



A Widow Redefined

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On a cold Valentine's Day in Chicago, Amy White, a young widow who lost her husband to cancer, visits the cemetery and makes an unsettling discovery: a bouquet of fresh daffodils lying in front of her husband's grave.

Curiosity grows into obsession as Amy searches for the stranger who left the flowers, while keeping her activities a secret from her live-in mother and seven-year-old son. The search leads to an unusual friendship that transforms her world and redefines her life.

A Widow Redefined Details

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From Reader Review A Widow Redefined for online ebook

Victoria Brinius says

This book made me cry. When my grandmother died of cancer my grandfather went to the cemetery every day. My father was legally blind, and my mother was his caregiver, so they were never apart. I was there when my dad died, and I will never forget it. I will never forget seeing both my parents in that situation. I thought about this as I read Amy's story. She was full of grief. However she found flowers and she had no idea where they came from. At that moment her grief turned into need. It was the need to learn about how her husband knew the person that was delivering the flowers. I did not expect for Amy to find friendship on her way to the answer, but she did. I also liked the secondary characters of Amy's mom, and Amy's son. Their reaction to the situation was easy to read and they fit right into the main plot. There were times when I got mad at her mom, but that was only because she thought that she was right. I definitely recommend a box of tissues when you start reading this book. I did not really care for the ending, however I understand why the author ended it that way. I am giving this book a 4/5. I was given a copy to review from Orangeberry Book Tours, however all opinions are my own.

Deborah Brown says

Not since Lisa See's Snow Flower and the Secret Fan have I read such a complex portrayal of friendship. A Widow Redefined will resonate with anyone who has ever lost a loved one and learned how to live again.

Becca says

This book was not quite what I expected after reading the description, but it was different in a very good way. I liked that it was not the romance that everyone is dying to read or familiar with. It was real and true emotion that was raw and to the point. This was a great book to bring you back to reality with events that could actually happen in your life or to someone else that you love. Cancer is real and it can strike anywhere and anytime. It is not always predictable and the way that it makes you feel is not always what people hear about. They only hear about triumphs and overcomings, but what about the hardship and difficulty?

The author gave lots of detail in the book, which sometimes could be overwhelming, but in all honesty, it was probably necessary. Amy first finds a woman that she has no idea who she is putting yellow flowers on her husband's grave. I don't know how I would be able to handle something like that. I would feel like he was my love and my completeness. Why is this other woman even here? I was glad that as I was reading this one that there was not much predictability to it. Sometimes that can get boring. I was never bored with this novel and it made me think. I was happy that all my doubts about the other woman were laid to rest as I kept going and the friendship that was blossomed was one that was to cherish. I will let you read the book for yourself and be taken on the journey through a widow that is anything but conventional.

I received this book to review through Beck Valley Books Book Tours, all the opinions above are 100% my own.

Sonya Neal says

This book grabbed me from the beginning and kept me turning pages well into the night, even though it doesn't fit into any typical genre mold (other than maybe fiction or women's fiction). Early on you feel so much for Amy and her little family and the loss of her husband. She starts out the book just making it from day to day, marking time in her own life and trying to give her son the best possible life.

Until she visits her husband's grave on Valentine's Day and sees that someone else has already been there and left flowers. She decides to stalk the grave (of course, it's a perfectly sane response!) to find out who left the flowers there and why.

What she discovers will change the way she remembers her husband, and may change her life forever...

A definite must-read, and it makes you want to reach out to everyone you love to make sure they know how you feel!

One-Click says

Audiobook

This audiobook was provided by the author, narrator, or publisher at no cost in exchange for an unbiased review courtesy of AudiobookBlast.com

Narration - Teri Schnaubelt - REALLY good! Her character's were all distinct and all right where they needed to be. Nothing was over the top. Great job!

Not sure what to say about this book. I really enjoyed it, to the point that when it was over, I was disappointed. I wanted more book!

It's a story about friendship, dealing with grief, learning to go on. It's almost a mystery in the way it is laid out. I honestly had no idea which way the story was going to go, what the point was, what was going to happen, why their strange friendship happened, so I just sat back and enjoyed and let the narrator take me through the story.

