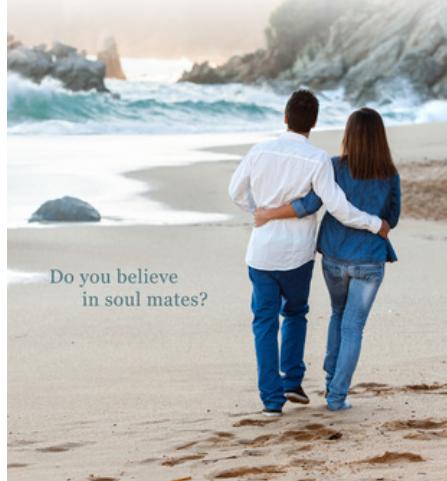


Sara's Promise

Deanna Lynn Sletten



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Do you believe in soul mates?

William Grafton had the perfect life with his lovely wife, Sara, and two wonderful children. But one day his perfect forever was shattered when Sara died suddenly, leaving him alone to raise his children and wonder how he would ever get through life without his soul mate. Five years later, he finds himself looking into a familiar pair of blue-green eyes that remind him of Sara. The woman is the exact opposite of his late wife, yet he finds he is drawn to her. But after a few strange occurrences, he begins to wonder—are these just coincidences or has his Sara come back to him as she once promised in the form of this new woman?

Annie Paxton doesn't believe in soul mates or fate. She had watched her father die of a broken heart after her mother passed away and has since cast away any fairy tale ideas of love. Then she meets the man who has been haunting her dreams and she begins to see love in a whole new light. But her dream man is still tied to his deceased wife, and Annie doesn't know if he will ever be able to break away from his past. As strange occurrences unfold, Annie wonders if William could ever truly love her for herself and not for the traits that remind him of Sara.

Were William and Annie brought together by fate, coincidence or by Sara keeping her promise?

2013 Finalist in the National Indie Excellence Book Awards for Romance

2013 Semi-Finalist in Best Indie Books from The Kindle Book Review

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From Reader Review Sara's Promise for online ebook

Donna Dv says

Pretty good book

When I first started this book I wasn't sure if I wanted to continue reading. I am glad I did. I was a very good and enjoyable read.

Wendy Janes says

William believes he has lost his soul mate when his wife, Sara, dies suddenly. Five years later he meets Annie who is the only woman since Sara who has attracted him. She's very different to his wife, but Annie has her unusual blue-green eyes. Annie doesn't believe in soul mates, but William turns out to be the man of her dreams (literally). William and Annie do a lot of soul searching to discover whether they have been brought together by chance or destiny, or maybe they are fulfilling Sara's promise.

The combination of a love story with hints of the paranormal attracted me to this book, but it is the characters and their relationships that make the bigger impression. Annie is a lively, independent, attractive woman, who is putting the difficulties of her childhood behind her in order to make a success of her life. Outwardly down to earth, she is unnerved by her colourful, lyrical dreams and other strange coincidences that keep occurring. William and his family are so vulnerable; it feels natural that Annie is drawn to them and plays a vital role in their healing process. I like the creative way in which Annie gradually helps William's daughter to work through her guilt, and how Annie's relationship with William's son is gently handled. Annie and William's nigh-on instant rapport is lovely, and his guilt about Sara's death and his struggle to love Annie for herself add depth to his character. William's good looks make him irresistible to Annie, and this reader.

While the characterisation is good, I'd have preferred the handling of the paranormal aspect to be left more open. I enjoyed the coincidences, especially the subtle, slightly disquieting things that happen when Annie first visits William's house, but as the story progresses I found there was just a bit too much explanation and repetition. That said, Sara's influence adds a level of intrigue and enhances the will-they won't-they love story.

Lynelle Clark says

I got to know Deanna Lynn Sletten through BookBlogs and posting about this new book's release in early December 2012. It was a honor to meet her and work with her making this book a success. A Contemporary Woman's fiction Romance that will keep you busy. Fast paced, well written to the very end. Leaving you with no questions but just the thrill of reading a good book.

She asked me afterwards to review the book and I was pleased that I agreed to do this.

A delightful Romance with all the twists and turns of a new budding relationship. You are drawn into the lives of William, Annie, Sandy, Sam and Sara's. Sara, the first wife who vowed to always look after them

even when she was gone, sending Annie in her place to look after her family. To love them and care for them as her own.

