



Godspeed: A Love Story

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When Derry and Amedee fall in love, it is a collision of destinies, and they are sure it will last forever. But when it ends in tragedy, Derry, beset by remorse and guilt, sets off on an improbable, reckless crusade for redemption. When it finally ends abruptly, he has found someone to help him build a new life from the ashes of the past, and readers are left to ponder a poignant question: How can a lie be wrong when it makes so many people feel so good?

Godspeed: A Love Story Details

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From Reader Review Godspeed: A Love Story for online ebook

Sarah Brillinger says

These two people meet (Derry and Amedee) and fall in love and are together for one year before tragedy strikes. Perhaps I'm a little jaded but the total and complete head over heels love that they have is most likely because the relationship is new...they haven't gotten to know each other well enough yet...haha. At any rate, I was literally crying at one point (seriously sobbing) so that's a testament to the author's strong descriptions that he could reel in a sceptic like me.

Derry's crusade regarding funerals wasn't clear to me until 3/4th of the way through the book so I was trying to figure out why every few chapters there was the story of a funeral. Once I figured out what was going on, it is a really sweet thing that he was doing. The short epilogue dives way into the future and that was also very sweet to read.

When Derry's funeral crusade gets stopped by an assistant DA who happens to be beautiful and single, I thought that was a bit predictable but I guess possible. If I was the DA, I would've been scared off by how much he still loved Amedee but there goes my scepticism again.

This book is a true love story. I can only hope that one day I feel the way Derry and Amedee felt about each other - if it's possible.

Stephanie Dagg says

Godspeed by Dan Chabot is many things in one book. There's intrigue, touching but modern romance, anguish, despair, hope and happiness, but above all originality. And it's not often you come across a book which features funerals and obituaries so centrally. It takes a courageous and ingenious author to weave such an excellent story out of these ingredients and Dan Chabot is such an author. His hero, talented journalist Derry Danaher, is a thoroughly likeable guy with an offbeat sense of humour. Through him we get to see what life on a provincial paper is like. Derry, however, lacks a "sole mate" but when the gorgeous Amedee walks into the office one day, it looks like he might have found her. Life is never straightforward, though, but because of Amedee, Derry goes on to make a difference to the lives of a lot of local people in a very generous and unusual way. And he makes a difference to his own life too.

This is one of those books that sticks with you. It's hugely readable and enjoyable, although you'll need to have your hanky at hand, and so appealingly unique. Set in the present and the mid-1970s, it's well paced and peopled by an interesting cast of characters, many of them the usual unusual sort of people you might in everyday life. The novel takes a realistic look at life and death and celebrates humanity. How exactly? Just read Godspeed and you'll feel better about the world.

iamjenai says

Godspeed is a love story which tells the painful yet satisfying journey of one man - Derry Danaher. Derry

works in a local newspaper called the Ledger as a reporter and feature writer. He believes that by working in that newspaper, he is doing something important, something that makes difference in people's lives. For Derry, he doesn't need anything or anyone in his life. When he lost his father, he went into depression and he doesn't want to go through the same pain again. Everything is working out well with him until he meets Amedee Carol Beauchene.

Godspeed is a very touching love story. I was deeply moved by this book, I cried and laughed with Derry and Amedee as I join them in their life together. I loved the building of their relationship. His love for Amedee is so pure, everlasting and I'm sure anyone who reads this book would want to find someone like Derry.

I also loved Derry's family and even work friends. The love and understanding they have shown him is unbelievable. Everyone at work had the compassion to offer any help to Derry, they did not hesitate to take him back even after six months of no communication. I sometimes wonder if that was realistic, to have that kind of support from people at work is just amazing.

The only flaw I see in this book was that the first 100 pages were kind of a slow read because of the flashbacks. I was never good in understanding stories with flashbacks so I just skimmed through those until I guess I was almost done with the story. When I finally realized how they are connected, I went back to read the earlier pages again.

The ending made me decide to finally give this book a 5-star rating even with the above flaw. I honestly think this would make a good Hollywood movie. If you are looking for a nice, heartwarming and encouraging story, you might want to pick-up this book.

Jo Notary says

218pgs, they meet on her first day of work together, and they develop a relationship they expected to last forever. but, it ends in heartbreak, compounded by the ignominy of a disastrously mismanaged funeral service, Derry descends into an abyss of devastation and remorse and despair. this tormented newspaperman embarks on an obsessive crusade for redemption, an astonishing twist that will leave readers tearful yet smiling in sympathetic admiration. His improbable, tender quest eventually will lead him to peace of mind, and to someone who will help him build a new life from the ashes of the past.

