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Leigh Greenwood

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The first historical romance in the Seven Brides series about the Randolph brothers—and the women who tame their hearts.

WANTED: A WOMAN TO COOK, CLEAN, AND WASH FOR SEVEN MEN

To penniless, friendless Rose Thornton, the advertisement seemed like an answer to her prayers, and the incredibly handsome man who hired her seemed like a dream come true. But when she first set eyes on her hero's ramshackle ranch in the wilds of the Texas brush country, and met his utterly impossible brothers, Rose decided even George's earth-shattering kisses weren't compensation enough for the job ahead of her.

Never in her life had she seen a place more in need of a woman's touch, or men more in need of a civilizing influence. The Randolph brothers were a wild bunch—carving an empire out of the rugged land, fighting off rustlers and Mexican bandits—and they weren't about to let any female change their ways...not until George laid down the law and then lost his heart to the beguiling spitfire who'd turned all their lives upside down.

Rose Details

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Author : Leigh Greenwood

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sraxe says

DNF ~30% of the way through.

A major factor in my dropping this book is the instalove and the "romance" in it. Soon after they've met and he's recruited her to work for him, she's all "perilously close to falling in love with him." What the hell? You've known the guy for barely a full day. And then later when he says he wants to be in the army rather than marry and have children, she's all heartbroken and "disheartened" and "lost" and "like a ship whose rudder had been wrenched off in a collision with a hidden shoal" and that "her future yawned before her, empty and somehow dangerous."

...

You've known the guy for two days. **TWO DAYS**.

Later she's all that she's "aware that her determination not to marry an army man was growing weaker." Oh, and this is *after* he's already said he doesn't want to marry or have children.

The whole relationship so far feels so forced and Rose is so overly presumptuous about marrying George and things to do with George. George, too, was all instaloving over her and it just had me rolling my eyes.

The entire "love" aspect of this novel felt so inorganic to me. There was absolutely no chemistry between the leads and it didn't feel at all real or believable. With that, all the moments and interactions with George and Rose felt overly forced and because there was so much dedicated to them it felt overly saturated. A lot of it was also the author telling us rather than showing. This contributed to the forced factor of the entire "relationship" and I feel it took away from the book and my enjoyment of it. I enjoyed the moments with the family and those interactions but I hated anything and everything to do with the two protagonists.

I think the author thought she was putting in sexual tension or pining but I didn't see any of that. Maybe if we'd been able to see the two main protagonists before they met one another -- seen their lives before the other came into it...BUT, we don't. Right from the very beginning we have Rose checking George out as he walks into the restaurant. I was being told rather than shown all these things about their instalove.

Their entire romance feels as though they're being forced together--like I said, inorganic--rather than allowing two characters to come together naturally.

Lisa Kay says

[turns the table over on the brothers due to them acting like pigs (hide spoiler)]

Lady Claire, Marchioness of Fancy Pants says

A lot like Seven Brides For Seven Brothers, the musical, which is AWESOME.

Elise-Pinterest+Goodreads=The Perfect Book Boyfriend says

I had a difficult time getting through this book. The story line was pretty decent, however, because there are so many brothers, it took me awhile to get all the names straight (a long time). I got tired of Jeff's constant whining and bitterness. His complete unwillingness to accept and forgive Rose, and honestly, she didn't do anything to deserve it. He completely got on my nerves. Since this appears to be a series, I guess I will skip to his book because I am, at this point, not interested in the other brothers book. TTFN-Sandy

Sarah says

I love old west romance but I had a hard time finishing this book. All in all, I just couldn't get caught up in this story. I liked Rose but thought the hero, Geroge, was just kinda boring. I found the other characters, Geroge's brothers, much more interesting and since this is the first book in the series this author has written a book for each of them. I picked up think book intending to read the entire series, but I don't think I will end up reading any other of the Seven Brides books.

Gisele says

Me lleve una gran sorpresa al terminar el libro y enterarme que la autora era en realidad AUTOR. Nunca pensé que un hombre estaria detras de la serie Siete Novias. En realidad nunca pense que un hombre encontraria el gusto de escribir libros con romance. Esta serie me la encuentre hace poco y me llamo muchisimo la atencion. Es entretenida y aunque el autor no es muy conocido merece una oportunidad.

