

# A round-up of romances

Christine Craig brings a story of cowboys, hitmen and a family mystery in "Blame It on Texas."

Zoe Adams, a school teacher, came to Miller, Texas to spend her time as a waitress at Cookie's Cafe in order to get some answers. Having seen an episode of Unsolved Mystery Hunters about a missing girl from a wealthy family has brought up some strange memories of her own - of calling her mother Mom 2 and the possibility that she may be the missing Bradford girl. She's also getting strange phone calls warning her to leave town. But Zoe came for answers and she's getting them - by looking through the files of the local private investigator.

Tyler Lopez isn't interested in romance and he just wants to protect the Bradfords from fortune thieves posing as long lost and believed dead girls. But as he and Zoe come in contact, the more he starts to believe that she may be telling the truth. Is Zoe who she says she is? What really happened to her as a child? And just who is threatening her now?

This is a funny romantic romp full of mystery, humor, hot guys and plenty of Texas attitude.

"Blame It on Texas" is published by Warner Forever. It is \$7.99 and 464 pages long.

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New York Times best-selling author R.C. Ryan brings more hot cowboys to the scene with "Josh."

Josh Conway is a Wyoming rancher along with his two brothers, but also is a mountain climber. He answers an emergency call about a photographer lost in a blizzard and immediately springs to action - only to be confronted by the photographer in question - the capable and confident Sierra Moore, who doesn't need any man to save her. But



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while Sierra's determined to get her photo, she is willing to come in out of the storm and take refuge at Josh's ranch. But danger seems to be following Sierra, and not just from the storm, someone from the past is closing in, and both Sierra and Josh could be in danger! There's plenty of hot cowboys, action and romance in this heady mix of a series that will leave you breathless.

"Josh" is published by Warner Forever. It is \$7.99 and 384 pages long.

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New York Times best-selling author Brenda Novak weaves the tale of a Hollywood bad boy and a no-nonsense publicist in "When Lightning Strikes."

Gail DeMarco has had enough of Simon O'Neal's wild ways and cleaning up his messes. When she makes an offhand comment to the press, she suddenly finds herself minus Simon as a client, no big deal, but he also takes all of her other clients with her! Now Gail's in the uncomfortable position of having to apologize if she wants to save her business.

Simon's going through a nasty custody battle with an ex and when a member of Gail's firm leaks a negative story in retaliation, is suddenly in an even worse position in the public eye. He needs to prove to the custody judges - and the world - that he's giving up his partying lifestyle and bad boy ways and is going to settle down. His manager and Gail come up with a very bizarre plan - to enter into a "business" marriage with Gail and head off to her small town life in Whiskey Creek to stay out

of the public eye, and then to quietly divorce a year or so later. It's so crazy it just might work, except there's one problem - neither Gail nor Simon expected to start to have feelings for each other. Will their in-name marriage prove to be anything but?

I love "marriage of convenience" stories and the glittery backdrop of Hollywood and celebrities was just icing on the cake. This was a highly entertaining romance that I stayed up all night reading.

"When Lightning Strikes" is published by Mira. It is \$7.99 and 448 pages long.

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New York Times best-selling author Emily March returns to Eternity Springs in "Nightingale Way."

Reporter Catherine Blackburn's marriage collapsed when her daughter died. She's since thrown herself into her work - and into danger. Her investigations has put her in dangerous positions before, but her house has been fire-bombed and threats have continued. But someone manages to infiltrate her security, immobilize them, and kidnap her - her ex husband, Jack Davenport. It turns out her husband kept a few things from her during their marriage - like being a field agent. And he's taken her back to his home in Eternity Springs to keep her out of harm's way. But being back under one roof with Jack may be igniting long-forgotten fires. Can Jack and Cat find their way back together? Or will danger overtake them both?

This is a story of second chances at romance and healing past hurts that will warm your heart.

"Nightingale Way" is published by Ballentine. It is \$7.99 and 310 pages long.

**■ ■ ■**  
New York Times best-selling author Dorothy Garlock tells a Depression-

era love story in "By Starlight."

Maddy Aldridge is doing what she can to keep the family business afloat. And unfortunately, that means allowing a speakeasy to be run there. Little does she know that her link to illegal activity will bring her in contact with Jack Rucker, the man that broke her heart. Years ago, Maddy and Jack were sweethearts. Jack promised to return home and marry her, but never did and instead, settled into a career. Now an undercover Prohibition agent, Jack has returned home to put a stop to the speakeasies in town.

While Maddy and Jack still have feelings for each other, the secrets they keep are threatening to tear them apart again. Is there any hope for a second chance at romance or has Maddy's brush with the other side of the law jeopardized that forever? This is a sweet historical romance that's gentle romance will tug at your heart.

"By Starlight" is published by Grand Central Publishing. It is \$25.99 and is 369 pages long.

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A local author will be signing his books from 4-7 p.m. tomorrow at the Harkersburg library, Harold Nicely teamed up with Robert Wheeler for "Amelia Earhart Betrayed" a novel that attempts to put together the puzzle of Earhart's disappearance. The authors get into the mind of Earhart throughout the story, weaving a tale of spies, intrigue, danger and more.

Those interested in the mystery should give this novel a read, written by two experienced pilots.

"Amelia Earhart Betrayed" is published by American Stripes. It is \$14.99.

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