



## A Cowboy's Home

*R.J. Scott*

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**One burned and broken man finds his way home. Can he find peace in the arms of a man easy to love?**

Justin made the ultimate sacrifice for his country, battling domestic terrorism, never the man he really was, using hate to avenge the death of his best friend. The friend he'd killed.

What he doesn't count on is getting shot, and if he's going to die he wants it to be on Crooked Tree soil. Home.

Sam is as much a part of Crooked Tree as any of the families, and the offer to buy into the ranch is a dream come true. But falling for a hidden, secretive, injured man isn't the way to keep his head in the game.

## A Cowboy's Home Details

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Author : R.J. Scott

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## From Reader Review A Cowboy's Home for online ebook

### Adam says

#### 2.5 stars

For over a decade, Justin believed that his family and friends were in danger. He let this belief turn him into a monster - a trained killer. When he finds out that it was all a lie, Justin is determined to break free of those who kept him in the dark. He knows it's dangerous, but if his time is running out, he wants to see Crooked Tree Ranch one last time.

At the ranch, Sam has found a family, something that he hasn't had since he was sixteen. Though surrounded by people who love and accept him, Sam yearns for someone to call his own. When he finds a badly injured man on ranch property, his first instinct is to help.

As Sam helps the man slowly heal, and revelations are made, he finds himself falling for Justin. But Justin doesn't think he deserves Sam's love, not after what he's done.

After the way things ended in The Rancher's Son, I couldn't wait to get my hands on Justin's story. I wanted to know how he and Adam ended up in their situation. Plus, I took a liking to Sam and wanted him to get his HEA too.

The Crooked Tree Ranch has really grown on me over the past two books, so I enjoyed being back there. It was great to catch up with the couples from the previous books, and some of the secondary characters.

I'm a sucker for a hurt/comfort romance, so I really liked the first half of 'A Cowboy's Home'. When Sam first discovers Justin, Justin can barely walk on his own. As Sam helps nurse Justin back to health, the two develop a bond.

For Justin, Sam is the only person on the ranch who doesn't see him through the goggles of a past life. On the other hand, Sam finds that he connects with Justin without much effort, something he's never had before.

So I liked how Justin and Sam's romance began. But I wasn't entirely sold on their relationship after that. There was a lack of relationship development. Justin and Sam just go from tentatively acknowledging that they like each other, to wanting each other forever-and-ever.

Given that the two only spend a couple of days together, during which Justin is in no physical or mental condition to be thinking about a relationship, and then the two separate for a long time, I didn't buy the depth of the feelings for one another.

In classic R.J. Scott fashion, the plot is as over-the-top as I would expect it to be. I just would have liked it to be tightened up some more. The revelations regarding Justin and Adam's disappearance kept me interested, though they didn't entirely make sense. There are big holes in the reasoning behind how the two got into the whole mess to begin with, and how Justin got roped in for over a decade, but then so easily broke free.

Overall, I've got mixed feelings about 'A Cowboy's Home'. I really enjoyed the first half, but Justin and

Sam's lacklustre romance, and a plot that required too much suspension of disbelief, meant that I didn't enjoy this book as much as I thought I would.

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## **Caroline Brand says**

REVIEWED FOR PRISM BOOK ALLIANCE

4.5 Stars

After such an epic ending in book 2 there will be a lot of readers out there glad the author pushed this forward and delivered it ahead of schedule – I am one such person!

Justin and Adam had both been missing for over a decade and presumed dead by most of their family. They weren't in fact dead but both boys went on to very different lives and wouldn't return home for many years. In The Rancher's Son we saw Adam find his way back to the ranch albeit without any memories of who he was. A Cowboy's Home sees Justin finally coming back to Crooked Tree Ranch but his homecoming is very different – he remembers it all, every single minute and he is layered down in grief, guilt and thoughts of revenge.

Sam, the chef from the ranch restaurant, is the person that finds Justin who is hiding and close to death. Sam knows the history of Justin and Adam but didn't know either of the men "before" so he doesn't have the same sort of feelings that the family has when they learn the missing son is home. Instead Sam feels protective of the man he found at death's door and he becomes a sort of buffer between Justin and the rest of the world.

Justin was lied to and I guess forced into the life he has led for over a decade. Ultimately it may have been for a good cause but he was just a child, he was injured, scared and thought his best friend was dead and the man who claimed to care abused him in the worst way. By returning home the way he does he has placed everyone around him in danger. He's pulled in so many ways – he knows he needs to leave to keep his loved ones safe, he still hasn't finished getting his revenge but being around his family for the first time in years is soothing. Sam is an added bonus – his knight in shining armour and someone he would have in an instant in a different life.

