



To Dance Once More

Sherri Wilson Johnson

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Stripped of her future, will she concede or fight?

Debutante Lydia Barrington lives a carefree, protected existence on Live Oaks Plantation in Florida. While her sisters happily prepare for their traditional roles as women and talk of courting, Lydia dreams of adventure and independence. She counts the days until she can leave home to explore the world, to dance with cultured gentlemen, to explore politics and art, to leave behind the confining expectations of her family and community—and her God. Even her friendship with handsome Hamilton Scarbrough isn't enough to hold her back...until they dance, and her heart considers love.

Confused by her heart's betrayal, Lydia struggles to gain her independence. Then she overhears a private conversation about a business deal that has everything to do with her future. Now she's faced with the biggest decision of her life—to concede or to fight. Either choice will require great sacrifice...and, perhaps, countless rewards. In an attempt to escape her imminent destiny, Lydia scrambles to find a solution—at all costs. Amidst the trials that follow, as Lydia runs out of time, she learns the meaning of sacrifice, forgiveness, hope and faith.

Will she ever experience the freedom she's so longed for, or will her desires change in light of her circumstances? Will she ever be able TO DANCE ONCE MORE?

Romance. Scandal. Desperation. Hope.

To Dance Once More Details

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From Reader Review To Dance Once More for online ebook

Mrs. Glen A. Friday says

A Very Enjoyable Romance

I enjoyed To Dance Once More very much. You didn't know for sure who the heroine would end up with until almost the end. It is also a clean romance without being too sappy.

Lila says

A captivating read. Many unexpected moments.

Meldaisy Tullos says

Great story

I love the storyline in this book. Keeps you guessing about what next. A very interesting read , loved it.

Anne Campbell says

This book is one early-American historical romance readers will like best--it is so true to the times! Lydia Barrington is the youngest of four sisters and a twin brother--even though he preceded her by only a few minutes. She is so tired of having to wait to be old enough. Her sisters are allowed by their father to begin courting when they turn twenty, and she is only sixteen.

But then, she has no interest in courting. She wants to travel the world without a husband as cumbersome baggage to haul along or hold her back. She wants to do something with her life, to be counted. Something important that will make a difference in this world. She thrills to the stories of Harriet Tubman and Elizabeth Blackwell, high on the hopes of becoming equally famous for wondrous deeds.

Most of all, she doesn't want to be told who to marry. An overheard conversation makes her believe her father intends to do just that. She sets about to foil his plans, using feminine wiles and childish actions that very nearly are her undoing.

Will she ever grow up? Will selfishness be her course forever?

Yvonna says

A historical romance with substance

Rhonda Rock says

To Dance Once More

I love this historical setting and the details included to underline the events of the era. Thank you for making the storyline entertaining, romantic, but not explicit or overly sexual. The nature of this novel was Christian and stayed true to the genre.

Daphne Self says

In the tradition of Lucy Maud Montgomery and Georgette Heyer, Sherri Wilson Johnson has written a beautiful and captivating story chronicling the trials and love of Lydia

Instead of Victorian-era England, To Dance Once More portrayed the conservatism of Victorian-era Florida.

What I found enjoyable was the prose and lyrical writing, drawing me in as though watching each scene play out before me on stage. From heartache to hope, the reader discovers the joy and rewards of sacrifice and waiting for God's plan. Highly enjoyable and a worthy read.

Ginger Solomon says

This is my first experience reading a book by Sherri Wilson Johnson. I loved it and will look forward to her books in the future. While this book isn't a suspense, it had enough twists and turns to keep me guessing until the final chapter. I enjoyed reading about Lydia's life, her heartaches, her desires, and her walk outside the norm of society. Her character was real and believable.

I've always wondered what it would have been like to live in the late 1800's. Now I know, at least in part. Ms. Johnson did a wonderful job of showing me Lydia's life, as well as that of the other characters, without taking me out of the story.

My take from this story: Sometimes the right thing doesn't feel right, but God works everything out in His time.

Michelle says

More like 4.5 stars.

I really enjoyed the romantic elements in this story and the ways the characters struggled in many areas of their lives. At first the writing style took some getting used to and was a bit slow for me to read, but I figured it was set during the Victorian era so the author was shooting for a Jane Austen type style, which worked for the story. I have to say that once I got used to the style and lost in the story, I couldn't stop reading. A few times I got tearful as well. The story broke my heart several times, but also filled it with joy on other

occasions. I loved how God used the trials in Lydia's life to mature her. The twist in the story worked out well and I was pleased with the results.

