



White Heaven Women

Jessie B. Tyson

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Separated by Death, Reunited by Fate...

In the year 1899, in Whitehaven, Cumbria, UK, Lady Constance Witherspoon, only 14 years of age, gives birth to twin girls during a tumultuous storm. Lady Elisa (Beth) is born with a diagnosis of demonic possession, while her twin, Lady Sarah, is crushed and killed when the ceiling collapses in the storm.

In the year 2000, Sally Witherspane returns home to Whitehaven and is haunted by relentless nightmares about demons and a baby crushed at birth. To discover the meaning of these dreams, she seeks the help of the local psychic, who instructs Sally to attend a past life meeting. It is there that Sally meets Beth Witherspoon.

Persuaded by a ghostly blue apparition, Sally documents a family history filled with deception, abuse and an ancient evil, and she must summon strength and faith to become the woman she is destined to be, one of the last descendants of the White Heaven Women.

White Heaven Women Details

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Author : Jessie B. Tyson

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From Reader Review White Heaven Women for online ebook

Susanne Leist says

I love the old-fashioned ghost story and this book doesn't disappoint. The main character, Sally, returns home to Whitehaven and is soon haunted by dreams and apparitions. She is reading Wuthering Heights, another favorite of mine. The atmosphere of this story reminds of the classic book. Sally dreams of becoming a best-selling author.

Sally attends a town meeting where people tell their strange stories. Beth Witherspoon, 101 years old, is present. She can't speak and is in a wheelchair. She has her diary, which is read by Lillian, who organized the event. Beth was born in 1899 and her twin sister, Sarah, was killed by the storm. Beth believes that her sister has been reincarnated and is in the room with them.

Sally continues to have nightmares. Nightmares of twin sisters. She sees a blue apparition and also the red-eyed demon of Ginns. She's frightened. And then she learns that Beth believes that Sarah is the reincarnation of her sister. She is Sarah Witherspoon who died as a baby.

Sally feels haunted but at the same time has her eye on a handsome gentleman. Her hometown is full of surprises.

Lorraine Carey says

I've had this novel on my 'to read' list for sometime. I was thoroughly into this paranormal novel. The story of Sally Witherspane, reporter, suffers from nightmares and comes to a startling reveal that she is the reincarnation of a twin who was killed long ago. The story delves into the life of Constance Witherspoon who gave birth to twins, only to have one die and one survive a supernatural storm to live with a mysterious affliction that no one could classify. Their journey begins as this young mother and her child endures such hardship your heart will go out to them. When ghostly blue figures begin to appear to the child, she is sure there is a Divine connection with her. This story is well-crafted as Author Jessie B. Tyson weaves the events of the past to the present as all comes full circle. Top-notch entertainment here!

Ed Dee says

A truly lovely tale. The historical significance was extraordinary. The emotional and eye-opening truth about the wide gap between the poor and the elite, the moneyed and their servants(that were treated by most as if they were not human) and the impotent struggle women found themselves in with no rights or legal recognition

.
We are much more civilized these days especially in the area of the handicapped and the impaired. The author's portrayal of Beth and her mother was heart rendering yet inspiring. It sure made me realize how lucky I am to be healthy and loved.

Even though the book included reincarnation it was enhanced with all of the human emotions that makes life bearable.

Well written and recommended.

Helen Stothard says

I'll be honest that the first few pages didn't grip me, but suddenly I was hooked on this story, but suddenly I was hooked on this story, I really loved the historical aspect, and the character Beth was so well written. I'm not sure quite what genre this would be, it's not a ghost story as much as it's a spiritual story. I read it from cover to cover in one session. It had me watery eyed by the end, there's a little bit of everything in this story, sadness, evil, happiness, but mostly I think strength and triumph.

It's the sort of book where you find yourself talking out loud to the characters, getting annoyed at their behaviour and wishing the story didn't take that particular turn. In other words it's a book that engaged me. I can't ask for more than that from my books :-)

Becky Cox says

I was gifted a copy of this book for an honest review.

White Heaven Women was a wonderful surprise. The imagery of the historic element of this book was so well done and accurate in my opinion. The attitude towards woman, social classes and special needs children is heartbreaking but so true to that era.

The modern aspect of White Heaven Women is also well done. The intertwining of the two is an adventure that I enjoyed very much. The ghosts, reincarnation aspect and just plain strange occurrences give this book an entirely other element that is exciting.

Jessie Tyson gives us an historic element, mystery, paranormal presences and romance. She kept me intrigued and turning pages to find out what would happen next.

