



## Knight on the Texas Plains

*Linda Broday*

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## **Knight on the Texas Plains Linda Broday**

"Linda Broday's heroes step right out of her books and into your heart." —**JODI THOMAS**, *New York Times* bestselling author

**He'll do whatever it takes  
To keep them safe**

Duel McClain has lost everything he's ever loved: his wife, his son, his sense of self. But when a strange twist of fate—and a poker game he'll never forget—leaves an innocent little girl in his care, Duel vows to defend his new family to his very last breath. If only he knew a single thing about taking care of babies...

Just as Duel swears his life can't get any more complicated, a beautiful woman stumbles into the light of his campfire, desperate for help. Jessie Foltry is hungry, tired, and running for her life. She agrees to help Duel care for the child in exchange for his protection, even as she fights to guard her broken heart. But Duel will do whatever it takes to make Jessie see that the Texas plains have more than one kind of knight, and perhaps their salvation is closer than either of them could have dreamed...

## **Knight on the Texas Plains Details**

Date : Published August 1st 2017 by Sourcebooks Casablanca (first published October 2002)

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Author : Linda Broday

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## From Reader Review Knight on the Texas Plains for online ebook

### Carole (Carole's Random Life in Books) says

This review can also be found at Carole's Random Life in Books.

This book was simply a delight to read! I was completely swept away by this wonderful story filled with characters that will stay with me. I used to read a lot of western historical romances but haven't picked up in years. I really decided to read this book on a whim and what a good decision that turned out to be. This was a book that was nearly impossible for me to put down once I started reading and I ended up finishing it in less than 24 hours. This book had so many wonderful elements that just seemed to work together flawlessly.

Duel McClain is a character that I won't be forgetting anytime soon. At the start of the story, Duel wins a little girl in a poker game. It quickly becomes obvious that while he has good intentions, he has no idea what he is doing. As luck would have it, Jessie finds her way to his campsite needing help. She is able to help Duel care for Marley Rose while he works to keep her safe. They have all been through some really tough times but together they seem to be stronger and really make a wonderful family.

I fell in love with these characters. Duel was such a good man. He was always trying to do the honorable thing and put other people's needs above his own. Jessie went through some horrible things before meeting Duel. She is a survivor and doesn't make excuses. She is honest with Duel from the very beginning despite what she thought it might cost her. She was such a caring person and her strength never ceased to amaze me. Marley Rose really helped to bring them together. The love the three of them shared really melted my heart.

I thought this story was really original. I am always looking for something that is a little different when I pick up a book. This one was a pleasant surprise. Duel and Jessie had such vivid and heartbreakingly real backstories that I was immediately hooked. Their romance was built on trust and respect and was at a much slower pace than I would have expected. There was plenty of excitement to keep the story interesting and the end of the book turned out to be quite intense.

I would highly recommend this book to fans of historical romance. I am really excited that this is the beginning of a new series because I can't wait to read more. This is the first book by Linda Broday that I have read but she has definitely captured my attention with this one.

*I received an advance reader edition of this book from Sourcebooks Casablanca via NetGalley.*

### Initial Thoughts

What a wonderful story this was! Duel and Jessie were wonderful together and Marley Rose was too cute for words. It has been a really long time since I picked up a western historical novel and I am really wondering why that is because I loved reading this book..

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### Patriotic Bookaholic says

The way that Linda Broday writes Knight on the Texas Plains, you think that you are right there with Duel trying his best to take care of a baby named Marley Rose that he won in a card game; he has no clue of what he's doing! It's not until Jesse stumbles in his camp, all bloodied up, that you wonder what is her story and

what is she hiding? As we learn more about Duel and his life story (which includes a dead wife and unborn son), you can't help but to feel his pain for what he went through and why he does the things that he does.

There was a moment when I thought everything that both Jesse and Duel worked for was gonna be taken away from them. But the true defining moment of this book was when Jesse told her story of why she ran and where it might lead her; it was truly heartbreaking to read. I don't want to give much of anything away of this great book, but the way it ended was perfect for this couple that had endured much pain before finding their happy ending. (And that's no spoiler -- Linda Broday always promises a happy ending to her stories.)

My thoughts after reading this book were: is there gonna be a second part to this story? And why have I only in the last few months discovered this great western author who writes a story that stays with you long after reading it?

Thank You to Linda Broday for reprinting this great story that I want to see made into a movie!!

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I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book from Lone Star Book Blog Tours!

I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book from NetGalley!

