In order to keep his land and possessions from being taken by others, he asks Lucy to become his wife.

They meet Simon, a runaway and take him in.

This was a book, that I couldn't put down. Hope to read more books by Susan Page Davis.

Meanne says

Enjoyable

This is an inspirational romance that I don't normally read but Susan Page Davis has a way of making her H and h so appealingly and fundamentally good that you can't help but enjoy their journey to true happiness. The plot is not so unusual and the bad guy is obvious from the start but I still enjoyed it nevertheless..

Ingrid Rose says

A winner

This was one book in which I wasn't quite sure if Jack would remain in prison and the story would be about Lucy and her life as his wife as he spends the rest of his life in prison, while she continues working their farm and trying to prove his innocence. It if the book would be about her marrying him and him becoming free and how they learn to build a life together. I'm not going to write a spoiler except to say that Jack is imprisoned for a murder he did not commit. He married Lucy to be certain that if he is hung she will inherit his land. There is so much more to the entire story, including the why and how of his arrest, his desire to marry Lucy even while in jail, and what happens after they are married. Definitely worth reading. Another one I had to read in one day. Couldn't put down and will definitely be reading more of Ms. Davis's books.

Linda says

The Prisoner's Wife is a moving story that I will read multiple times. Jack and Lucy are complex characters I enjoyed getting to know as they struggled to reconcile their faith in God with unfair and undeserved difficulties. A fast paced book, the story is set in 1720, a time period about which I know very little. The author does a great job of educating the reader without being tedious or textbookish. I enjoyed experiencing

the day-to-day life of the pre-Revolutionary War times which gave me an appreciation of how nice it is to live in modern times - I can't imagine having to build or rekindle a fire just to heat some water for tea! Suspense about Jack's situation added depth, and I loved trying to solve the crime. Another excellent read by Susan Page Davis.