So I guess my only complaint was that it ended. I'm such a whiner :)

Great book. Fabulous Narration!

That is all!

Laura Frost says

Holy Awesome! Kim Cano hooked me from page 1. Amy's a fairly recent widow, and hasn't quite gotten

over the passing of her late husband. Making a fairly regular stop by his grave, she sees flowers left by someone else. Who else, other than family, would be leaving flowers on Valentine's Day? Is everything she remembers about to be tarnished?

Amy goes into super sleuth mode. Putting aside her grief for the first time since the cancer stole away her husband, Amy is bound and determined to get to the bottom of the daffodils.

This is the second novel by Cano that I have totally loved. Amy's story manages to be deep, thought provoking, and emotional. Making me want to go up and hug my husband for no reason. With each turn of the page I rooted for Justin to be the perfect husband Amy remembered. Grab your own copy and delve in, but make sure you have a box of tissues with in arms reach!

Teressa says

"A Wonderful Book About a Chance Encounter!"

I would definitely read 'A Widow Redefined' again. I really enjoyed this book. It was sweet, heartfelt, and well written. I like the way this story exemplifies a widow's or anyone's ability to trust another person under the strangest of circumstances. It showed strength in diversity. Amy and Sabrina were from two different worlds, backgrounds. It was really good.

Teri Schnaubelt has a beautiful sweetness to her voice that I really liked. Her voice has great flow and was perfect in this book. I Loved it! If I could have coffee and chat with any character in this book, I would have to say it would be Sabrina. I think she was a good person inside and maybe somewhat needy for friendship and closeness considering her background without giving the story away. I would like to listen to more books written by Kim Cano. I like her style. Also I will listen to more books narrated by Teri Schnaubelt because I think she has a beautiful voice.

Tracy Helps You says

Justin and Amy White were high school sweethearts; they had a wonderful relationship where they dreamed of traveling to exotic places and seeing the world together. Justin worked long hours to support his wife and son, and to save for those longed for vacations. Then the unexpected happened ~ Justin died of cancer, leaving his wife a widow and his young son without a father.

Amy believed her marriage was perfect; that she knew all there was to know about her soulmate. She still mourns her husband's death; she has been going through the motions but not really feeling anything. Until she discovered someone (besides her) was leaving flowers – yellow daffodils at his grave, she started questioning her relationship. Had he been unfaithful? Did he have a mistress? Discovering who this mystery person was became her mission. It gave her a new focus ~ and an unlikely friendship where she learned new things she hadn't known about her late husband. This friendship helped her work through a large range of emotions and become a stronger woman because of it.

I think this story showed a fairly realistic look into the ongoing grief of losing a spouse and trying to start to live (and possibly love) again. I highly recommend it :)

Jan Nelson says

Heartwarming story

A widow redefined has to be one of the most moving books I've read in a long time. Ms. Cano's portrayal of Amy and the depth of her love for Justin will bring you to tears. It makes you realize the process of grieving for a lost love is powerful and that we each find our way back to life in our own time. Amy's inner struggle to stay in the past will break your heart, but you will cheer her on as circumstances unfold that will redefine her life and give her hope for the future.

I would definitely recommend this book. Powerful writing for a first novel.

Laurie says

I was quickly brought under the spell of this book. Written in a particularly beautiful way, the words just seemed to flow lyrically into each other. Amy lost her husband to cancer three years earlier; she is still grieving and basically just going through the motions. She likely would not even be giving it that much effort if it were not for her young son.

Amy thought she knew her husband, but during the course of this story she is awakened to the fact that there were aspects of Justin's life of which she knew nothing. The discovery process begins when she confronts a beautiful, distraught stranger after stalking her to her home.

I loved the flow and rhythm as Amy follows the trail of discovery. I found her journey enlightening, engaging, and at times bizarre. I recommend this book to anyone who enjoys women's fiction.

A digital copy was provided to me by the author in exchange for my honest review.

