



Home in the Morning

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Glickman's debut novel—available now as an ebook

A powerful debut from a new literary talent, this novel tells the story of a Jewish family confronting the tumult of the 1960s—and the secrets that bind its members together

Jackson Sassaport is a man who often finds himself in the middle. Whether torn between Stella, his beloved and opinionated Yankee wife, and Katherine Marie, the African American girl who first stole his teenage heart; or between standing up for his beliefs and acquiescing to his prominent Jewish family's imperative to not stand out in the segregated South, Jackson learns to balance the secrets and deceptions of those around him. But one fateful night in 1960 will make the man in the middle reconsider his obligations to propriety and family, and will start a chain of events that will change his life and the lives of those around him forever.

Home in the Morning follows Jackson's journey from his childhood as a coddled son of the Old South to his struggle as a young man eager to find his place in the civil rights movement while protecting his family. Flashing back between Jackson's adult life as a successful lawyer and his youth, Mary Glickman's riveting novel traces the ways that race and prejudice, family and love intertwine to shape our lives. This ebook features rare photos and never-before-seen documents from the author's personal collection.

Home in the Morning Details

Date : Published (first published January 1st 2010)

ISBN :

Author : Mary Glickman

Format : Kindle Edition 233 pages

Genre : Fiction, Historical, Historical Fiction, American, Southern

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From Reader Review Home in the Morning for online ebook

Marsha says

Mary Glickman turns this relationship novel into a page turner. I often find myself rushing through the what can feel like background when a good story line is slowly being revealed, the four main character and their life experiences kept me riveted to the page. And while I often find a book dealing with a social ill such as racism can become didactic, Mary Glickman never allows her message to remove us from her story.

Susan says

Home in the Morning takes place in the turbulent years of the 1950's and 60's, in Guilford, Mississippi. The Sassaport's, are a well to do Jewish southern family living in Mississippi.

Jackson, is the eldest son, and is overly protected by his mother, a genteel southern lady.

Living in the south during the 1960's was horrible enough, but in this story the divide of White, Black, Christian or Jewish was worse. There were hazing, beatings, civil rights movement, and anything to cause the divide of White and Black. He becomes friends with a Afro-American boy, named Lil Bo'key.

In the house is Katherine Marie, a Afro American housekeeper. They become close friends. He's friend Lil Bo'key and Katherine Marie become boyfriend and girlfriend.

Jackson, a reform Jew eventually does leave Mississippi, to go to college at Yale University. He meets Stella Godwin a Orthodox Jew. They eventual marry and move back to the south. Where he rebuilds his friendships with Katherine Marie.

Jackson, has a younger brother that is coddled by his mother. He is troubled, lazy, and is often in trouble for one thing or another. But, he's mother always seems to help him out of the trouble he gets out of by paying someone off.

My Review: I read this novel, because the author is from Charleston, SC. Not too far from my house.

I picked up the novel, Home in the Morning because I liked the synopsis of the Jewish Southern experience during the 1960's. Has to be a great read, right. Sorry to say it was a let down.

Anyway, it took me about 100 pages in to finally connect with the characters, and finally understand what was going on.

Finally after the 100 pages, I was captivated by the story. I kept wanting to flip the pages, it was getting intense. But, by the end of the book, what a let down. I am not going to tell you, just in case you may want to give it a try. I did not like the ending it ended abruptly.

I think the author had a good story, but it just did not go anywhere. I really enjoyed one part of the story when the cousin, Lil Mo and Jackson ganged up and threatened his brother. I wish the author had done more about this part of the book. Also if she wrote about the Jewish Southern experience during the 60's, and Jewish-black divide. This would have enriched the novel, she did snippets but nothing more.

I really wanted to like this book, because of the reasons stated above. I really cared about the characters. I grew to them except for Jackson's brother. There are many other readers that did enjoy reading, unfortunately I was not one of them.

Lisa Cermak says

I loved Glickman's book! The characters spoke in authentic voices, the themes were captivating, and the story itself brought back memories of the turbulent 60s! I can highly recommend this to anyone looking for a good read! I wasn't excited about reading it on the Kindle (I like to hold my books), but once I got started, I couldn't put it down - and now you can get it in paperback. I'm looking forward to Glickman's next one, soon I hope!

Kelley says

Wow, what a story of tensions on so many fronts. North vs. South, black vs. white, Jews vs. Southern society, Orthodox Jews vs. Reform Jews, civil rights, brother vs. brother are all displayed in this novel. Interesting storytelling device, starting in 1995 and looking back at various incidents in the lives of the characters to show how they were changed and transformed. The author's style is such that dialogue is not enclosed in quotation marks, so very different stylistically. Great story that keeps the reader wondering how the characters got here. Two thumbs up!