I wouldn't call this a romance story – there is a little bit towards the end but this is definitely more about healing Justin both from the past and the present. It's also about Sam healing and leaving behind the ghosts of his childhood, he has finally found a family and a place he belongs.

Links

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## **Cadiva says**

Another brilliant - and again quite different - addition to this series which is shaping up to be one of my favourites from RJ Scott.

In this, the prodigal son returns, but it's Justin's intention to die on Crooked Tree, not be welcomed home and accepted in spite of his 12-year absence and the whole plot narrative centres on how all the broken pieces come back together because of Sam.

Sam, chef at Branches and a man who is also in search of a home, is the anchor who Justin clings to when the proverbial hits the fan after he discovers the badly injured man hiding out in a cabin on the edges of the ranch.

The pacing in this book is pitched perfectly, there's drama but it never becomes too much or overly angst, Justin's done things he thinks the others will hate him for but he can't seem to accept he's the biggest victim of them all.

I loved Sam in this. He has a quiet strength which he's not really aware of but it shines through as he manages to breach through Julian's incredibly high walls and discovers only a tiny snippet of the pain he's hiding.

The rest of the gang is all present too, but unobtrusively, supportive but never overwhelming and I really liked how RJ let the narrative flow so that Julian is the one who slowly unbends and begins to see his life might be worth saving.

I also want to know more about Julian's fellow black ops friend Rob, who seems to be a prime candidate for an RJ Happy Ever After!

Now, onto the final book so far and it's another completely different tale - Sheriff Ryan and an actor!

*#ARC kindly provided by the author in return for an honest and unbiased review*

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### **Nerea says**

#### **POOR JUSTIN**

Yes, he was a bit messy teenager, but the hard events of the past, the guilt of a friend dead and the action of kill another person had totally broken him.

And now he's affronting his last days alive as the way he wanted to live these last twelve years.... Going back home.

But unexpectedly someone goes between him and the dead. Another beautiful soul who is in need of unconditional love and a family <3

This is the most deep and the less romantic of the series. I wish we got a bit more of it, but it fits well with Justin's situation.

We really need to wait a year for the 4? ;\_;

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### **Tess says**

#### **3.5 stars**

I was very pleasantly surprised by the first two books in this series, but this one? Not so much. I was skeptical from the get go because of the OTT nature of this whole thing of what had happened to Justin since he's been missing. Sorry, but there was lots of eye rolling on my part. I could have got over it if this book moved past it and really focused on the romance, but it didn't.

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### **Anke says**

Although I was looking forward to reading this book very much, in the end for me it was rather boring. The MCs were lacking chemistry and the whole story felt fabricated and far-fetched. For the longest time it made no sense at all. In the end I was glad that I was done with it.

Perhaps it was my mood, but that's what it was.

No idea, whether I'll give the next book a try or a pass.

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### **Christelle says**

Third part of the Montana series about a group of childhood friends managing or living close to a ranch. This cannot be read as a standalone as it picks up just where The Rancher's Son ended.

Justin and Adam disappeared when they were 16. Twelve years later, Justin, severely injured, returned to the ranch to hide in one of the cabins. However, Sam, the feisty ranch chef, finds him and decides to help him, despite his better judgement.

More is revealed about the disappearance of Justin and Adam, and about Justin's dark fate. The needed healing goes more than just on a physical level and Sam may be worth seeking redemption.

I enjoyed this instalment a bit less than the previous one : too much insta-lust, too much required "suspend-belief" and not enough steam for my taste.

However, this fateful mystery is gripping. It's not entirely solved and there are still some sexy characters to be paired. Two more books to go into this series from this reliable author and it won't be a hardship !!

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### **Kade Boehme says**

This was a fun series. Book 2 is my fave (Ethan & Adam FTW), but I really enjoyed this one a lot. And omg a 4th book. I'm so down for that.

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## **Karen says**

***So many questions...so many answers...soooooo good!!!***

'A Cowboy's Home' is the third book in RJ Scott's 'Montana' series and it's filled with the answers to my questions and more.

Justin's alive but he's not anyone the man that he ever wanted to be. He's served his country, he's sacrificed everything for his country and the chance to avenge his dead best friend...only his best friend as we well know isn't dead.