Reviewed by Laurie-J

Leila says

What a different read. It wasn't my typical romance. It wasn't a fantasy book. It wasn't even a thriller. It was just a normal, every day, general fiction book.

In complete honesty, I thought it dragged on a little bit – a lot of detail, but in hindsight, I'm not really sure what I would change. It just felt slow in the beginning (but that didn't stop me from finishing the book in 3 days time).

I have to say, this is one book I have read in a long time where I could not predict where it was going. I seriously had no idea.

When Amy first finds this mysterious woman leaving yellow flowers on her husband's grave, I was in rage. (Personal crises from the week did not help calm this fire.) I thought the worst (don't I always!) As we got to know the mysterious woman, I really had no idea the purpose or the intentions. In all honesty, I saw the story going a completely different direction than what it really did. (I don't want to give too much away and ruin any thoughts you may develop on your own while reading this story.)

All in all, it was a book that came down to a once in a lifetime friendship that no one saw coming.

It was a very heart lifting story that I truly enjoyed.

Mary Bearden says

This was a very good book! I was surprised because I wasn't sure I was going to like it. It started off making you think that Amy's dead husband might have cheated on her, but he didn't.

The woman who kept leaving flowers at his grave did love him but he told her while he was alive that his wife and son meant the world to him. It takes Amy awhile to adjust to all of this and I am not sure why she got so upset since her husband never did anything. I think this would have comforted me but I guess people react to grief in strange ways.

Their connection is not broken and more tragedy will bind them together later on down the road. A truly captivating story that you won't want to miss!

Terri says

An enjoyable read!

1st let me say I read / listened to this book in audio format via audible.com. I find the voices and excitement added in a narrators voice makes a book more exciting & memorable.

This story is about a woman who loved & lost the love of her life along with yet another woman who also loved him, yet never had him. They became friends after Amy (the wife) tracked Sabrina (the mystery woman) down from flowers she had left at the cemetery.

I enjoyed the emotion Kim Cano had written into this story very much. It even made me cry at 1 point. To give a story that kind of ability is a book well written! This book help my interest from beginning to end!

The narrator Teri Schnaubelt, did such a good job with the voices & made this story even more enjoyable to listen to. She nailed the voice of Sabrina as a rich eccentric woman! Good job ladies!

Michele says

What a marvelous book. It is about loss and friendship. Amy White is left devastated when the love of her life dies young from cancer. She is left with her son and luckily her Mom has moved in with them. Amy goes through her life in a daze--she gets up, goes to work, tries her best to keep her son happy but worries about him. Even after two years she still goes to visit her husbands grave on his birthday to leave flowers. Then

comes the day when someone else has left daffodils on his grave.

Amy is immediately suspicious and bound and determined to find out who this person is and how they were connected to her husband. She does find out and against all odds becomes friends with this woman. She meets a man at a party but does not pursue it. This guy is persistent and funny and suave, and has a singing cat!

Then comes the fateful day her friend tells her the truth. Amy walks away and does not look back, until she receives a phone call telling her that the friend was in a very bad car accident and is asking to see her. She does go. When Mr. Persistent comes knocking at her door (did I mention that he was also her friend lawyer?) with a big surprise-Amy begins to get her life back.

This is a heartwarming book that everyone would enjoy. I definitely give it 5 stars.
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Rebecca says

This really isn't the type of book I would normally pick up but I am trying to get more and more out of my comfort zone when it comes to reading so when I saw the book tour for this title, I knew I had to get involved. The description really throws you as the book doesn't quite tally with the expectation you have going into it - but that's a good thing. After losing her husband to cancer, Amy leaves flowers on her husband's grave only for a day to come where someone else has left flowers and curiosity gets the better of her. There is definite misdirection as you feel the story is going one way and then it pulls you in the completely opposite direction.

Anyone who has ever watched a loved one suffer with cancer (I can safely say that is probably the majority of us) will find this book raw and full of emotion. Grief is a strange thing and it is interesting to go on Amy's journey with her. Friendship and compassion run through this book and you start to see Amy heal. Definitely well worth a read.