Deanna really captured the essence of these two people as they struggle to get past the hold and love that Sara had in his life to be accepted as a person herself. To not continue with the same mistakes he made in his first marriage but accept her for who she is.

Driven by dreams Annie found her way to the small Seaside town where this family lived and through many "coincidences" they met and become part of each other's life. Through the turmoil William and Annie found love, the grown children accepting her as a part of their lives. I really liked both Sandy and Sam's characters each playing their part to bring these two people together. Determined to see their father happy.

I good read that I can recommend. The love were sweet, their growth as a couple mature and well sketch to become part of the characters life's during the read of the book.

Well done Deanna.

Kathleen says

Do you believe in soul mates? Do you believe in everlasting love, even after your loved one has passed away?

Two women pass away ... as they are suspended between life and death, they engage in a conversation which leads one of the women to urge the other to take her place among the living so she can love and take care of her family as if they were her own.

When Sara Grafton suddenly dies, her husband William and teenage children Sandy and Sam struggle to go on with their lives. Sara vowed to always look after her family, even through divine intervention from beyond the grave.

Five years later, the Grafton family is still struggling with grief over the loss of their wife and mother.

Annie Paxton doesn't believe in soul mates and isn't looking for love. But when she meets the man who has been haunting her dreams, William Grafton, she feels an attraction for him.

William isn't looking for a replacement for the soul mate that he has lost, but when he meets Annie, there is a familiarity about her that attracts him to her.

Can Annie and William's relationship blossom into love, or will William's love for his lost soul mate hold him back from having a second chance at love?

Will Sara's Promise to always take care of her family bring happiness and love back into their lives ... even through divine intervention?

Sara's Promise is a poignantly touching story about soul mates and everlasting love. It is also the uplifting story of love, loss, hope and forgiveness. Author Deanna Lynn Sletten weaves a captivating tale of love and forgiveness that will simply pull at your heartstrings. Told in the third person narrative, the reader is swept along with Sara, William, Sandy, Sam and Annie on a journey of healing and love given through the cycle of life. Through a beautiful crafting of words, Deanna captures the essence between life and death; the struggles of loving, losing and second chances; and the belief that everlasting love does exist even after death.

The author draws the reader into the lives of Annie Paxton and the Grafton family as they battle individual personal conflicts while trying to maintain their family structure. The emotional battles and life changes that occur in their lives are realistic, the reader can easily relate to them. You can't help but feel for Annie and the Grafton family as their journey of healing is fulfilled through Sara's heavenly promise. Throughout this story, the author effortlessly provides the reader with the uplifting message that love, hope and forgiveness transcends death. *Sara's Promise* will make you a believer that soul mates and everlasting love really do exist!

With a realistic cast of characters who come alive and jump off the pages; a richly detailed and descriptive setting along the Oregon seaside; and a simply inspirational storyline that will have the reader experiencing the full gamut of emotions, *Sara's Promise* is a tenderhearted story of love that will touch your heart and soul, and will resonate with you long after the last page has been read.

Disclaimer: I received a copy of the book from the author in exchange for my honest review and for hosting a virtual book event on my book review blog site.

<http://jerseygirlbookreviews.blogspot...>

Angie says

Heartbreaking story of tragedy, loss, and new love. Enjoyed this book and the fact that it was based in Oregon!

Norma Budden says

A beautiful story of love which is redeemed even from beyond the grave. As one woman is forced to say good bye to a family she loves, she urges another to take her place through a conversation between both women as they were suspended between life and death.

I was mesmerized by this story from the beginning and it was definitely worth the time invested. It's a book I will remember for a long time to come - not only because of the story but because of the compelling cast of characters. They became a part of me, much the same as if they had been my own creation.

Susan (The Book Bag) says

Once again, I am blown away by another beautiful cover! And that question ~ *Do you believe in soul mates?* ~ I love to think that it is possible to have a soul mate. There has to be some reason that certain people 'find' each other.

'I just know,' Sara said. 'Even if something happened to me, I'd still find a way to be here for you and the kids. That's how strong our bond is.'

Sara's Promise is such a lovely story about everlasting love, with a little bit of magic from up above, trying to make things right. I loved the references to the colorful, beautiful lights that seemed to me to represent the

peaceful journey one takes when passing from one world to the next.

