



# Naomi's Hope

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Despite growing pains in her 1846 Amish community in Indiana, Naomi Schrock has settled into a comfortable life in her parents' home with her adopted son, Davey. Surrounded by family and friends, she tries not to think about the fact that she's not at the top of any man's list of potential wives. Yet when Cap Stoltzfus moves into the area and befriends Davey, Naomi finds herself caught between the plans she has made for her future and the tantalizing thought that Cap might be part of a life she never dared to hope for.

When a couple shows up claiming to be Davey's true family, Naomi and Cap must unite to make the decision that will determine the boy's future as well as their own. How can she relinquish him to these unknown relatives? And can God somehow bring wholeness to her heart?

## Naomi's Hope Details

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## **From Reader Review Naomi's Hope for online ebook**

### **Kav says**

The third and final book in the Journey to Pleasant Prairie series and it's a bittersweet read because I'm not ready to let this Amish settlement go. No worries if you haven't read Hannah's Choice and Mattie's Pledge because Naomi's Hope makes a wunderbar gut standalone read. :-) But I also enjoyed catching up with some familiar faces -- sharing their joys and their sorrows in this final installment.

The mix of historical and Amish genres is a huge draw and Drexler does it so well. She brings the pioneering spirit to life through an array of appealing (and not so appealing!) characters. In fact there is one snide, conniving reprobate that put me in conniptions time and time again. Sometimes I had to stop reading because I couldn't see past the steam coming out of my ears. I fumed and railed and gnashed my teeth as I contemplated gruesome outcomes for this character! He's not one I will easily forget.

But I'll remember Naomi too -- though for very different reasons! She's a courageous young woman who takes in an orphaned boy and raises him as her own even though she's not married. Her family has endured a lot of hardships over the years and though she doesn't waver from the faith, her personal convictions are sorely tested and she's often at odds with God. "If she could, she'd tell God a thing or two about how he controlled his world." (p. 228) Loved her defiant questioning because it leads to some real soul searching and, ultimately, answers. But she struggles to get there and I could totally relate to that.

And then there's Cap -- a lonely stranger fighting his own battles. He's drawn to the Schrock family -- especially young Davey and his intriguing mamm. There's great dynamics between Cap and Naomi. A bit adversarial at times, often awkward but also incredibly sweet. Cap just really needs to work on his communication skills. But then Naomi is quick to take offense when it comes to criticism of her parenting. There's some lovely fireworks within the pages of this book which makes the romance all the more fun.

Add in a mischievous little boy with an adventurous spirit who stirs up trouble even when he's trying to be good and you get the kind of read it's easy to lose yourself in. A triumphant conclusion to an amazing series.

My thanks to the author and Revell Publishers for providing me with a copy of this book.

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### **Sarah says**

I loved this book! For the final book in the series, I think Jan did a fantastic job with this amish book/ series. It can be read as a stand alone. I loved the elements of faith that were displayed, especially as Naomi struggled with Davey and wrestled with Cap through a very difficult season. My heart identified so much with Naomi, especially with surrendering. This book was fantastic! I got lost in this book and can see that the author put so much research behind it! I give this book a 5/5 stars. Thank you to the publisher for providing me a copy.

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### **Ceetee says**

In 1846 Naomi Schrock is a good Amish woman who has adopted young Davey a few years ago, after her family came upon him after his family had been killed. She is a single woman who still lives at home with her family, but everyone agrees that Davey belongs to her.

Cap Stoltzfus moves into their area and begins building his home and farm, Davey ventures over and makes friends with Cap and naturally Naomi and Cap start a blossoming friendship as well. The path between the two farms becomes well worn as invitations come for dinners and picnics.

Naomi thinks no one will want to marry her because she adopted Davey as a single woman, but she will not give up her beloved Davey. But she is beginning to have stronger feelings for Cap.