Dalene says

This book is definitely a love story, but it is also much more. I really enjoyed this book. I read it at a time in my life when I was so busy that I had to keep putting it down even when I didn't want to. The love story is amazing. Derry and Amedee are meant for one another. Their friends were also great characters and supportive of their love.

I loved the little inserts of the individual at the funerals sharing wonderful stories and not being known by the attendees. As I was reading, it was exciting to get to each one of these stories, but I did wonder how it fit in with the entire story.

This is a very different book than I have read ever. While there is a romance and love story, it was very different than others as well. However, the entire book, sweet and a great read, did make me think about life and what we do. A quick read (if you life lets you) and very enjoyable.

This book is recommended for anyone who has a heart, who has been in love, or who has ever genuinely cared for someone before.

Melissa T says

This book was a fantastic roller coaster of joy, sorrow, laughter, tears, family, and how it is that we all want someone to remember us after we're gone. Full review to come.

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

Dan Chabot says

Adding a review from the *Ravenous Reader* book blog. An excerpt:

Godspeed: a love story, yes, first and foremost is a love story. Love can come in multiple forms such as friendship, family, co-workers, a love, and it can be found on the pages of this wonderful book. My readers mind was full again. This book is also about friendship. It goes to great lengths to show the meaning of true friends, and how they are there for you when you need them most, even if you don't realize it. Cherish them.

Godspeed: a love story is poignant, touching, heartbreaking, uplifting, laugh out loud funny, cleansing, has a cast of characters you wished were your friends, and is one of those books that you want to share with everyone you know and don't know and tell them that they HAVE to read it. It has twists and turns that bring you to a scenic view of beauty and colors you can only find in nature and see with your soul. If you've had a bad day, week or month, it will bring you back to a place that you thought you had lost. It will restore your faith in whatever you believe in most, if only for a few hours.

I cherished my hours with Derry and Amedee.

See the full review at <http://ravenous-reader-book-reviews.b...>

Mya Murphy says

We all have regrets in life, but Derry's was his loss of his beautiful wife...felt her funeral was pathetic, and it truly was. In order to redeem other people instead of them just being forgotten, Derry wrote up some beautiful eulogies and even went to some funerals for the same reason :)

A really touching sweet story...

Christine Staszko says

This story sails along with a good batch of comical characters and a mildly interesting premise that I cannot reveal without giving too much away. It's interesting how everything fits together like a puzzle at the end of the book because sprinkled between the chapters about the main story of Derry's life are mini stories about various funeral ceremonies. The point of these stories comes to light at the end of the book, of course. The author does have talent because the story is clear and has an easy flow about it just like the peaceful lake on the cover of the book.

However, when all is said and done the story is not something I would jump up and down about. There is maybe one tragic part mid-way through the story that really grabs the reader, but beyond that the story is just a notch above being described as dry. While the main character does take up a somewhat interesting quest after this tragic event, the whole story just felt too hum drum. It was as if I had fallen into this "reading coma" where I knew nothing completely exciting or no new incredible revelation would be discovered by the end of the book. I appreciate the author's story about kindness, moving beyond loss, and helping others, but I look for more excitement in my reading then that. The main character's act is a bit questionable in terms of how realistic it would be and the possible negative outcome it could have.

Godspeed is a nice story with nice characters and gives you a nice little glow after reading it. That's all it really measures up to though, being a nice novel. The author has the talent to put together a great story which is evident in the thought and care that was given to this one. As a book it was an ok read but against the books I have read or will read, it probably won't stand the test of time or my memory.

*I received a free copy of this book for this review from the author.

LORI CASWELL says

Derry and Amedee meet during her first day on the job at the Milwaukee Ledger. Their love affair is intense and pure and should last forever. Life throws us curves and Derry receives a big one. Will he survive?
Dollycas's Thoughts

I purposely gave you a very short synopsis. I think the reason I had such a powerful reaction to the story was because I read it cold, with only scant details of where the story would lead.

It is a love story of an enduring love, told in a ingenious way that really leaves the reader solving a bit of a mystery. A rich tender story filled with emotion but tempered with humor and uplifting moments that balance out what could have turned this into a very heavy story. There is a message - an inspirational one - but this really is a story about life and how one man deals with the cards he is dealt.

