



A Southern Promise

Jennifer Lohmann

Download now

Read Online ➞

A Southern Promise

Jennifer Lohmann

A Southern Promise Jennifer Lohmann

A promise to protect

They say money and murder go together like biscuits and gravy, but Julianne Dawson thought her family was different. Even if they are the wealthiest family in Durham, North Carolina, she can't believe someone close to her could've killed her beloved Aunt Binnie.

Detective Howie Berry is determined to find the murderer. But the more he gets to know Julianne, the more he's drawn to her. She's not just the town's golden girl--she's smart and incredibly tough. Howie can't get involved, though, since the next clue he uncovers could tear her family apart. He'll protect Julianne at any cost...except the truth.

A Southern Promise Details

Date : Published (first published December 1st 2015)

ISBN :

Author : Jennifer Lohmann

Format : Mass Market Paperback

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Category Romance, Harlequin, Contemporary Romance

 [Download A Southern Promise ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online A Southern Promise ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online A Southern Promise Jennifer Lohmann

From Reader Review A Southern Promise for online ebook

Lynn Spencer says

As always, Lohmann gives readers characters who feel genuine and that is a major reason why I enjoyed this book. Though sold under the Superromance line, this book really felt more like a mainstream novel that has strong romantic elements.

The main plot in this book involves the investigation into the brutal murder of an elderly woman. Detective Howie Berry knew her as a frequent tipster who called the Durham P.D. every Wednesday morning. However, to Julianne Dawson, she was her beloved Aunt Binnie.

There's definitely plenty of interest between Howie and Julianne, though mostly on Howie's part at first. The romance takes a distant back seat to the police procedure for most of the book, though. Howie has to keep a certain distance because of Julianne's proximity to the investigation. After all, her cousin and her brother are both prime suspects. The weight of history doesn't help either. Julianne comes from a very prominent tobacco family while Howie grew up poor and on the wrong side of the tracks.

I enjoy a good mystery, so I dug right in as Howie navigated the rules of police procedure and the mores of local society. The action isn't heart-pounding, edge of your seat stuff but it did give me an appreciation for how police do their work. There are some odd little gaps in the plot (like the overstated creepiness of a character we never actually meet), but I enjoyed the book enough to mostly overlook these.

I also liked Howie and Julianne. They're not dramatic but they learn how to communicate with each other. They become a team over the course of the story and when they finally got together, I was happy for them.

Books and Spoons says

Interesting story about a murder investigation in a southern town in North Carolina, where the prominent family of the region, has not only lost a family member, but it seems that one of them might be the murderer. The focus of the story is in the intricate investigation, where everyone is connected to someone, all the leads are taking towards the same conclusion, but the conclusion is the one, that can destroy everything else developing around the characters.

The attraction between Howie and Julianne is immediate, and definitely inappropriate. Her family member is murdered, by someone in her family, and he is the investigating detective. Not possible in any way. And when you take into consideration their society beyond the investigation, would Howie be admitted to the inner circles anyway.

The relationship starts to form, regardless, through long phone conversations, and accidental meetings around the town.

The investigation is not moving forward, everyone 'knows' who did it, but proving it is another matter.

The delicate dance between doing the right thing, the ethical thing, following the rules, and surrender to the heart's desires takes the reader through the story. The matter is interesting, and the story has beauty in it, and is well written. It does move forward in a crawling pace at times, but is not a story to be given up on

~ Four Spoons

Jess says

Not the greatest romance or suspense story, but I ultimately found it very compelling.

I am apparently in the mood for angst. I blame external factors.

Kate Vale says

While the title suggests a standard contemporary romance, this book is so much more. The murder of Julianne Dawson's beloved Aunt Binnie begins her journey through the investigation to find and arrest the killer. She suspects her own brother, but the thought that a member of her own family could do such a thing is abhorrent. So is the thought that Aunt Binnie's murder will go unsolved as had her Uncle Winston's, decades earlier.

Enter Detective Howie Berry, whose connection with Julianne's family when it owned and ran several major businesses in Durham, does not go unnoticed by him. After all, his mother was one of the mill workers. His father's connection with the plant is not so obvious, because he was one of the executives who denied Howie his fatherly presence until after Howie was an adult and even then, from a distance.

When Howie suspects Julianne's brother, he also suspects he's falling for Julianne, but he can't act on those feelings. Nor can she--unless she no longer cares to catch the criminal, and Howie can't let that happen. His job is to put murderers behind bars and when the killer confesses, the barriers that prevent Howie and Julianne from exploring their feelings for each other remain in place--until each decide to take a chance. But how will her mother and his father react? What about the other family members? And how will even a confession affect the new business Julianne is starting in the new tech-oriented Durham? A suspenseful story worth spending time with.

Anne says

This was a beautifully written glimpse into the changing South, the revitalization of a blue collar town, and the lingering impact of the old social strata on two very contemporary people. Julianne and Howie meet under the most difficult circumstances and struggle to overcome their personal histories while staying true to themselves and edging toward a possible future.

Pari says

This book lacked the excitement and was too predictable.

Patricia says

With all the landmarks, history, and current events this book made me long for my hometown. And,

honestly, I wish the fictitious version of events was accurate and that the Liberty Warehouse was saved... though sadly that has to remain in the realm of fiction. I'm feeling super homesick for Durham right now!

I laughed to myself at the choice of names in the book - Winston, Phillip, Reynold - all of which are winks at NC's tobacco history and its 'royal' families. Great job, Jennifer Lohmann! I appreciate the subtle nod to the history of NC's now-gone era of tobacco greatness.

And even though I still don't like romances (sorry!), I did find the pacing of the love interest to be one of the better ones that I've read. I still have a hard time swallowing the "first glance and they're in love/lust" convention but *A Southern Promise* seemed to deal with the notion much more realistically.