Miki says

Really engrossing read with interlocking stories of Jackson, a Jew raised in the South, Katherine Marie, an African American about his age, who crosses paths with Jackson at a young age, Stella, Jackson's irrepressible wife, a Jew raised in Boston, and Li'l Boaky, an African American man who was one of Jackson's first friends. The timeline moves back and forth through three major points in time: Jackson's childhood, the summer of a pivotal incident, and the present day. Don't want to say much more to avoid spoiling revelations, but this was a completely fascinating story, with some unexpected twists, and really well-developed characters. Beautifully written as well.

Renee says

A story about Jackson Sassaport, son of the Jewish town doctor, and his life growing up in Guilford Mississippi in the 1950's. The story is centered around Jackson's experiences and troubles with race, religion, prejudices, social class, friendship, and secrets kept. It was interesting to me because this boy was disliked by some because he was Jewish, yet he was expected to treat blacks differently as well. I enjoyed reading this book, as it gave me a new perspective on growing up in the south during the African American civil rights movement. I did, however, find that the ending was a bit rushed. I also felt that some of the characters were inconsistent. But overall, a good read.

Alexie Milton says

I finished the book with a sigh of satisfaction. It's nice to have a book that's about relationships - real relationships - that's both intimate while still being strong. What I particularly liked was the unusual voice, that's new and different without being hard work because it's so 'literary.'

I was quite surprised to see that people thought it ended abruptly. What I liked most about the book is that it doesn't fall into the trap of being some cliched Southern plot that ends up in a court room with justice done. It's not John Grisham OR Harper Lee, but its own thing - a book about relationships against a particular backdrop.

So it has my vote. I'll be interested to see if the author can sustain this kind of talent in her next books.

Dianne says

Well, I didn't really think I'd come across a new "take" on the Southern novel, but this one is probably it. Glickman has done a really good job of presenting some characters with strong, original personalities, and a slightly different emphasis on the more traditional "strong Southern woman," as well.

The story moves from the late 50s-early 60s in Mississippi, where the civil rights movement is beginning, then shifts forward in time to 1995 and presents the same characters in their present lives, after they have returned to Mississippi to live. The characters have been acquainted with each other for a long time, and much has happened to mold their characters and personality in the time. I loved the characters of Jackson and Stella, and also loved the way Katherine Marie was such an important character in both their lives. Mombasa (L'il Bokay) was well drawn, too.

All in all, a mighty fine read! But did I miss something? What happened to Bubba Ray?

Lisa says

I am so excited to read this-a present to myself-a book by a brilliant friend. Due to obligations last week, I had no time to read this until now. And so on this cold day, I am hanging out with this incredible story and my afghan. :-)

I have to be upfront and say that Mary is my friend so I opened her book with a bit of trepidation along with excitement. I have other acquaintances who have written books and I have to admit I put them aside after a few pages. But during the second or third chapter of Home in the Morning, as I was caught up in the world of 1960 in Mississippi- I said-oh my god-Mary wrote this book! I had forgotten-the compliment to being swept away by Mary's novel.

I was captivated by her writing-a true wordsmith. Now that I have finished the book and followed the story line to its conclusion -something that kept me intrigued right to the very end- I plan on rereading it to savor her descriptions and language play.

I have always been fascinated with words-preferring songs with great lyrics to ones with good tunes. Mary has composed a poetic symphony.

I found the story line fascinating as I lived through the turbulent 60's, a time of change, a time of race riots, even for Northerners, a time of marching in the street protesting the wrong in the world while trying to do what is right in our own little worlds as Mary's characters tried.

Truly, all I can say is- when is Mary's next novel coming out? I am now an eager as well as loyal fan.

Ruthie says

The premise of the book sounded intriguing - Southern "reform" Jewish family living in the South, protagonist Jackson observing the racism against the Black population while facing anti-semitism both overt and discreet. The author sends Jackson north to Yale where he comes across a Jewish girl from a more conservative Jewish family and her snobby family (who for poorly described reasons doesn't seem to like her, or anyone).

The execution is inconsistent. There were some story lines that were very revealing, some characters who were well drawn, and then some instances where characters are mere caricatures. There is a scary brother, a cousin who all of a sudden pops in and out of his life, a mother whose behavior is so inconsistent and silly that it defies belief, and a father who starts off as a strong character and then is tossed aside.

There is a big feud between two women in Jackson's life, it is a thread that connects many incidents in the novel, drives one of them to fits, and yet, when the actual cause of the feud is revealed is a trifle that is tossed into the narrative and never explored. Many issues that should have been delved into were not, and many times a scene builds and builds only to fizzle out.

