



A Rush of Wings

Kristen Heitzmann

[Download now](#)

[Read Online ➔](#)

A Rush of Wings

Kristen Heitzmann

A Rush of Wings Kristen Heitzmann

When fragmented images and unfocused panic force Noelle St. Claire to flee her wealthy, sheltered life in New York, she gains sanctuary on a ranch in the Rocky Mountains. There Noelle finds solace in the breathtaking scenery she paints. But as the attentions of two brothers, Rick and Morgan Spencer, breach the wall she hides behind, the past she yearns to escape becomes a menacing threat from which she can no longer hide. Award-winning and bestselling author Kristen Heitzmann has skillfully created a story resonating with emotion and depicting a poignant spiritual journey.

A Rush of Wings Details

Date : Published October 1st 2010 by Bethany House Publishers (first published February 1st 2003)

ISBN :

Author : Kristen Heitzmann

Format : Kindle Edition 382 pages

Genre : Christian Fiction, Christian, Romance, Fiction, Contemporary, Christian Romance

 [Download A Rush of Wings ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online A Rush of Wings ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online A Rush of Wings Kristen Heitzmann

From Reader Review A Rush of Wings for online ebook

Alis says

My introduction to Christian fiction was this book and I loved it. So much better than I thought it would be. I would also recommend that you read "The Still of Night" by the same author as a follow up to this book. I liked that one even more.

Willowy Whisper says

I have to say, this is one of the most amazing books I have ever read. It was just something you...you never forget, as if the pages, the words, so found a place in your heart that long after you finish reading, the characters live on because the world seemed so real. It was as if the writer *felt* everything she wrote. Behind everything that was happening, every scene, every plot-twist, was such heart. The depth of feeling went beyond the words. It became real. So real, in fact, that you could nearly imagine it wasn't a book, but rather someone's real life. I could see it in my head all so vividly. How could I not? There was such detail. Such incredible realism in every place and every character.

The plot was so deep and unbelievably thought out. The depth of it, again, was stunning to me. Everything fit together in ways I might never have figured out on my own, although it was so simple once you read it. How does she write like that?

I have to say, that I would not recommend this book to anyone younger than a mature fifteen or sixteen year old. The content, although a hard fact of life, is a bit too brutish for a young adolescent.

This was a Christian novel with nothing highly inappropriate, although there were a few things that I strongly did not agree with.

I loved the setting of the novel. I love the ranch. The cowboys. The log cabin. Who wouldn't want to live there?

Beautiful, wonderfully-written book. I can't wait to read more from this author. She is now found her way to one of my favorite authoresses!

Jerry says

This story gripped me until the end; there were some serious plot twists I was **not** expecting! Fans of romantic suspense will likely enjoy this.

Ruth says

This book is billed a Christian romantic suspense and it lives up to all three parts of that billing. While at first I thought this would be one of those Christian novels where "Christian" meant blessings before meals and a mention that they attended church on Sunday, but the end of the book it was very much one of those where the characters had to make their peace with God before they could live happily ever after. It is romantic, well because there is a girl and three guys who want her. Suspense--why is she running? What happened.

Kristen Heitzmann drops hints about what happened long before the total truth is revealed, and while I guessed a little wrong, in general, the outcome of the book was no surprise. I think Heitzmann did a great job of creating a heavy mood throughout the book.

I enjoyed the book and will look for the next one in the series. Grade: B+

Thanks to Bethany House for providing a complimentary review copy. I was specifically told that negative reviews were acceptable.

Mild Spoiler

By the end of the book the Christian elements become the center of the story. Both the hero and the heroine were baptized Catholic. Her mom died when she was six, and her father wasn't a believer so she never went to church again. She does find her faith through speaking to a Catholic priest. He lives in Colorado in a small town and attended a small chapel there where a visiting priest made the rounds once a month, and "Pastor Tom" held services the other weeks. Once they decided to marry, the priest instrumental in her conversion marries them within hours. The hero always prays before they eat, but he never makes the Sign of the Cross. In short, while this book is by no means critical of Catholicism, its depiction of Catholicism isn't accurate.