When Justin gets shot...suddenly plans change and Justin wants to go home and the only place that's ever been home from Justin is 'Crooked Tree Ranch'. Justin makes his way back to the ranch hiding out in one of the unused cabins where he thinks no one will find him but that's because he's not counting on 'Sam' the chef and now part owner of Crooked Tree Ranch. Sam's tenacious and when he suspects there's someone hiding out on the ranch his curiosity is piqued more than a little bit and he pokes around until he finds what he's looking for and he's determined to help the man who's so obviously sick and desperately in need of help.

As I had hoped when I discovered that this was going to be Justin's story my questions were answered and I got a hella' good story as well. Sam's been in this series since the beginning and he's an adorable, feisty, spitfire who's added a touch of color from the word go. So I liked that he got a bigger role in this story and he got someone who needed him and ultimately fell in love with him.

But 'A Cowboy's Home' was more than just a romance story between Justin and Sam. It's a story about 'coming home' finding love, forgiveness and peace. It's about second chances and new beginnings. It's life giving you what you need which isn't always what you might want.

While I really enjoyed this one, I think I needed a bit more relationship development between Justin and Sam. This one had a lot of info to share with the reader and at the end of it all I just felt that Justin and Sam were a bit short changed...not enough to spoil the story for me but just enough to make me wish there'd been a little bit more for these two.

Sean Crisden was again the narrator for this series and he totally stepped up and made this one every bit as enjoyable of an audio experience as the previous books.

Even though all my questions have been answered about Justin and Adam and what happened to them, there's still one more story to be told in this series and while I'm going to wait for the audiobook for this one and I've got my fingers crossed that Sean Crisden is again the narrator, I'm really hoping that my wait won't be too long for this one.

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## **Denise H. says**

\*\*\* Here we have book three in this magnificent series ! \*\*\*

This is a story about Justin and Sam. An action packed tale of black ops, past issues and what to do from

now forward.

Justin has been lied to and trained as a killer.

Sam is a Chef on the Crooked Tree land,

but he's lonely. Justin's brother Adam got home, and now Justin has finally come to the ranch land. He's injured when Sam finds him hiding out, and it's a struggle to save him.

Eventually the family slowly learns he's home, but no one understands why he was gone so long. Justin and Sam each have a sadness in their pasts.

We have deep thought-filled characters, hot sexy men and an engaging tale that keeps us on the edge.

This is brilliantly written by RJ Scott. I've loved everything I've ever read of hers.

We get our answers and finally the hot sexy times we were hoping for.

Great story ! A marvelous cast !

Highly recommended ! ENJOY !

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Each can stand alone.

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### Cee Brown says

*You hold your breath, and you wish and wish and finally the day comes. Nope, it's not your birthday, it's another story time from RJ Scott and you go crazy!!! Yeah, was waiting for this one on pins and needles like I always do from this author. (OK, I have a small list of authors I go hog-wild over and a guaranteed good read is had when I have one of their books.)*

**Justin was a weapon with no accountability, built to get the job done outside the lines...**

At 16, Justin Allens' life went to pieces and he was never the same again. Kidnapped and tortured with one of his best friend, they escaped only to be torn apart. For the next twelve years, Justin sort revenge against the people who killed his friend and destroyed his life. Now he has been compromised and the very people who made him wants him dead. He finds himself fighting for his his life, determined to end what happened so long ago.

**I need you. To make things right in my head, to balance my life, to be my everything, to give me hope.**

--Justin

Sam came to Crooked Tree for peace. His family disowned him at sixteen and he longed for a sense of belonging. Crooked Tree provided this for him, however, he was still lonely. Enter, Justin. Injured, snarky and still hot. Sam finds himself falling for the fugitive and fighting to save himself as much as he is trying to save *the blond guy with the intriguing silver-gray eyes*.

**Justin had Sam and that was all he needed to have him feel at peace...Life, promise and future.**

Even though most of their budding relationship was during Justin's recovering, there was a connection between the men. Getting Justin to recognize what was in front of him was trying. Like Sam had to find contentment in his family situation, Justin needed the same. In the end, it calls for trust, love, understanding and the willingness to take a leap of faith. As Sam said: *"You were worth saving.*

I totally enjoyed this book. I encourage readers to check out the first two books in the series as I will be going back to revisit these characters.

ARC provided by RJ Scott, Author in exchange for an honest review.

Reviewed by Cee from Alpha Book Club

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### **Susan says**

[either unconscious or delirious from a high fever. (hide spoiler)]

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### **Paul says**

Book 3 in the Montana series.