By the story's end I was sighing with satisfaction. Yes, as a reader, I got my wish, though for awhile there I didn't see it coming. My heart hurt for Lydia and yet I saw how God worked everything out for her good as long as she trusted Him to send her on the path she needed to be on. Once she stopped fighting things and being angry, she became less selfish, which in turn made her a more beautiful person both inside and out. There were some great themes about sacrifice and how God uses different people in our lives at different times to teach us the things we need to learn to grow. I liked that part of the story a lot. I also loved the kissing scenes. The author really knows how to reel you in for those yummy moments. Most of all, I enjoyed seeing the characters mature now only in their personal lives, but in their faith. This story is a keeper for sure.

Andi says

Having lived in Florida I was drawn to this book immediately! I could smell the orange blossoms and feel the sea breeze. Sherri did a great job bringing the Victorian era to life. I felt for Lydia! Her sisters are all about wanting to get married and live the life their mother has, she does not. She wants to do something important! Lydia's faith gets challenged because of the decision she makes and I found myself cheering and even misty eyed. This is a great book and I highly recommend it!

Sharron N says

My 1st book by Sherri Johnson! I really enjoyed how she made you feel what the main character was going through. Even in a different time of life, there were still some of the same dating issues. And don't we all remember that trying time of our lives?

I didn't want to put the books down!! I'll be searching for more books by this author.

Victoria says

Is a great book to read

Collette Scott says

What a delightful read! From the very first page, I was caught up in 1800s Florida plantation life, from the smell of the flowers to the sounds of nature. Ms. Wilson Johnson captured the setting to perfection, casting me back over 100 years as I watched the charming Miss Lydia Barrington come of age. As a young, idealistic teen, Lydia has high hopes of travel and freedom. However, society's restrictions and a sneaky business deal threaten to steal it all away. Caught between duty and hope, Lydia is a tormented soul,

struggling to determine which path she should take and how she must face it all while presenting herself with charm and grace. As she grows, she feels heartbreak and joy, love and pain, and ultimately learns that life is what you make of it. But the Lord works in mysterious ways, and in the end Lydia is able to find love and happiness in this charming, historical story that will warm you to your toes.

Melanie says

Blog
Amazon

To Dance Once More by Sherri Wilson Johnson is a great novel that I thoroughly enjoyed reading! While it did take me a few chapters to get into the story, after that, I was so captivated by it! I wanted to continue reading to find out what would happen, who (if anyone) Lydia would end up marrying, and if there would be a happily-ever-after ending.

With many twists, To Dance Once More held my attention to the end! I really liked the characters: Lydia, she said she wanted to travel the world before settling down and getting married, but then she finds love... Hamilton, what to say about him? I loved how his character grew! I went from liking him, to not liking him, then finding him so sweet! Bradley, I loved his character! He was so sweet and kind to Lydia! Frank, well, he wasn't what I expected at all! I ended up really liking his character! There are a few other characters that I liked, but I won't mention them all!

To Dance Once More was a very believable story - the characters weren't perfect (who is!) and there was some heartache. At one point I wasn't sure if I'd end up liking how things would end, but I am happy to say that I think things all worked out for the best!

A great novel that I completely enjoyed! I loved To Dance Once More and am really looking forward to the sequel when it releases! I recommend To Dance Once More if you enjoy a good historical romance that keeps you guessing!

I received this book for free from the author for my review. I was not required to give a positive review, only my honest opinion – which I've done. All thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.

Rosie Cochran says

In "To Dance Once More," Sherri Wilson Johnson masterfully pulls us into the life of Lydia as she reaches the brink of womanhood. Her sisters are content to marry and bear children, but not Lydia. She wants to make a difference in the world! Lydia's independent spirit is soon challenged by unexpected stirrings of romantic feelings for her brother's best friend. Can her dreams of making a difference in the world still be realized if she marries? Can she have the best of both worlds?

Even as Lydia revels in these new-found feelings of love, a dark shadow looms. Words shouldn't be able to change your life, but the words Lydia inadvertently overhears strip her of life's choices. She must privately bear the burden of knowing she is a pawn in a plan beyond her control. Her life is not her own.

Lydia's independent spirit rebels. Her faith in God is challenged. How far is she willing to go to change her fate? You will feel her pain. You will feel her struggles. You will agonize with her as she struggles to make the right choice, knowing that in doing so she will put an end to her dreams and an end to her love.

It's a love story with twists and turns that leave you guessing. It's a story of challenged faith. It's a story that'll make you want to ask when Sherri's next book is coming out!