Annie doesn't want to fall in love ~

'She saw what love had done to her father, how it had destroyed his life, and she knew she never wanted to love anyone that deeply. It was too painful to lose the one you loved.'

~ but when she meets William, there is something there, some kind of attraction that she doesn't understand. And William is not looking for a replacement for his soul mate, Sara, but he feels drawn to Annie. But can he let Sara go and find happiness and love again?

Sara's Promise is a wonderful story that I just got lost in. Deanna writes such warm, beautiful words that makes one just keep reading and reading. I did not want to put the book down, I did not want to leave Sara's world.

Julie Ramsey says

Sara's Promise

Sara Grafton loved her life. She took care of her family and they needed her. Her children meant the world to her. Her husband was her soul mate. She told him more than once that she would be with him forever and take care of their family. And then the unthinkable happened. Sara died. William was lost. Sara took care of everything. He didn't even know where she took the dry cleaning. She had said that she would always take care of their family and now it was all on him. For five years he took on all the challenges of being a single parent. Til one day when he

met Annie. Annie who has eyes the exact color
as his Sara did. He felt drawn to her instantly.
When he is with her he feels so comfortable after
such a short time and he cant explain why. There
is just something about her that makes him feel whole
again. Annie has been having the same dreams for years.
Above her in the sky is beautiful color like ribbons
that bring warmth and comfort but there is someone
else there showing her the face of a man and his
family and telling her that they are her destiny, her
fate. She doesn't believe in love and happily ever
after so fate has no place in her life. But when
she meets William for the first time, she knows that
he is the man from her dreams. She feels close to him,
so fast and that is not like her. Can she believe in
love and be a part of this family that needs her as much
as she seems to need them. Can she accept that Sara
has brought her to them to care for and love.

Review: another great book. The author did a great
job of giving the characters such strong feelings that
its easy to get drawn into caring for them. Even Sara
who you can feel throughout the book. Annie is such
an easy character to like and identify with. And
William and her story is so sweet. But the most touching

part of the book is the dynamic between Sara and her daughter, Sandy. With Sara dead and gone, the writer is still able to heal the relationship between the two women. I easily recommend this book to you all.

Theresa F

5 of 5 stars

complimentary book given for a free review. juliesbookreview.blogspot.com

Luisa Rivas says

This was a perfect lovely book about afterlife, love beyond death and new beginnings. It was not sappy, it was wonderfully poignant and full of sentiment. I liked both William and Annie and loved the otherworldly touches of Sara and the brilliant colors. I also find this one of the best written books I've read lately.

Dianna says

I have to say honestly that every book written by Deanna gets better and better. I have a lot of favorite authors such as Danielle Steel, Karen Kingsbury, but Deanna Sletten is right up there with them. I cannot wait until the next and the next and the next. She is completely awesome.

This story touched the very inner feelings of my heart. Whether you believe this could happen or not is strictly your decision. But, I can guarantee you you will be very happy that you read it. This should make a great Christmas gift.

Much luck on this book Deanna and may your holidays be blessed. I am now you official older fand club.

Mandy Jones says

A heartfelt story of love, loss and finding your soulmate. Deanna brings to life the characters and makes them real to the reader. The story line flows smoothly. You follow the cycle of life within the pages of this story. The reader will be hoping, crying and rooting for the happy ending to come for Will and Annie. This book make even a cynic want to believe that there is someone out there for you, even in the mists of tragedy.

I really enjoyed this book.

Lindy Kralicek says

Angels above

Sara's promise is not what I expected, but it was amazing. It truly is about finding love through grief with the help of angels guiding you to the one you're supposed to be with. This book will keep you guessing. Great read

Sandra says

A captivating tale of love and forgiveness, Sara's Promise will convince even the most skeptical among us that soulmates do exist. Realistic and well-developed characters draw you in from the start and keep your interest up as they battle personal conflicts while striving to hold together as a family. Although certain elements might require suspension of disbelief, this uplifting story offers a message of hope and is sure to touch your heart, if not your very soul.

Annette says

Loved this story!

Ann Swann says

If you've read Deanna Sletten's work, then you know what a deft touch she has with her characters. Sara's Promise follows that same tradition. The characters are real. They will make you cry, cheer, and cringe, but they won't let you down. In the long run, Deanna's story is one of forgiveness and hope. It is also about the cycle of life, and this is touchingly illustrated by the way the beautiful cover ties in with the ending of the book. All in all, a lovely, lovely love story.