Julie Smith (Knitting and Sundries) says

We first meet Noelle at a bus terminal, fleeing from ... something ... she can't quite remember. The images are fragmented and broken, but it appears that her former fiancee Michael, her father's protege', has something to do with it.

Noelle eventually finds her way to a Colorado mountain town that appeals to her. She inquires at a local shop, and is told of two places that may have space to rent to her. The first is a rundown house. The second entails a hike up the mountain to a horse ranch, where she meets two brothers, Rick (the owner) and Morgan. Rick runs a Christian ranch, and his guests arrive by word-of-mouth. Unfortunately, the cottages are booked up for the season, but Morgan talks his brother into letting Noelle rent a room at the main house, which goes against Rick's policy of letting rooms to single female guests; however, for some reason, Rick feels that Noelle is in need of a safe place.

As Morgan attempts to woo Noelle, she welcomes his friendship, but rejects his advances. Afraid to use her credit cards or pull money from the bank for fear of being traced, Noelle finds a way to make her own way by selling her artwork at a local shop.

Michael Fallon, her ex-fiancee', is enraged that Noelle would leave. In his mind, he loves her, and what happened between them was an isolated incident. He sets one of his former clients to work tracking her.

William St. Claire, Noelle's father, is worried, but Noelle HAD left a message for him letting him know she was all right. He can't figure out why she was calling from a small town in Ohio, but she is twenty-three, and old enough to make up her own mind. He keeps this information to himself, as he puzzles over how much Michael had to do with her decision to leave. He has kept Noelle safe and sheltered since a frightening incident when she was five years old, but maybe it's time for her to spread her wings.

For me, this story was a bit saccharine, but that's just my own reading taste. Even understanding that Noelle

had something bad happen to her didn't help me feel a lot of sympathy for a fragile personality that could so easily break apart because of one incident. Later on, with the understanding that the incident when she was five made her fragile to begin with, I understood a bit more, but I think I'm much more attracted to strong female characters.

There is some romance and suspense, and we finally gain an understanding of why Noelle is so set against God and religion in general.

QUOTES

Who was the real Noelle? What did Morgan hope to see? The person she had been? The helpless, pleasing, dutiful person others rules? She had left her behind as a snake sheds its skin, leaves it lying useless in the sand.

Now the last of her resistance melted and she surrendered to the incredible love. The sadness was still deep inside her and the knowledge that she might never recover what she'd lost as a five-year-old child. But she no longer faced it alone.

Theresa says

Noelle St. Clair is fleeing her life as a pampered, sheltered 'rich kid' and has nowhere to go. Unable to use her credit cards or cell phone (she doesn't want to be traced), she places two thousand dollars in cash in her backpack with some toiletries and a couple of changes of clothing and gets on the bus, headed out of Long Island and for points West.

Ending up on a ranch in Colorado (the only decent place available to rent in the small town), Noelle's life is about to change... but it is going to be a long time before it changes for the better.

I liked this book because it doesn't give quick, happy endings. Life is a struggle and often filled with mistakes and pitfalls and can also be threatening. Memories can overwhelm emotion (we are frail human creatures) and take over reason. Noelle needed to find a place of safety but the two brothers, Morgan and Rick, who offer it to her, are vastly different. With her past, how can she ever come to resolution in her own heart, much less trust anyone else's?

"Something had made her run away, something gave her a jaded eye, caused the panic attacks, the fractured images. Even if she couldn't remember what, she recognized the effects. Broken trust was not easily fixed, and the only way she knew to be safe was to trust only herself."

I read this book quickly on my kindle and it kept me going! There are a couple of chapters I would have left out, (not because they were graphic or upsetting), that I considered unnecessary to move the story along.