This book felt very disjointed and unfinished. I do give the author credit for attempting to tackle a different take on growing up in the South/race relations/identity.

Martha Davis says

I was lucky enough to win an e-copy of *Home in the Morning* from Book Club Girl to prepare for her Blog Talk Radio, Book Club Girl on the Air interview with Mary Glickman. Sadly, the day after I won it my Nook power cord died and I wasn't able to read it in time for the interview. I did listen anyway and it only made me want to read the book more. (You can click on the link to hear the interview)

Well, I was finally able to charge my Nook and the first thing I did was to read *Home in the Morning*.

Logically, if I thought about it, I would know there had to be a Jewish community in the South but when I

read the premise of this book I was a little surprised by it. I guess I just think Southern Jew right off the bat , but when I think about it “Shalom, y'all” does kind of rock.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I loved the characters (okay, not so much Bubba Ray) and I found the story captivating. I had been reading a lot of easy reads over Christmas so I liked that the story wasn't a straight linear tale. Bits and pieces of Jackson's life are told as needed to fill in the events happening in the beginning of the book.

It was very interesting reading about what it was like to be Jewish in the South at the start of the Civil Rights Movement. I was fascinated by the tenuous accord that was made by the Jewish community to fit in with their neighbors and by the upset this new movement must have meant to them Whether or not to take sides, which Jackson most definitely did.

I loved the women in this book so much. Stella could have been a caricature of the do-gooder Yankee in the South, who bulldozes over everyone in her path, of just to good to be true. Instead she was multi-layered and very real. I absolutely loved her. And Katherine Marie, who could have been easily a one note character was warm, deep, and very well rounded. There's no way you can't realize why Jackson and Stella are so drawn to her. Even Jackson's mother Missy Fine Sassaport could have been a cartoon of the typical Southern belle, instead Glickman created a woman who tried to see the best in her sons, but saw their faults as well as her own, and tried to raise them the best she could.

I was totally engrossed in this story, I'm still getting used to reading on the Nook and I couldn't put this down. I was so sad it had to end and would love to know more about all the characters. I hope there is more to come from Miss. Glickman.

Amber says

A lovely book about the lifetime of a Southern Jewish man and his friends and acquaintances in the Civil Right's Era and the aftermath of that era. I loved the characters and I also loved that while the author did a back and forth in time through the writing, it never left you so hanging on the edge of a cliff that you wanted to skip ahead 30 pages to see what happened. I probably wouldn't have picked this book up except it was \$3 for my Kindle. I'm glad I did tho, good read.

Carl Kowalski says

Home in the Morning is spectacular, filled with detail but never losing sight of the big picture, a terrific slice of life from a watershed period in our country's history and told from an intriguing point of view. Mary Glickman's vivid sense of character and place, and how they inform action, renders her first published novel compelling and seductive: I can't wait for the next one! I'm sure many of her earlier, unpublished works should now see the light of day, and the reading public will be well-served indeed if that occurs.

PopcornReads says

Although Home in the Morning touches briefly on generations before the mid-20th century, its main story

spans the turbulent and transitional period between the early 1950's through the 1990's in the town of Guilford, Mississippi. The story revolves around the Sassaport family, a Reform Jewish family, living in the Deep South during this period. To read the rest of my review, go to <http://popcornreads.com/?p=1056>

Schnelle says

I think this book was...interesting. For me, reading this book was stepping way out of my comfort zone (I am more of a chick-lit, fun, light, scandalicious (yes, that is my word) type of book reader. Occasionally, I pick up a "heavy" book full of deep thought and insight.

This was that book.

Bookclub recommendation: Don't go from the Fifty Shades of Grey Trilogy to this one. The adjustment is pretty brutal.

It took me forever and a day to get through this book. I am a heavy book reader. Although I can only read during my commute I read around 50 pages at a time so I get through them pretty quickly.
This book took me 2.5 weeks to complete.

The writing was good enough, it was the story that I found hard to get into. I was confused a lot of the time. I found myself often drifting off then turning back the pages to figure out what happened...the story didn't keep me engaged. The plot line was good but it took me a long time to figure out where the story was going. There were some parts that got my heart racing but those were very few and far in between.

Even though our book club meeting is coming up soon, a few of the ladies felt the same way. It was a long drawn out read, and they did not know what was happening most of the time. There were a lot of time changes as well. The story would jump 30 years in the blink of an eye.

Did I mention no quotation marks? That alone made me crazy!

One positive about this story is the way the author showed the struggle of the Jewish population down south. I had never known before that they were discriminated against as well—almost as bad as African Americans. It was a real eye opener for me to read about the struggle the Jews had in the 1960s.

I suppose when I read this book I was looking for something else based on the description, but it just didn't live up to all of the hype to me.