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### **Patty Nobles says**

I am a reader who tends to get emotionally invested in the books I read, but I have never felt more enmeshed with characters than I did when I read Linda Broday's latest novel "Knight on the Texas Plain." Ms. Broday created a story and characters that made you feel the raw emotion in a way that you feel as if you the reader are living their lives. Duel McClain just wanted to play some cards and have a drink when the man he was playing with put his tiny daughter up for his bet, and when Duel won he found himself wondering what to do with the beautiful Marley Rose. As he was contemplating his current situation Jessie Foltry stumbles into his camp half dead, and after reassuring her that he would keep her safe the two settle into an uneasy truce. These two broken people must find a way to become whole in order to give Marley Rose the home she deserves, but when the past catches up they prove that love and faith are more powerful than any outside force. I was given an advanced copy of this book, and all of the opinions expressed in this review are my own.

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### **Tonya Lucas says**

I've read many westerns during my time, many that have remained embedded into my very soul. But one truly stands out above the rest. Linda Broday's Knights On The Texas Plains.

Duel, Jessie, and Marley Rose have weaved themselves into my very heart and soul. This is my second time to read about such an amazing trio who lived and loved beyond any measure one could possibly understand, unless you experience their journey, firsthand.

Marley Rose will capture your heart and soul.

Duel and Jessie will strengthen your belief, that love does conquer all, even when the chips fall where they may.

Linda Broday is an exceptional and gifted author that truly can delve into such powerful subjects that very

few authors will chance. Her ability to write straight from her heart and deliver powerful stories makes her the premier author she is today.

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### **Tonya Lucas says**

Knight on The Texas Plains will weave a stitch in your heart that will remain forever. Linda Broday has a way of delivering a story that you will never forget. Duel, Jessie, & Marley Rose are unforgettable and you will forever believe in the miracle of Love, Fate and The power of giving. This books is a remarkable story that will stay with you long after you finish.

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### **Mei says**

If you like a bittersweet romance this is the book for you!

Two broken human beings are brought together by fate.

Duel is a widower who lost both his much loved wife and their newborn son. While wasting his days in a haze of pain he wins during a hand of cards a baby girl. He doesn't want her, but the baby's father threatens to sell her and Duel cannot permit it, so she takes her with him.

Jessie was married to a monster who tortured her, beaten her, branded her like cattle, kicked her baby from her womb and raped her while unconscious rendering her barren. After 8 years she felt that she couldn't take it any more... and she killed him when he threw her to his henchmen to use her...

They meet when Duel is trying to feed the baby and Jessie, beaten, stumbles on them.

So they stay together out of necessity: Duel doesn't know what to do with the baby and Jessie needs to run.

The story develops from there. There's no withholding secrets between them. They reveal to each other all their secrets and recognize early on that they're better together.

Their feelings for each other are another thing. They're attracted to each other, but it's difficult to speak of that and to acknowledge it. So it takes them long to get there, but when they do it's shining and beautiful.

This is a sweet story and really heart-melting. Beautifully written and a pleasure to read!

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### **Angela Shirley says**

Linda Broday deals with real life issues and has taken the time to develop her characters in this book of 35 chapters. This book is set in Texas, 1880 and in the first chapter we are introduced to Duel who wins a baby in a game of poker. Little did he know this baby would literally save his life and make him care about life

again. Then in comes another person that needs his care - a woman dealing with some serious issues and who becomes near and dear to him. It is not an easy journey for this instant family of three and this author is able to make her readers feel every emotion her characters experience. This book is not just about bad things, Linda has managed to mix in hope and romance and there is a happy ending. This book reminds us that in spite of our own personal challenges, there are still good people out there that are caring and we should never give up on ourselves. Well done Linda!

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### **Anna's Herding Cats says**

Reviewed for herding cats & burning soup. (live 8/3)  
Amazon: <http://amzn.to/2tf67EC>

Well I'll be adding more of Linda Broday's books to my wishlist. Knight on the Texas Plains... total book goodness.

The Gist: Since his wife's death Duel has given up on life. He's got nothing to live for until one night changes everything and his hands are suddenly full of a whole heap of female he needs to pull his shit together for--a tiny baby girl no one wants and an injured woman with secrets to hide. His only plan? Head back to his family ranch and start trying to heal not just himself but two women who are just as broken and wounded as he is and counting on him.

Oh my word. These two. Duel and Jessie have both been through horrible things. Loss, abuse, hopelessness. They made me hurt for them but also cheer them on as they fought to pull their lives together and overcome what they'd been through. It could be ugly and heartbreakin but was wonderful seeing them heal and get to know one another.

Their romance was very slow going but it suited their situation and made them finally figuring things out even more powerful and moving.

And then there was their little girl. Well, their adopted baby girl who was wagered in a card game and who Duel took in even though he had no clue how to raise a toddler. She was so stinkin cute and such a little force that pulled people around her and brought an extended family back together. Animals, too. I loved her whole herd of protectors she'd amassed by the end.