I enjoyed experiencing Noelle's decisions, her mistakes, her slow coming-to-grips with life, and the hesitant approach to belief in a God who would allow evil in a treacherous world (something that seems to be a common stumbling block for many).

Morgan and Rick Spencer are brothers who were raised in the same home and yet one is a fervent Christian, and the other (definitely!) not. The author does not shy away from depicting family conflict or differences

but she does portray Christianity in a fresh, believable manner. Rick, who seems so mature, has a faith crisis that is neither shallow nor implausible.

Life is hard, and sometimes almost impossible, and it is so refreshing to read a story that doesn't try to whitewash the questions with pat answers that gloss over the hard places.

"The sadness was still deep inside her and the knowledge that she might never recover what she'd lost as a five-year-old child. But she no longer faced it alone."

I got a little impatient with Morgan's character but it was helpful to realize later that his actions were a front to his own pain. There are so many different facets to how we handle the experiences of life, and the author is able to creatively address how individual we truly are.

Mary says

I found Rush of Wings to be delightfully contemporary and I was hooked from the first sentence. Normally an author beating me over the head with certain facts or long descriptions will make me put down a book in disgust. During the first part of the book I did feel like the author over-stressed the kind of background Noelle came from. If the repeated mentions of how everything wasn't what she was used to was supposed to indicate that she was spoiled then it failed. All it really did was make me roll my eyes and mentally shout "OK I GET IT, SHE'S USED TO BEING IN NICER SURROUNDINGS".

I couldn't stay away from the book though and even though I guessed early on what had happened to her that she was suppressing it didn't diminish the power of the story or my enjoyment of it. The language was beautiful and evocative, there were many times I could see the sweeping mountain ranges and beauty that was all around her while she was at the ranch.

I really enjoyed the characters, though the feelings Morgan developed for Noelle seemed to happen really fast. Not any different than numerous romance novels but it did feel a little bit off. Yet I still really liked Morgan and his fun ways. I absolutely loved Rick; by far he is one of the best male leads in a Christian novel that I've read in a long time. His rock solid stability and certainty were peppered with just enough flaws, doubts, and mistakes that it made him very real. Michael was probably the best developed and most memorable of the book, even though he was the antagonist. I think if the author had developed her other characters to the points he did Michael than she would have a solid five star rating from me.

I have to say the one thing that really and truly bugged me more than anything else about this book was Noelle's lack of being able to take care of herself. I can understand it to a certain point but things that happened towards the end made me instantly dislike her. I get that she's supposed to be vulnerable and fragile and probably even supposed to represent what a life without God can be like (starving, lost, prideful, sick...spiritually these are all things we are without Him in our lives). I don't know, perhaps it's just me and the fact that I really like my heroines to be a little more strong than that.

Overall I did really like this book though, the story swept me along. Made me laugh, cry and rejoice. Overall I fell in love with the characters and I didn't feel like the pacing dragged at all. The characters were real people and their struggle struck me as more real than some of the other Christian books that have come across my bookshelf. I don't know anyone in real life where the answers are presented immediately just

because they've finally turned to God; after all that's what faith is about. Knowing that He's there for you and everything will work out according to His plan even if He isn't throwing obvious answers at your feet.

Tuba Özkat says

Bir çeviri daha bitti, ben de bitti, öldüm san?r?m :) Her aksilik bu kitapta ba??ma geldi, yumuk yumuk ?i?mi? bir gözlerle ve suratla bitirdim :)

Konu olarak bugüne kadar okuduklar?mdan farkl?yd?. Kötü bir olay ya?ayan zengin, biraz çekingen, babas? taraf?ndan sürekli korunan bir k?z bir anda her ?eyini, evini, arabas?n?, paras?n?, babas?n?, ni?anl?s?n? arkas?nda b?rak?p yollara dü?üyor. En ba??ndan bu k?z?n bir ?ey ya?ad???n? anl?yorsunuz, ama ne ya?ad???n? kendisi de tam hat?rlayam?yor ve akl? bast?rd??? an?larla ba?a ç?karken gittikçe zorlan?yor. Nedenini bilmese de kiliseden de, Tanr? kelimesinden de hiç ho?lanm?yor. Bilinçalt?n?n suçu gibi.

