



Shine On

Allison Jewell

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Emmie Talbot is a quintessential good girl.
Smart, Southern, Kind
Church Goer
Small Town Seamstress
Aspiring Teacher
And
A Misguided Moonshiner

Emmie's sole purpose in life was taking care of her moonshine loving step-father. When he is killed in a fiery crash on their farm, she is left alone and frustrated with a mountain of debt. Working as a seamstress for a crazy-old-coot shopkeeper is not the kind of life she had imagined for herself.

The curious events that surround her step-father's death send Emmie on a quest for answers. Answers that lead to a dangerous secret tucked away on her property. Stumbling on a moonshine still was an unfortunate event for most folks in the hills of Kentucky. She was lucky not to have been shot on the spot. Emmie saw hope in the steam escaping the curved copper pipe of "Ole Maizy". However, a series of mishaps put her front and center in a local moonshine war.

In the midst of chaos, Emmie is befriended by an attorney recently transported from Chicago. Silas McDowell is a man seeking some answers of his own. In an attempt to find a little roaring twenties glamour in the small town, he introduces Emmie to the underground world of Speakeasies and Blind Pigs. Loyalty, lies, and murder conspire to push Silas and Emmie together or rip them apart. Cloaked in secrets and unsure whom to trust, Emmie must decide to drown in darkness or find a way to Shine On.

Shine On Details

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From Reader Review Shine On for online ebook

Carissa says

Awesome read. I can't wait for the next one.

Tina says

Great read, loved the story of the moonshine era. Already in love with the charters and can't wait to read the second book in series. Already on kindle ready to read. Allison did a wonderful job with this story.

Book Him Danno says

Life in a rural Kentucky town, during prohibition, where the distilling and sale of illegal liquor (moonshine) plays a significant part. The lead character is just trying to survive and achieve her goal of an education and becoming a teacher. She, innocently, becomes involved in both the distilling and sale of the aforementioned product. This is an intriguing beginning to what must be a compelling saga.

I have rated this book 4 stars.

I obtained this book from Amazon in Kindle format.

Jamie Spugnardi says

The real story is the chemistry between Emmie and Silas. Should this sweet, "good" girl get mixed up with this experienced, "wise guy" attorney from Chicago? I found myself saying run girl... you are playing with fire! The twist at the end about Emmie's childhood is freaking me out; I cannot wait until book two is out this summer!

Anne says

I read this book because of the very good reviews published on amazon.com : rich characters, very real, a page turner, interesting historical background...The book description explains that Emmie's sole purpose in life was taking care of her moonshine loving step-father and we also learn that Allison Jewell, the author, lives in southern Kentucky with her husband, two sons, and dog. The photo on the paperback cover shows a young woman with rather fair hair.

I must say that I read the book with pleasure : the plot is good, the characters nice even if rather predictable, the historical background, interesting as it's the first time I read a book set in this period.

However, I'm quite disappointed with the publisher and Miss Jewell. It doesn't seem they care very much about their readers...

First, the stepfather was not loving but a drunk who abused mother and daughter... Second, one can suppose the cover shows the photo of the heroine....except that she is not fair-haired but described with ebony hair (chapters 21 and 45).

Third, Miss Jewell is said to have a dog... Weird... Because she doesn't seem to know much about their life hope....Chapter 3, we learn that when Emmie was 5, she was given a pup instead of the baby brother she wanted. At the time of the novel, she is 21 (chapter 19). So, her dog is 16 - which is quite old if you consider that the average dog age is 13. Nevertheless, he doesn't show any sign of old age and is quite full of energy for such an old dog.

Fourth, the novel takes place in 1924. In that time, about 10% of the people owned a telephone. We can only imagine they were the richest. I can't see how Emmie or her family could have had one, given their financial problems.... Same thing for Walter... Still more inaccurate is the process described to phone : she picked the receiver and dialed who she wanted to call.... Except that it was not so easy : when you picked the receiver, you didn't dial : this put you in relation with an operator to whom you gave the number you wanted and this operator would put you through....

So, all these approximations and mistakes make less of this book... And I haven't yet research the history of prohibition... Let's hope, this at least was well documented !