Angie says

One of my favorite romances ever. I've re-read it several times, and always enjoy it.

marieno says

It all started when I asked myself whether there were romances written by men. (I know it's a stupid question! I mean, why not?)

I found this series. I read the reviews on goodread and decided that I had to read it.

I don't know if it makes sense, but it seemed to me that Greenwood's writing was less judgmental than the writing of some female authors.

Rose is the perfect balance between delicate femininity and strength.

George wrongly believes his father's past is intended to be his destiny and refuse to get close to Rose.

And here are the other members of the family:

Madison: He is the missing brother, we don't really meet him. (book #2)

Jeff: He lost is arm in the War Between the States and hates all things "Yankee". (book #6)

Monty: The "hellraiser" twin (book #3)

Hen: The sensitive twin. (book #4)

Tyler: He is stand-offish. The one who is the more apart from the others. (book #5)

Zac: So cute! I didn't want him to grow up. (book #7)

Jaimey says

Wow. What an intriguing story. I was pleasantly surprised at how well I liked it. The heroine wasn't the least bit annoying as I've found to be the case in most books by Greenwood. It felt like there was something missing in the hero; I can't even begin to name what it was. But, all in all, I liked the story, loved the characters—especially Hen—found the conflict interesting, and while the ending felt a little forced, I even liked it.

Naksed says

The central theme of Leigh Greenwood's *Rose* is the injustice of having to bear the legacy of your parents in the aftermath of a civil war that pitted brother against brother, Southerner against Yankee, and left devastating wounds both physical and emotional that people worsened by hanging on to hate, suspicion, and prejudice long after the battles were over. It was an interesting premise for a romance, bringing together the daughter of a high ranking Yankee officer and an ex-Confederacy soldier but unfortunately, it did not work for me and I had to let this story go a little after the halfway mark.

As a historical novel, the issues mentioned above were dealt in a shallow way. I did not feel accuracy in the setting, especially with certain anachronisms that kept popping up in the characters' dialogue and inner monologue. As a romance, it also left a lot to be desired because of the wishy-washy hero and the desperate, calculating "insta-love" of the heroine. Though all the elements were there that I normally love in a historical western, or "ranch" romance, it did not have enough to keep my attention. DNF at around 57%.

Srisurang says

[illegible]

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

Rose is well-named. She's pretty, delicate-appearing and sweet. But she's also tough like a good strong rosebush. She's got nerves of steel. Otherwise, she would have went running for the hills when tasked with shaping up this family of brothers. The only two sweet brothers are the youngest, Tyler and Zac. Zac is still very young, and takes to Rose very quickly. Tyler takes a little time to be won over but he does fall for her because she understands his needs for peace and quiet in the midst of a loud, crazy family. The older brothers don't care much for Rose at all. Well George certainly likes kissing her and other things. But love is not on his agenda at all. Jefferson, who lost an arm in the war is trying to decide if it's worth living without being a full man. Madison never comes back from the war at all. The twins Hen and Monty are in their terrible teens and can't seem to stay out of trouble. And George is so messed up from the war, and in over his head with the ranch, he has no idea how to be a loving husband.

I was fairly surprised at how rough the males were in this book. They are like wild animals. They don't even bath or clean the house or themselves. Rose has to lay down some ground rules very early on. Thankfully George does support her. Yet, George is not a warm hero. I spent a while wondering where the romance was going to bloom. But it did. Rose is a strong woman, who endured much to claim this family and to mold George into a loving husband. But she does it.

This was my first read by Leigh Greenwood (who is actually a male), and I was impressed. It's a good romance novel, but also a good western. There are a lot of lessons about family in this story. The Randolphs are very real, not prettied up. They fight like cats and dogs, and say ugly things to each other. But somehow it made the story more interesting.

This might not appeal to all romance novel readers, but I sure did enjoy Rose. It started off an excellent series that I read from beginning to end.

Kagama-the Literaturevixen says

This reminded me so much of the movie Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, if you take away the singing and the kidnapping.

The heroine Rose trying to make a living works in a cantina where she dodges the male customers lecherous attentions and the grumpy lady proprietor of the cantina.