5-stars!

First, please read book 1 and book 2 first! You'll miss a lot of backstory without them.

Second, I don't do spoilers, so you won't find a retelling of the story or a give-away of what takes place.

This is Justin and Sam's story. But don't worry, the rest of the Montana bunch is in here too.

Justin is the still "missing" brother and friend who disappeared with Adam in 2004. Sam is the flirty;brash/snarky chef.

Finding out what really happened to Justin and Adam was horrific and the family drama/pain that Sam has been through is not much better.

This is the story of two hurt/broken men finding each other and then trying to resolve past hurts to be able to trust, love and live.

There are parts of the story that are truly heartbreakingly, but they don't overshadow the story or make it seem bleak.

Lots of action (right from the first chapter) and the slow-build relationship/romance was lovely.

As a wonderful surprise, there is a note that Montana 4 is in the works! Can't wait to find out who that's about.

Well done, RJ Scott!!

A copy of this ebook was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Serena Yates says**

‘A Cowboy’s Home’ is not just the title of the third book in the ‘Montana’ series, it is also the perfect summary of the events, the feelings, and the drama that has been, and is, Justin’s life. I have been waiting for his story ever since the mystery of his (presumed) death was mentioned in book one, and I am impressed with the way RJ Scott has woven together all the story threads across three novels into a suspense-filled and very moving whole.

‘Montana’ is the tale of three families who jointly own the Crooked Tree Ranch: their secrets and struggles, the disasters and successes that separate and unite them, and the love they all share with each other. It took them years to deal with some of the past events, and I enjoyed every moment of their story I got to share. This third book was my favorite – and not just because it answered all my questions and pulled together all the loose ends. It also gave me two extraordinary main characters who are made for each other, whose romance is a lovely slow burn that has their feelings almost sneak up on them, and who share a passion that burns hot enough to make them forget the past.

Sam is a capable and talented chef, and he runs the restaurant adjacent to the ranch. He has been there for a while but he has never really felt as though he is part of the family. He desperately wants to belong though, and when I found out what his birth family is like when he attends his grandmother’s funeral, I could see why. Sam’s plans to use his “inheritance” to buy into the ranch are received with open arms, but then everything is derailed by the arrival of a wounded man who is stealing food from Sam’s kitchen. Rather than call the police, as is Sam’s first reaction, he ends up trying to help and feels compelled to protect him. Even when he finds out who Justin is, Sam’s loyalties never waver.

Justin is in such a mess, emotionally and physically, I was surprised he managed to make it home to the ranch at all. He has been undercover and on black-ops-like missions for years, and it was tough to see his stories and the truth of what happened to him and Adam unfold. He has suffered so much, but he won’t let himself find peace until he has completed his revenge. He can’t talk to his family, reveals only some of the truth to Sam, and is in a total mess. But as Sam takes care of him, and as he begins to reconnect with his brother and father and his friends, something changes in him and he can finally begin to heal. It was painful to watch, but very rewarding in the end.

If you like the Crooked Tree Ranch and its families with their drama and mystery, if you want to find out what happened to Justin and learn how meeting Sam is the key to his emotional recovery, and if you’re looking for a suspenseful read with complicated characters, relationships, and a grand reveal of the truth, then you will probably like this novel as much as I do. It’s truly a grand finale for this story arc!

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NOTE: This book was provided by Love Lane Books for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

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## **Elsbeth says**

**\*4,5 stars\***

Yeah, I enjoyed this series very much. Great plot and character development.

Adam and Justin had been missing for 12 years. Been torn away from their homes and family. Adam was found in previous book and left with a big memory loss. What happened to him and Justin during all these years. Last book ended with a quick peek of Justin.

This installment starts that Justin is hurt and has come home to Crooked Tree, not to his family but in the environment of his home and he expects to die, peacefully knowing he has kept his whole family safe for all these years. Sam, owner of the ranche's restaurant finds him in a cabin and insists getting help for Justin.

And so the big discovery of Justin starts. Justin, afraid of letting go of his fears, trying to trust again. Sam grounds him, soothes him, is the barrier between him and his family when the emotions get too high....

“I need you,” Justin said, his lips only inches away from Sam’s own. “To make things right in my head, to balance my life, to be my everything, to give me hope.

The romance was not that consuming as the other installments but geeez the emotions. What Justin went through. My heart was breaking for him.

Worked perfectly for me. Sam and Justin were perfect for each other.

I'm happy to learn that there will be another installment.

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