En sonunda birkaç günlük yolculu?u Colorado'da Rocky Da??'nda sona eriyor. Evden yeterince uzakla?t???na inan?nca kendine kalacak bir yer buluyor. Rick Spencer'?'n at çiftli?i. Rick için arazisi, çiftli?i, atlar? ve yüre?ini adad??? Tanr?'s?ndan daha k?ymetli bir ?eyi yok. Rick'in ondan iki ya? büyük a?abeyi de kafas?n? dinlemek için orada ve daha serseri ruhlu. Rick sessiz bir biçimde i?ini gücünü yap?p mesafesini korurken, bu a?abeyinin pek umurunda olmuyor.

Noelle e?itimleri s?ras?nda ö?rendikleriyle hayat?n? sürdürmeye çal??rken, bir yandan da çevresindekilerin inançlar?n? sorguluyor, anlamaya çal??yor ve korkuyor. Atalarla ilgileniyor ve ba??ndan birçok olay geçiyor.

Okurken insan? rahatlatan tarzda bir kitap. Rick'in inanc?n? savunurken ne kadar benze?ti?imizi görebiliyorsunuz, Noelle'in bunlar? sorgularken arada s?rada içimizden geçen sorular? duyabiliyor ve Rick'in cevaplar?n? içselle?tirebiliyorsunuz. Yazar do?ay? öyle bir anlat?yor, etraf? öyle bir resmediyor ki da? kokusunu alabiliyorsunuz. Karakterlerin gerçek insanlar olabilece?ini görebiliyorsunuz. Hani, yazmak için yaz?lm??, para için yaz?lm?? gibi de?il de, içindeki bir ?eyleri payla?mak için yaz?lm?? gibi.

Zorlu ama güzel bir kitapt?.

Laura Bennet says

Captivating. Riveting. First page grabbed my attention, and I didn't want to put it down. I love the way the back story is fed to the reader in bits and pieces. Just enough to make sense, but never so much to tell the whole situation. Masterfully written. Having experienced a similar situation, I can say the author truly captured the essence of how it feels to live through trauma and only remember emotions and glimpses of reality. Great story well written with a good twist.

Samantha Jo says

There are some books that you just don't want to end... can't put down long enough to swap the cookie trays in the oven... this is one of those books.

Noelle St. Claire (heroine of Ms. Heitzmann's wonderful book) shakes it up a bit and adds a breath of fresh air to sometimes stale Christian Fiction. Her stubborn streak is a mile wide and the quiet Rick Spencer knows it... there's no trivial floundering of faith here, the story line cuts right to the heart without being so heavy you leave the Colorado Rockies feeling burdened.

I had conflicting emotions as I read – wanting to find the resolution and wishing the pages of Rick and Noelle and Morgan and Aldebaran weren't dwindling.

I found a kindred heart with Noelle – her strong will and hurting heart. Her story is full of struggles and triumphs, darkness and hope.

Kristen Heitzmann has written characters of substance. Noelle's search for truth, both physically and spiritually unravels a journey that reaches to far places of the heart. And Rick's strong and gentle spirit silently parallels the character of Christ along the way.

An excellent story - a wonderful read!

Laura says

Wow! A recent donation to our church library, I picked up this and one other of hers to review for appropriateness for our library. Loved it! These are exactly the kinds of books I love to read. Drama, suspense, a little romance... right up my alley. Leaves me cheering for God as the victor and with new thoughts, ideas and convictions about how I need to keep God in first place in my life. When done, I went straight to the public library and ordered in several more of her books, intending to read them all. Great fiction, not just fluff, but something all can learn something from.