You will enjoy meeting Beth, Sally and Constance and the many supporting characters you will fall in love with, especially Patrick. There are also a few you will love to hate. Some just plain cruel and some possessed.

I highly recommend this book for lovers of paranormal with an historic romance element.

Reviewed for Jo&IsaLovesBooks Blog

Christoph Fischer says

"White Heaven Women" by Jessie B. Tyson is a well accomplished work of fiction that has a lot going for it: First there is the fascinating and accurately portrayed historical setting of England around 1899 that brilliantly depicts the class system and morals of the time. There are heart breaking scenes about the ignorance and the hardships of those days, but I better not spoil them for you.

The story is driven by a selection of excellent characters who are living some 100 years apart. The links between them are established through supernatural or paranormal elements, namely ghost appearances, reincarnation and psychics. I will admit that these are my favourite supernatural ingredients for a story but the way Tyson has incorporated them into the story is creative and highly original. Both narratives work well on their own as well as in their interactions. Tyson has woven in a lot of issues in her story, so don't think this is a boring ghost story with nothing more to it. Far from it!

Cleverly plotted and holding a tight dramatic curve the story entertains as well as it teaches us a thing or two about history and human ignorance. A fascinating read and a real treat.

Deb Novack says

Ms Jessie Tyson is an author who could be another Agatha Christie only in the paranormal genre. I usually read a few books at a time but when I started reading this book I had to only read this one. This storyline spoke to me of a mothers love for her disabled child, and how this child lived a life that that was filled with hatred,love,illness,discovery and finally the love of a man.As far as Sally being the reincarnation of Beth's twin sister Sarah, I could totally believe it.

Please write more of the same type of books again and soon.

Tina Todd shobe says

This book is about Sally and how her present life came to be.

I loved how the author started out in present tense and then went back in time tracing back history with Sally's ancestor's explaining re-encarnation and how each character came to be. The details in each time period are very good. It made you feel you could actually picture the character in each time and place.

This is a very well written book.

Dorisc says

Her characters are wonderful and I would really recommend this novel to anyone that likes a good ghost story.

Shani Struthers says

Loved the premise of this book so it shot to the top of my TBR! Also loved the setting - Whitehaven, Cumbria - I'm a sucker for locations and this sounded like a good one! It's really the story of Beth - the produce of an incestuous union and the sufferer of an illness not fully understood or understood at all in those days (rather she is thought to be possessed by demons!). Beth and her mother are from a wealthy background but they end up in Ginns Workhouse - this part of the story I loved the best - the writer captured the grimness of such an establishment really well, I found myself shuddering at their plight on many

occasions. Luckily, in amongst the fearsome inmates is Patrick - a Scotsman with a tragic past. I LOVED Patrick, he's a great character and in many ways I'd like the writer to conjure up his story separately, it sounds fascinating. I won't reveal any more of the story, you'll just have to read it to see if they all make it out of the workhouse but one thing I'll say, it's a page-turner. I raced through it and looked forward to returning to the story each day. I would have liked more dialogue in places but perhaps that's just a personal preference, otherwise it was perfect. In fact, it reminded me a bit of Catherine Cookson's writing and, as Catherine Cookson is a hero of mine, that's a very good thing indeed!

Connie says

Fast read. Pretty good.

Michele says

This is a beautifully written story about the fate of people with Muscular Dystrophy back in the far distant past. Constance Witherspoon had twin girls--one was killed soon after she was born when a storm took down a ceiling and it crashed down on her. The other twin had something wrong with her but no one back then knew exactly what it was. Constance would not give up her daughter! The trials and tribulations of this brave woman and her daughter--the true and kind people they met under extreme adversity and the ignorance of the people of that time period will have you reaching for the tissue box.

And then there is the paranormal aspect of this novel. A Strange blue light always seems to be there to protect Beth. There are some truly malevolent spirits hanging around as well.

Reincarnation of Beth's twin--their meeting--our friendly blue apparitions convince Sally to write down the family history of these incredible women.

Read this book!!! That is all I am going to say!!

White Heaven Women

Leeland Artra says

While outside of my normal reading genre I found the book's plot to be an interesting story which I truly wanted to know how it ended by about the second chapter. I kept asking myself "what else can go wrong for Constance and Beth?" Sure enough Jessie mixes in yet another issue to overcome. Honestly the story's plot strikes me as a combination of "Pride and Prejudice", "Sense and Sensibility", with a healthy dose of "Othello."

The writing style was not always easy to follow. Many times it felt flat and it was only my stubborn determination to finish the story to know what happened that I made it to the end. This isn't as bad as you might think; the book reads a lot like the older English classics, specifically "Pride and Prejudice." I am not a huge fan of that particular style, hence the reason it wasn't a thrilling page turner for me.