Cap is having romantic feelings for Naomi, fatherly feelings for Davey-but he thinks that Naomi isn't parenting Davey properly and is outspoken about it. This leads to hurt feelings and harsh words between Cap and Naomi. Will they ever get past this?

Preacher Shem Fischer moves into the area, he has heard that the district needs more preachers in the area. He has come from Ontario. His wife is there with her parents, she was too sick to come. Shem will find a place for them and then she will follow after, when she feels better.

Cap went to school with Shem. He remembers the taunts and bullying from Shem and wonders if the Lord has worked a miracle with Shem or if Shem is still the same old Shem.

This is a great book, it gets you to thinking about many different things. The characters are highly developed. Many different characters, several different sidelines going off to make the book even more interesting.

I received a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

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### **Maureen Timerman says**

This is the third book in this series about the early beginning of an Amish settlement in 1840's Indiana. We are reunited with dear friends and meet new ones, both friends and foe.

This is Naomi's story, and in a way the whole settlement here, along with newcomers Cap and Shem, one loveable and the other, well, here is where forgiveness and living your faith comes in.

This is also a love story, between Cap and Naomi, and also between Naomi and Davey, the love of a mother. Can this group make a family and survive the hardships presented to them, and the evil that others want to throw at them.

Things we take for granted and was surprised that the Ordnung for this community was so strict that they could not use their horses for transportation on a Sunday.

Come back for another visit with this beloved community, and if this is your first time, you can read this alone, but you will quickly want to read the past two books. I hated to say goodbye, and wish there were more in this series.

I received this book through Revell Reads Blog Tour, and was not required to give a positive review.

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### **Carrie Schmidt (Reading is My SuperPower) says**

Naomi's Hope spotlights the Amish migration west from Pennsylvania during the 1840s, and I love this rare opportunity to read an Amish historical novel. The field of Amish historicals is small but it's one of my very faves because it gives such fascinating insight into how they settled in groups and interacted with other settlers – at a time when the manner of dress and speech of their non-Amish neighbors wasn't as different from the Amish as it is today.

Both Cap and Naomi struggle with the age-old question of why a good God allows bad things to happen to people who love Him. I appreciated the way that Drexler honestly and grace-fully tackled this subject that will hit close to home for many readers. I think it's especially important that both of these characters come from backgrounds of faith, surrounded by people who seem to have more peace with this issue – and with God – than they themselves do. Cap and Naomi's authenticity – as well as God's faithfulness – will encourage readers who are in the same boat.

Davey is adorable. Precocious. Tender-hearted. All boy. He desperately wants a father, and his relationship with Cap is sweet and full of adoration. Davey works his way into Cap's heart the same way he will yours. Naomi's interactions with Cap are wary at first but as their friendship develops we see more of her true personality. And Cap's.

Bottom Line: An adventurous little boy. A grieving widower wrestling with his faith. A single mom struggling with trust. A nasty man with selfish motives. And a settlement of people who have left home and the comfort of the familiar to establish a new community with a whole different set of challenges. The honest questions, struggles, and emotions of life will resonate with a wide variety of readers, and the plot keeps you turning the pages to see how it all plays out.

(I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book)

see my original review at [Reading Is My SuperPower](#)

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## **Amy says**

Naomi's Hope is the third in author Jan Drexler's Journey To Pleasant Prairie series, and here we meet up with the migrating Amish families three years later. Naomi has been caring for Davey her adopted son since they had rescued him from the remains of his family home and parent's deaths after the awful tornado on their travels. Davey is now a happy, hyper 8 year old boy that seems to always be getting into mischief but he is the center of Naomi's world. Ever since taking him into her care, she has given up the hope of having a husband and any future children of her own. Then steps in Cap.

Cap is a wounded soul who has lost his wife and child and just wants to start fresh in his new home. Davey captures his heart from the first moment. He and Naomi start off as somewhat reluctant friends, but because of Davey they grow closer and Cap begins to have feelings that go deeper than friendship for Naomi. I really liked their relationship. He was a man who wanted to fix things; he wanted to be a father to Davey before he fell for Naomi. However both he and Naomi has some personal issues that they needed to work on and the author did a wonderful job showing how this needed to be done and the problems that could arise if these issues were not addressed.