There was some suspense dealing with Jessie's past that had my gut churning. I loved, though, how her new family rallied around her even when she didn't feel she deserved it.

All in all, Knight on the Texas Plains was powerful romance as three broken individuals with nothing to live for found home, hope and love with one another. I teared up a few times, laughed quite a few and would eagerly spend more time with this ragtag pieced together family.

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### **Holly Full Moon Bites Book Reviews says**

WOW!

I am not sure what I was expecting when I started reading Knight on the Texas Plains. Besides Diana Palmer, I've actually read very few western romances. This one is set in the past as well so, historical western romance. The description of this book made me want to pick it up ASAP though!

The book starts off a bit slow as you delve into the past and the western world but it quickly picks up the pace when our hero, Duel, gains a baby by the name of Marley Rose in a poker game. Not long after he picks up another stray, Jessie. Unlike the babe though Jessie is more of a mystery, and one covered in blood.

However, as a man who has no clue what he is doing with a baby Jessie is a godsend-- Duel doesn't think twice about asking to tag along with him to his old town of Tranquility. It's obvious something bad has befallen her.

Jessie was an incredibly strong woman who had more will than most to survive. How she did, and not come out of it crazy or just plain mean or meek is amazing. She is super compassionate and even though she is skittish at first it becomes obvious that there is a spark between her and Duel.

Jessie is not the only one with a past though and it is not easy for Duel to overcome his either.

I was crying by the end! More than once author Linda Braday had me tearing up with the love and hardships these two have to overcome. I could not have asked for a better ending, and I am looking forward to reading more by her!

I would recommend Knight on the Texas Plains to anyone who is a Diana Palmer fan. In a way it puts off the same vibe but it is also historical so you get the best of both world! I will be adding book two to my bookshelf!

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I received an eBook copy of this title for free from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

### **Betul says**

\*\*ARC provided by publisher in exchange for an honest review\*\*

Historical Western Romances have a special place in my heart. I just love the simple, pure, raw and hard-working lifestyle many had back in those days. It wasn't an easy time period to be alive, but it was very rewarding. The blurb of Knight of the Texas Plains piqued my interest. One of the reasons that made me decide to read this story was because of the main character Duel, who was thrust into the role of father to an abandoned baby. I just love when there is a child involved in the story, the interaction between child and parent is beautiful to read. Duel doesn't really know what to do with the cute baby girl Marley Rose. He tries to keep a distance but eventually he bonds with the baby.

Jessie stumbled up to his campfire in bruises, and Duel does what any gentleman would do and offers her a safe place to spend the night. Jessie is a very strong and caring character. I loved how she took to the baby

right away and how the clueless Duel asks for her help with the baby. Both Duel and Jessie keep their distance because of their own reasons and things that happened in their past. However Jessie learns what a loyal, honest, protective and honorable man Duel is and her feelings for him change. I loved that the author took her time to develop their relationship with both each other and Marley Rose. Marley definitely stole many hearts in this book, including mine! There was a very open communication between Duel and Jessie, which I really appreciated. I can't wait to read the next book in the Texas Heroes series. Hopefully Duel's brother Luke will get his own story.

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### **Hebby Roman says**

Linda Broday's "Knight on the Texas Plains," is a heartfelt rendition of life in the Old West, fraught with danger, heartbreak, and evil.

Duel McClain is a man who has lost everything, including his will to live. Jessie Foltry is a woman who has lived with evil for eight long years, and the damage runs deep, both physically and emotionally. Brought together by chance and bonded by their mutual love of an orphaned baby, they learn to deal with their internal demons and, in the best spirit of the West, move forward with their lives in order to care for the child.

Jessie and Duel, despite their pasts, form the cornerstone of a family of misfits, along with the unwanted child they shelter, a stray dog, a nasty nanny goat, and lots of help from the wider McClain clan.

Their innate spirit, kindness, and faith help them to overcome the devastation of their pasts to find love again in the most unexpected of places. When Jessie's life is in danger, Duel moves heaven and earth to help her and keep his unusual family together... and growing.

If you love stories of the Old West with all the flavor of the times, along with a sweet and tender romance, you'll love this story, and like me, you won't be able to wait until you read more about the McClains!

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### **Diane K. Peterson says**

This western historical romance has it all! An abandoned baby! An abused woman! A widower that lost his wife and baby! An injured dog! An ornery goat!

This is a reprint of a book written in 2002 and maybe it shows, but I have to agree with our hero, Duel McClain, when he says "somehow (it) works together." Duel is the modest, loving hero every woman really wants. Poor Jessie has had a horrible life with her very abusive husband. Baby Marley Rose ranks at the top of the adorability scale.