The paranormal element to the story never seemed to resolve, or at least provide too much context. However,

the exploration of all the reincarnation ideas was interesting by itself. I did go back and re-read a few chapters of "Pride and Prejudice" to allow me to properly gage this book in its own genre style. (Instead of by how I wish it had been written...) This being Jessie's first book her style and prose still need some honing. There are a lot of flat descriptions of scenes, as well as character actions merely to allow telling of backstory elements that could have been mixed in with a bit more treatment. Many of the descriptions have some rough edges. But, I see a fabulous career ahead for her.

The book has a number of interesting characters, a whole bunch of tragedies, and some very strong characters who managed to persevere through it all. The style is not a modern thriller or mystery book. If you enjoy books like "Pride and Prejudice" and "Sense and Sensibility", and enjoy mysteries, and find paranormal ideas interesting this book is for you.

I would rate this book really 3.5 stars. I think this one should be rounded in the author's favor.

Betty says

An intriguing find, this book is definitely using a ghost writer as you will soon see. What does a 101-year old woman, a blue light, Sally Witherspane's nightmares and a psychic have in common? Much more than one might think. Sally has long planned to write a novel, and now is her chance. Sitting at her computer, she finds herself typing the night away but can't remember doing so. Working at a columnist for the White Heaven Weekly, writing should be easy ... but not that easy!

Sally is terrorized by her nightmares of hideous red-eyed monsters and screaming women in old-fashioned clothing. What can it all mean? The sounds and smells are so real, and she is always in the dream. To put even more fear in her mind, a terrific storm rages outside sending lightning crashing into trees and to the ground leaving trails of smoke. Sally is terrified of storms and this one is a whopper.

As part of her job, she has been asked to cover a past-life meeting. The psychic she has met urges her to go to the meeting, too, and to pay special attention to a woman called Lillian Canterbury, who may be able to help her understand her dreams.

What follows is as fascinating story as ever I've heard. A story which begins in 1899 in another raging storm. This is the story of 101-year old Mrs. Beth Madeleine. How, you might wonder, does this woman's story relate to Sally in the year 2000? I think you will enjoy reading this book to find out. Fascinating, paranormal, and historical, this will become Sally's story, and the debut novel written by **Jessie B. Tyson**. Gripping, sad, delightful, suspenseful, paranormal and an eye-opener to life in the nobility of a different generation, it is bound to captivate. I enjoyed it completely.

Arianne The Bookworm on the Loose says

White Heaven Women is a very welcome addition to my growing list of beloved books. Debut author, Jessie B. Tyson makes the reader feel the emotions that the characters were expressing. I found myself shivering a couple of times, and I was even afraid to fall asleep, for fear of having nightmares, which was how the story of White Heaven Women began.

One stormy night, the main character, Sally Witherspane, was having a bad dream which included a red-eyed devil. On the first night that I read this, it was actually raining in our place, much like the rain that Sally had always feared. When I realized this is actually a paranormal novel, I prepared myself for a tumultuous evening. But I stopped at Chapter 3, because I thought I heard something moving outside my bedroom windows. I freaked out! OMG, I thought I could never sleep again. Yes, I was such a coward. Ha! Anyway, the next day, in the afternoon, I continued reading and didn't stop until I was finished.

White Heaven Women is very easy to read and quick-paced. From the moment the author told me of her Audio/Video clip on youtube about the story behind the blue ghosts of Whitehaven, I got intrigued and knew this was going to be a good read. I listened to Jessie's voice five(5) times until I read her book, so her voice was floating in my head while I encountered Sally's nightmares and discoveries. The first part of the book got to me. The retelling of the events that happened a century ago was heartbreaking - the untimely conception of a child, the gossips in the neighborhood, the death of a newborn child, the non-acceptance in the family - all of which were just so sad.

Yet, it was truly a great experience reading a book that talked about reincarnation, love between a mother and a child, the acceptance and abomination of a sickness of a child and the finding of true love. There was character development as the story progresses which was a good thing. The idea of reincarnation was not new to me, as I believe that I was also a "someone" in my past life. Whoever he or she may have been, I think he or she would be pleased to know that I live, lived and definitely will live my life to the fullest.

Kudos to Jessie Tyson for a haunting yet satisfyingly delightful story. I loved the ending, too! You are a great storyteller, your knowledge of supernatural elements in the story were a good concept and it thrilled me to know that it was based on a true-to-life experience. And thank you for taking me to Cumbria, surely it is a magical place; a place I would love to go to in the future. Bravo Jessie, for a compelling debut novel!