This town has grown and we get to see previous characters and more of their growing stories. I liked seeing how this new town was settling in and how with standing together they had an easier go, but when a wolf in

sheep's clothing steps in to spread lies this town had to stand on what they knew as truth.

There are some deep spiritual truths the author delves into, and it is seamlessly woven into the characters' lives, thoughts, and deeds. I liked seeing the fruition of the previous books journeys now in a settlement and the families growing and preparing for the future generations. I enjoyed reading this entire series about this group of Amish pioneers.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from Revell Publishing. I was not required to post a positive review and the views and opinions expressed are my own.

<https://pausefortales.blogspot.com/20...>

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### **Deanne Patterson says**

It was fun catching up with characters from past books in the Journey to Pleasant Prairie series. Naomi's Hope is the third and final installment in this series. Things were not easy at times for the characters in this book but forgiveness is a key factor in what makes this book so good. The characters are flawed, just like we are and it makes the book so much more likable. My favorite character was Davey, the adopted son of Naomi. He had little boy spunk and a hard time of it at times but with the gentle help and wisdom of those around him he persevered. I look forward to seeing what this author has coming up next.

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Thank you to NetGalley and Revell for a review copy in exchange for my honest review.

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### **Lori says**

I loved this book for many reasons. I liked how the author has made the characters doubt themselves in their Faith as we do sometimes today.

I loved the character Davey. I can relate to him in many ways because I am adopted too. I'm very thankful for the parents that raised me.

You can be a parent but it takes a special person to raise someone else's child. I call those ppl angels. God cannot be everywhere so He created earthly parents to help Him out.

Davey is a pretty cool dude in my opinion. A child after my own heart.

Naomi is pretty special too to raise Davey by herself. Oh, she has help but sometimes I wonder if she'll ever see what's right in front of her face?

I can relate to Naomi at times. Sometimes it's hard to see what blessings we have when we think we've taken a step forward, when actually we've taken two steps back!! I hate someone else telling me how to raise my own child when at times they think they have our best interests in their hearts. Most often I find this to be people without children.

It's how Naomi feels in the story.

Naomi is sensitive like me. Sometimes someone can tell me something and I'll take it the wrong way or get mad over something silly.

Jan writes with her heart on this conclusion of Hannah's Choice series. I loved all the books in the series!!

I first met Jan through Hannah's Choice and from then on it was love at first sight on this unusual Amish series.

I enjoyed this series so much that I'll reread it again!

Will Naomi find the many blessings that is right in front of her?

Cap is a fine man too!! Can't leave him out. It takes a lot of love and patience to connect with the right people. I find Cap special in a way because he doesn't deem himself above other people and never judges others who cross his path unlike Shem.

I didn't like Shem for various reasons but I guess you have to have all kinds of folks to make the world turn!! Thank you for a wonderful story Jan!!!

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### **Sabrina Autumn says**

We all struggle with our faith or lack thereof. Questioning whether the Good Lord exist.. Whether our way of life is truly according to the scriptures... Why bad things happen to “good” faithful? people. Naomi struggled with this, as well as several characters in this novel.

What was epic is when life happens, because it will, we have two choices. To know that the Good Lord is good all the time and knows all that is happening with us individually or scuff at the Good Lord and turn our backs. Guess what?! We can come to these two roads on a regular basis; more than once in a day!

Excellent novel! Depicting real life struggles, grace, unconditional love, and long-suffering.