April Erwin says

I loved this novel. Every image is carefully formed to be crystal clear, where you can smell the dusty horses and see the gold aspen leaves against the clear blue sky. The characters are fully fleshed and compelling. Even Rick and Morgan's extended family. Although the Christmas spent with the Spencer family almost felt too perfect, it was a good contrast for the life Noelle used to lead; showing her just how different life could be with Jesus as your Savior. It made me wish I could celebrate with them this Christmas.

Rush of Wings isn't a Christmas specific story, but what better way to honor the birth of our Savior, than a story of healing, redemption, hope and the ultimate love?

LA Moreno says

I can't finish it. I'd rather have a root canal at this point, this story is so painfully awful.

I'm listening to the audiobook for one, and the narrator is fine with female voices, but all of her male characters tend to have a nasal, clipped old-man-from-the-Ozarks voice I can't handle. Sometimes I can even hear a hint of the Surfing Bird in there. Not pretty.

I started listening to Heitzman's books to move towards more Christian fiction than non, but in the same sense as Dee Henderson's obnoxiously sappy, never ending 7-fake-siblings stories, I can see why Christian fiction is struggling. I don't know if there's just not enough good writers in this genre or what, but we need more to fill a terrible void, and Henderson and Heitzman write saccharine tripe where amnesia abounds in every second or third book, the female protagonist is always "drop dead gorgeous" or "fragile as glass" AND "breathtakingly beautiful," and so on. Typical trashy romance-minus-the-trash. And the men are overly sensitive to and even read the minds and "tremblings" of the women they're fawning over (barf) I'll stop before I have a laughing fit.

I enjoyed a couple of her other books, but this one is a true thumbs DOWN. Sorry ladies.

AMENDED: I did go ahead and finish it. I hate leaving loose ends and I felt like I had to know WHY she acted like a nutjob. The ending is actually surprising, and while I still don't like the book, I did like the following book #3 in the series so I caved. Still a thumbs down on this one. But I'm on to Book #2, even tho I know how that one ends, thanks to reading Book #3 first. I'm a rebel like that.

Kelly says

This was another book that was hard to put down. The hurt and terrified girl running from a violent past ends up hiding on a ranch in Colorado where she meets two handsome, but very different brothers, both who fall in love with her. I couldn't wait to see what would happen and was so happy to finish the story of one of the brothers in the sequel!

Yiya says

A wonderful testimony of how God's perfect love is the only

thing able to change a person's life and heart, A Rush of

Wings has quickly become one of my favorite novels.

Noelle is confused and running away from something she is

not even sure happened. She has always had someone to take

care of her needs and lived the comfortable life riches can buy. But she is not safe anymore. In her escape, she ends up in a ranch in Colorado, where she meets Rich and Morgan, two brothers whose life is turned upside down because of Noelle's presence. Both of them sense her need to belong, her need of purpose, as well as her fragility, and seek to aid her in their best way.

The ranch proves to be an oasis for Noelle. However, she finds there much more than just a physical refuge; it is the place that helps her realize there is more to life than the comforts money can buy. It is where her eyes are open to a spiritual reality that can fill her emptiness through the infinite love and care of Her Creator, even if she does not really care about anything like that. It is in this stage of her life that her confusion turns into depression and almost takes her life, but it is also when her soul begins to mend, thanks to other people's care.

At one point, she decides to go back to her father, apparently leaving everything - and everyone - behind. But little by little, she comes to terms with that Creator she was able to sense in the Colorado mountains, allowing Him to show her what true love and forgiveness is. By the end, Noelle is able to say: "Surrendering to Jesus gave me the only hope I have," finally giving her a true identity and sense of belonging.

True to Christian principles, this is a highly recommendable book, fast to read and sure to entice everyone with the thrills of the story.

Bethany House Publishers gave me a complimentary copy of the book for review, but this does not bias my opinion on the book nor on the author.