Beautifully written, clever characters and the stories within the story, the testimonials, really moved me. My only criticism was when the author tried to take this old fashioned love story to a steamy place for a few paragraphs. The story is so strong he really didn't need to go there at all.

Have some tissues handy, pour a nice glass wine and curl up with *Godspeed*. It is a love story you will truly love.

Angela McLaurin says

I went into this book thinking I was going to read a traditional love story, and when I discovered it was written by a man, I was intrigued. This story was anything but traditional and Dan Chabot did an excellent job of delivering a work that was unique, thoughtful, and touching. I was a bit confused when I began reading; trying to figure out the timelines and where the characters I read about in the synopsis were. Their story soon came together as did the timeline and unusual funeral services I was reading about. The pieces fit together creating a beautiful story about a man who is so consumed with the death of his true love that he makes it his mission in life to try and make families dealing with grief have something special to remember their loved ones by.

"It's all so fleeting anyway. A hundred years from now, who'll remember any of us? All the people we ever knew will be dead, too. As least one day maybe somebody will find your obituary and you'll live again for a moment." Dan Chabot

It hard to write this review without giving away anything in the plot that you need to discover yourself as a reader. What I can tell you, however, is that Dan Chabot has an eloquent way with words that wove together a story I won't soon forget. Derry's crusade to help the mourning was a touching tribute to Amadee and a testament to his belief in true love; be it the love of a woman, friends, or family. Their love was beautiful until it came crashing down around them and I cried right along with Derry as he tried to pick up the pieces of his life and move on. The end of the story brought everything together brilliantly and it all became apparent to me. The funeral scenes made sense and I was left in awe thinking how brilliantly he had crafted this story.

This is a romance, but don't expect lots of steamy love scenes and angst. They aren't there. All you will find is an old fashioned journey of a man who was so affected by the woman he loved that he fabricated a web of beautiful lies to help ease the pain of others who were grieving as well. Grab some tissues and power through, knowing that the story will all come together and you will be touched by this charming story of love, loss, and *Godspeed* to all of those left behind.

"Isn't a beautiful lie better than the boring, mundane, maybe even unpleasant truth, especially when it eases somebody's sorrow, makes their grief a little easier to bear?" Dan Chabot

Wg says

An uplifting, unique story of love, regret and redemption. A very "Good Read". I won this book through Good Reads giveaway.

melydia says

The structure of this novel is quite unusual: most of it is the unbelievably saccharine tale of Derry and Amedee's storybook romance, interspersed with the occasional chapter describing the funeral of some random person. The plot shows up about halfway through, adding quite a bit of interest to the characters' journeys. This reads a bit like the author took a bunch of anecdotes about real people, embellished them a little bit, and strung them together into a story. There's no villain or even much conflict to speak of, but the characters are reasonably memorable and the funeral bit is an interesting touch. If you're in the mood for a quiet, pleasant read that won't bring you down, give this a try. If you're looking for a piece of hard-boiled drama, look elsewhere.

Dan Chabot says

Godspeed has received an impressive and touching review from the *Ravenous Reader* book blog:

"Godspeed: a love story is poignant, touching, heartbreaking, uplifting, laugh out loud funny, cleansing, has a cast of characters you wished were your friends, and is one of those books that you want to share with everyone you know and don't know and tell them that they HAVE to read it. It has twists and turns that bring you to a scenic view of beauty and colors you can only find in nature and see with your soul. If you've had a bad day, week or month, it will bring you back to a place that you thought you had lost. It will restore your faith in whatever you believe in most, if only for a few hours."

You can see the full review at <http://ravenous-reader-book-reviews.blogspot.com/2010/07/godspeed-a-love-story-by-dan-chabot.html>...

Here's another review, this one from Midwest Book Review. I could never be so brash as to rate my own book, but Midwest Book Review says "*Godspeed: a love story*" is "highly recommended." I'm not sure what "highly recommended" translates to in the way of stars, but how about a modest four?

Here's part of what they said:

"With a strong message of friendship and the power of interpersonal relationships, "*Godspeed*" is a fine addition to general fiction collections, highly recommended."

--Mary Cowpers, Midwest Book Review

The full review is at:

<http://www.midwestbookreview.com/mbw/...Dan ChabotGodspeed: A Love Story>