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### **Cherese Akhavein says**

Book 3 in the Journey to Pleasant Prairie Series by Jan Drexler " Naomi's Hope"

First let me say what a wonderful way to wrap up a series!!! Jan Drexler has done a super job with this collection and you really don't want to miss it! I'm going to keep my review short as I don't want to spoil too much. Let me just say if your looking for history, adventure, faith, love, heartbreak, compassion, understanding, peace, you will find it all so much more in this series! Jan Drexler brings you right into the heart of Amish life in the 1800 and you will learn how early life for them really was.

Noami's life and hope was one of simple understanding, love, and to care for her adopted little boy Davey who her family found while traveling to their new home in Pleasant Prairie. Davey's entire family was killed during a storm/tornado and Naomi's family friend Jacob found Davey hiding in the only remaining structure left on the cabin the fireplace. Naomi and Davey quickly became insuperable and for all accounts Naomi became Daveys adopted mommi.

Cap Stolfuz moved to pleasant Prairie to start a new life after his wife and son died in childbirth, Davey quickly becomes friends with Cap after all who would not get along with the spirited Davey, Now Cap realizes he is starting to have feeling for Naomi's how will she feel about that? Come find out The rest of Naomi's story you won't be sorry, it's a fantastic book and series.

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### **Kristina says**

Naomi's Hope by Jan Drexler is the third book in Journey to Pleasant Prairie series. It is April 1846 in LaGrange County, Indiana. Naomi Schrock is out looking for her adopted son, Davey and discovers him with their new neighbor, Cap Stoltzfus. Davey has taken an instant liking to Cap and wants to spend time with him. Cap moved to Indiana from Holmes County, Ohio to get away from the memories of his deceased wife and child. Cap is happy in the new community and enjoys spending time with young Davey, but then an

old nemesis shows up. Shem Fischer, a bully from his childhood, moves to town. Shem came from Ontario, because he heard of the communities need for a minister. Cap distrusts Shem, but he keeps his own counsel. Shem soon starts showing his true colors when he spreads seeds of doubt and mistrust among the two different Amish districts of LaGrange County and the Clinton Township. Is there a chance of once again uniting these two factions? Naomi and Cap spend time with each other, and Naomi begins to hope of a future she never thought possible. But then Naomi's world crumbles around her when relatives come to claim Davey. How will this impact Naomi and Cap's relationship? Read Naomi's Hope to find out how the Journey to Pleasant Prairie trilogy ends.

Naomi's Hope contains good writing, but I found the pace of the novel to be slow. The story slowly unfolds, but then wraps up quickly at the end. After getting into Naomi's Hope, I could anticipate how the story would unfold and end. It is a lovely story, though, and that I found pleasurable to read. While Naomi's Hope is the third book in this series, it can be read alone. I appreciated the additional storyline of Naomi's struggle with faith. A struggle many people are familiar with and understand. I give Naomi's Hope 4 out of 5 stars. Some of the themes in the Naomi's Hope are love, forgiveness, loss, greed, and faith. I thought the characters were realistic and relatable. I also liked the setting and time period. The author did a remarkable job at portraying that region of Ohio and time. Personally, I did feel that the story could have used a little fine tuning that would have made for a better novel. Naomi's Hope is a novel worth reading, and I trust you will enjoy it as well.

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### **Katrina Epperson says**

This is the third book in the Journey to Pleasant Prairie series from the author. I was immediately swept back to 1846 in the fairly newly established Amish community in Indiana. This is the story of Naomi Schrock. Naomi is a sweet, young Amish woman who on her trip from Pennsylvania to Indiana encountered a young boy who had been orphaned by a violent storm. Naomi felt an immediately felt a connection to the little boy, Davey, and adopted him knowing that people would wonder about not only his parentage, but also her virtue. After their arrival to Indiana the family has settled into a routine, but there is an undercurrent of discord between their community about tradition and their faith.

Cap Stoltzfus has newly arrived to the community from Holmes County, Ohio. He has suffered a great loss and thinks starting over in a new place might let him put his past behind him. His property lies next to to Schrock farm and he meets Davey almost immediately. Davey brings his past memories to the surface and is immediately drawn to him.