The book could have been a mess of overblown tropes, but it isn't. Instead, it is sweet, gentle and heart-warming. Yes, I cried, more than once. This is a feel-good story in the very best sense. I loved it.

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### **Sophia says**

A baby won in a poker game, an abused woman on the run, and a man not looking to be anyone's hero come together one night on the Texas plains. I was all in to get their story from an author who writes Western

Romance like few others can.

Knight on the Texas Plains had a big opener that grabbed me from the first moment. I couldn't put the book down when I only meant to read a few chapters. Duel McClain is a tarnished, reluctant hero in his own eyes and carries around a lot of guilt, but I loved his sterling, tough character right away. I melted when he took both a little girl and a woman so abused that she was terrified to be near him. And when he calls them 'his girls'... just le sigh...

The historical backdrop is a western in flavor, but this one hit on some societal issues of the time which gave it depth and emotion. The subjects of abuse, self-defense, and legal recourse along with married women's rights play a prominent role in this story. I was infuriated on the part of Jessie who suffered and people knew of it. Call me bloodthirsty, but I was satisfied that she shot the fiend who abused her for eight years. The courtroom drama was another form of excitement there at the end.

Due to the abuse Jessie underwent and their marriage of convenience, this was a slow burn romance. The sparks were there and I loved how this pair respected and cared for each other. Neither thought they were worthy while the other saw them as more than worthy so I loved how they went to work convincing each other. Surrounded by Duel and the McClain family, Jessie and Marley Rose flourished and both were in love with their Texas Knight.

In summary, this was a deep, moving, romantic, and suspenseful western romance. I am eager now for Luke's story and pretty much have this author and her books on autobuy.

My thanks to Sourcebooks Casablanca for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Teresa says**

From the beginning pages, Duel McClain's story had me hooked. Once he met Marley Rose and then Jessie, I didn't want to stop reading. Mrs Broday has done a masterful job of bringing the old west to life. Throughout the well paced story, there was suspense, tears, fear, revulsion, and no shortage of laughter and joy. I didn't want the story to end. Once again, Linda Broday has written an outstanding story that I won't soon forget. This is a story you don't want to miss!

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### **Lover of Romance says**

This review was originally posted on Addicted To Romance

**Knight On The Texas Plains** is a bitter sweet romance that brings together a family, a family that all are lost souls until they find each other. We begin with our hero, the **KNIGHT** of the story. This isn't your normal knight in shining armor (although he might as well be wearing some) while playing a card game, somehow wins a toddler, and even though the last thing he needs is another human being to care for, he can't seem to say no to this sweet child that deserves better than the father she happened to be saddled with. While on the trek back to his folks home, he stumbles across an injured woman, a woman who has obviously been suffering from severe abuse. He offers marriage as protection and Jessie agrees. This story is so powerfully

written in only the way that Linda Broday can writes a romance. What I did admire about this book however were the tough topics that she touched on. I don't mind seeing the effects of abuse or this form of PTSD. Even though it can be heartbreaking to see, its very real and I loved how real this author made it to be without it overshadowing the actual romance that builds between Jessie and Duel.

What a FANTASTIC book this turned out to be and I just flew through the pages on this one, before I realized it the book was over and I was feeling like WHAT?? ALREADY...NO!! hehe Yes that was my exact thoughts because I fell head over heels in love with **Knight On The Texas Plains** and this book quickly won my heart. Now there were some unique aspects to the story that make this different from most romances I have read. Our little baby girl, has such a beautiful and sweet way of adopting family and animals to her side instantly. It was quite hilarious to be honest, seeing how this child was so enchanting that she brings people to her and aids in healing and past hurts and traumas from all types.

The romance builds slowly and sweetly, but is ever so endearingly written. Duel and Jessie learn to rely and depend on each other as partners and they see that life may get rough but as long as they have each other, they really can accomplish anything. Jessie is in a bad spot, she has a past, and some enemies and in order to save herself had to resort to some difficult decisions and now her past is coming back and could destroy everything she has built with Duel. Jessie's story is simply heartbreaking to be honest. Seeing the ways the she is abused by her late husband, and then having to go through a challenging process to clear her name brought some tough emotions to the surface. What is very powerful about this wonderful story is the love this family has for each other, the way the stand up with Jessie through this tough time, and seeing Jessie face up to her past and find some healing and inner peace that she deserves. This story goes through all of the emotions and you begin to see the power of fighting for what is right no matter how hard it is and what a sweet reward you find at the other end.

This story is simply endearing, packed with powerful message of humanity and the true healing power of family and love!!

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