One day the hero, George steps into her workplace orders something to eat

When one of the other costumers make a grab at Rose she is defended by George but subsequently finds herself fired from her job for making too much trouble.

Downtrodden she walks out of there but to her luck hears that the man who defended her earlier is seeking a housekeeper to cook and clean for him and his brothers.

George is not at all keen to employ her seeing as she is a young and unmarried woman...but there is no one else who wants the job so its decided she has the job. They leave for his home and well there Rose realizes its not just the housework that needs taking care of.

If you have seen the movie you know where this is going ;)

So slowly she settles in and tries to both deal with housework and the brothers relationship ((they got issues))

This was if not a bad book, it was decent but I don't think I will find myself re-reading this or recommending it to others. It was just a bit too bland.

I would find myself thinking about certain scenes "oh that's sweet" but my interest in the couple never went beyond lukewarm. I just didn't get a sense of chemistry between them. It was more like they were convenient to each other.

The other books will follow the brothers way to find love but I am not sure it's anything I will choose to read in a hurry.

When they finally get together romantically it felt very forced.

Imogen Woods says

Not usually one for Westerns, I'd picked up this book during a long weekend break, expecting to be slightly bored. Not so! Leigh Greenwood writes a great epic romance, but also packs quite a series of adventures, so you're left panting after the plot.

First published in June 2005 by Leisure Books (Dorchester Publishing), Rose heads up the book series of seven brides for seven brothers. Apart from the name of that famous musical/film/TV series, the Seven Brides series has nothing to do with Stephen Vincent Benét's short, *The Sobbin' Women*. (Which, if you think about it, is quite scandalous. The men ought to be shot.)

For this story anyway, there's no crazy wifemaking although predictably, Rose faces off with a family of grubby boys-to-men, and becomes an integral part of their home. All the while looking very fetching while sweating it out over a gutted turkey out in the big, bad brush. Of course.

What was less predictable: the action, which starts from the first page and only eases up for a little while over meaningful looks and chaste kisses, before something else happens. Considering there are 7 brothers – which means two major characters and six minor ones – you had to wrap your head around quite a few names and all their hang ups, as well as latch on to the action, which comes thick and fast. But Leigh – who is a man! – writes well, reeling us in easily with his languid storytelling manner, and crafting characters so memorable, you have little difficulty figuring out who's doing what by the time of the first plot twist.

As for the sizzle quotient, mostly lots of sweet cuddles and kisses with one semi-explicit sex scene. Otherwise, a good old-fashioned romance that leaves the insides all gooey and happy.

I thoroughly enjoyed this one. Got it free from Kobo when they were having an offer, but now I want the rest and I'm willing to pay for the privilege.

Lover of Romance says

When Rose Thornton sees the advertisement for a cook for six men, she decides to take George Randolph on

his offer, after he rescues her one day at work. So not realizing what she was in for, she goes to the homestead and was shocked to see what she would have to deal with, concerning the Randolph men. When she arrives, the place is a pigsty, and wonders how any of them could live like this. There is George, the oldest. Then there is Jeff, the twins: Monty and Hen, Tyler, and the younger and still a child, Zac, who captures her heart from the first day. But out of all the brothers, it is George, whom she finds herself drawn to despite the circumstances that surround them, with their fathers having fought on both sides of the war. But despite all that, there is a sizzling fire between George and Rose, that starts to turn into love, what neither of them expected to find.

Rose is the first in the Seven Brides Series, written by Leigh Greenwood. I can't count how many times I have read this book, I just love love love reading it, so I thought it was about time that I read it and do a review for it. So here I am. Leigh Greenwood is one of my favorites to read from if I am looking for a good American Western romance, and is a male author, which surprised me at first, since there aren't too many male romance authors, that I actually know of, so it's truly a delight to find such a talented one. Every time I pick up Rose, I can't force myself to put it down, I just love it so much. I just love the idea of one woman civilizing six brothers (technically seven, but Madison doesn't show in this book) and can hold her own. Definitely my type of heroine, and the hero is the classic tortured, planning to never marry type, but knows deep down it's inevitable. So as far as a classic western romance, Rose hits the roof! Just loved it!