As Cap is drawn into the Amish community he becomes quick friends to the Schrock family, but especially Naomi and Davey. Davey is a lively, young boy who is looking for a big adventure and doesn't always do what he is told which lands him in trouble from time to time. Naomi is attracted to Cap, but their different opinions on child rearing brings many questions about the possibility of a relationship with Cap. With the appearance of someone from Cap's past not only will he cause problems within the community, but also for Cap and Naomi's future.

This is a wonderful conclusion to this series. I loved this story. It has elements of forgiveness, crisis of faith, mystery and love. The plot is engaging and pulled me in quickly. The story quickly came to life for me through the characters and their journey. Even though this book is part of a series I believe this is a stand alone story. The author gives background details that makes it unnecessary to read the first two books, but I encourage you to read them to get the full impact of the story.

**\*\*I received this book from the publisher as part of their book bloggers program. All thoughts and opinions are my own.**



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## **Regina says**

Naomi's Hope by Jan Drexler is the third and final book of the Pleasant Valley Series. The book is set in the 1800's. Jan did a splendid job of writing this book.

This is about Naomi Schrock and her little boy Davey. Along with Cap Stoltzfus.

Naomi and Cap have different views of parenting. Despite their differences, love is stronger. A delightful book and series!

Disclosure statement:

I receive complimentary books for review from publishers, publicists, and/or authors, including Netgalley. I am not required to write positive reviews. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

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## **Marilyn says**

Naomi's Hope was a phenomenal book to read. Jan Drexler held me spell bound with all my senses and emotions right there with well developed characters. It was nice to catch up with members of the new Amish community in Indiana that had settled there in what became known as Pleasant Prairie. Naomi Schrock is a loving and devoted mother to her adopted son, which readers read about in book two Mattie's Pledge, in the Journey to Pleasant Prairie series. Cap Stoltzfus is a newcomer to settle in the community with little Davey being attracted to him. Cap had a way with Davey that touched Naomi's heart as she felt like she would never marry with her being a single mother. Then Shem Fischer came from Ontario claiming he heard the district needed another minister. Cap and Shem knew each other in their childhood, thus Cap had some concerns about him being a minister. Who and what events will play out in the conclusion of Journey to Pleasant Prairie series? Will Davey remain with Naomi or will his relatives take him away from his beloved mother Naomi and special friend Cap?

Naomi's Hope is filled with beloved characters finding courage to face trials, faith, and total dependence upon God to see them through each crisis they faced along with forgiveness and love. Jan Drexler's research of history with the struggles this young Amish community endures back in the 1840's, action packed scenes with unexpected twists and turns kept me reading till the end. This book can be read as a standalone; however, I encourage readers to purchase the entire series to fall in love with the delightful characters and see their struggles that increase their faith and determination to make it in their new settlement they believed God had called them to.

I received a complimentary copy of Naomi's Hope from the author and Revell publishing. An encouraging review was not required; however, all views expressed are this reader's honest thoughts of this fantastic book. I look forward to reading more of Jan Drexler's books when they are released.

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## **Laura says**

NAOMI'S HOPE is third and final book in Ms. Drexler's Journey to Pleasant Prairie series. This historical Amish series does not stand alone and readers will want to read them in order, starting with Hannah's Choice and Mattie's Pledge. Naomi's Hope is a nice finale to the collection.

The story was slow paced, but as a reader I cared about Cap and admired how he had Davey's best interests in mind. Shem made for an ideal villain, one that the reader loves to hate. I was kind of glad the story ended the way it did and not how it could've ended.

There is some real life information included in the story, and I'd someday like to read Hans story. And hope that Crows Fly lives on.

Fans of Amish historical fiction will want to read NAOMI'S HOPE and the first two books in the series. Ms. Drexler is a wonderful historical writer and develops realistic characters that resonate with readers.

I received a copy of this book free. All opinions are my own.

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