Kathy Jo says

Shine On was definitely a book I enjoyed reading and finished it in less than a day. My curiosity is piqued for book 2 and I'm wanting answers for a couple of questions raised in book 1. I liked watching Emmie grow and become stronger and independent when she needed to be but also learn at times she does need to accept other people's help. I loved Silas from the beginning! He won me over the minute he put his coat around Emmie's shoulders. Ava and Gabe are cute. And I loved Trick! He just cracked me up! :o)

Moral note: 4 f-bombs among other swearing... clean kissing scenes.

James Bemiss says

An excellent read from Allison Jewell. I'm a history fan and enjoyed this story from the 20s. This is a must read!

Lola says

Honestly, I should not give Shine On four stars. I have a few reasons for this judgment. To begin with, I don't believe Allison Jewell actually did a lot of research for Shine On. It seems to be a lot of surface knowledge about the 20s, and if you took out a few details of the time (clothing, mentions of Prohibition, etc.) it would be hard to tell what time this was set. I also despised the third person omniscient point of view used. It switched too frequently per chapter, and I wanted more regularity. Either switch between third person limited of Emmie and Silas and whoever else you want to use per chapter, or forgo the idea all together. I also had some difficulty understanding the actual making of moonshine and the dynamics of the 'shine wars. Clarification would have been nice. Still, I gave Shine On four stars because it was fast-paced, exciting, and more satisfying as a romance than any other historical fiction book I've come across set in my favorite era. I loved Silas and Emmie together, and there is no doubt I will continue reading their story. It's

just too addictive! Everyone, go download this on your Kindle.

Shellie Scott says

This story fell in place with so many stories I've heard growing up! Everybody loves your good bad boy and Silas fits that bill.. This is a must read!

Lori says

I really liked this book because I never have read before a book with this setting and plot before. It was interesting. I chuckled a few times too. Plus Emmie reminds me of myself.

Lindsay says

This is a great historical set in Southern Kentucky. I love reading the descriptions of the different places that I can still recognize today. I don't usually read historicals, but this one was interesting because the attitudes, southern dialect, and relationships don't seem to have changed much in the 90 years that have passed, so it doesn't feel like a historical at all. I was disappointed that it ended when it did! I wanted more. I know I'll have to read the next book to get it.

Roy Murry says

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Reviewed by Author Roy Murry

During the USA prohibition of alcohol, strange bedfellows came together to give the drinking public what they wanted - a stiff drink at the end of the day's work or just anytime. It also pitted law-abiding people and casual homegrown moonshiners against the law and criminals.

It sounds complicated, and it was the reason those laws didn't work. It's also why Ms. Jewell's protagonist Emmie, a young Southern innocent lady, ended up in a calamity of events she otherwise wouldn't have.

She was in the midst of a gang warfare without knowing it after her step-father was found dead; she finds a still on their property, and moonshine in a closet. Being a trusting and naive person, Emmie confides in her friends, one of which becomes her lover and, unknown to her, a purveyor of illegally distilled drinks at local joints.

The wooing process of Em and Silas turns into who trust who in the deadly game of supply and demand of liqueur in her hometown. Em's best friend, Ava from the wealthy side of town plays an integral part in both

Emmie's and Silas actions until he takes charge of the game.

Allison Jewell has put together a plausible situation with historical background juxtaposed into the prose. The story keeps the reader interest in the characters whom I presume will continue in Jewell's next novel, Book #2 in the Shine On Series, another must read.

Laramie Briscoe says

Receiving an advanced copy of a book is the best thing about being an author sometimes! I was lucky to receive one of this book. If you're interested in an amazing story about a woman coming of age in a time when moonshine is the alcohol of choice, gangsters run small towns, and secrets threaten to break apart families - this is the story for you!

Kathy Read says

This was a great read! It was a page turner from the beginning. I loved the twists and turns along with the romance. I can hardly wait for her second book.

Skye Turner says

I enjoyed this book.

It was a quick read and I really liked Emmie.

I found the story to be interesting and humorous.

I do recommend the book and I will be reading the next in the series.
