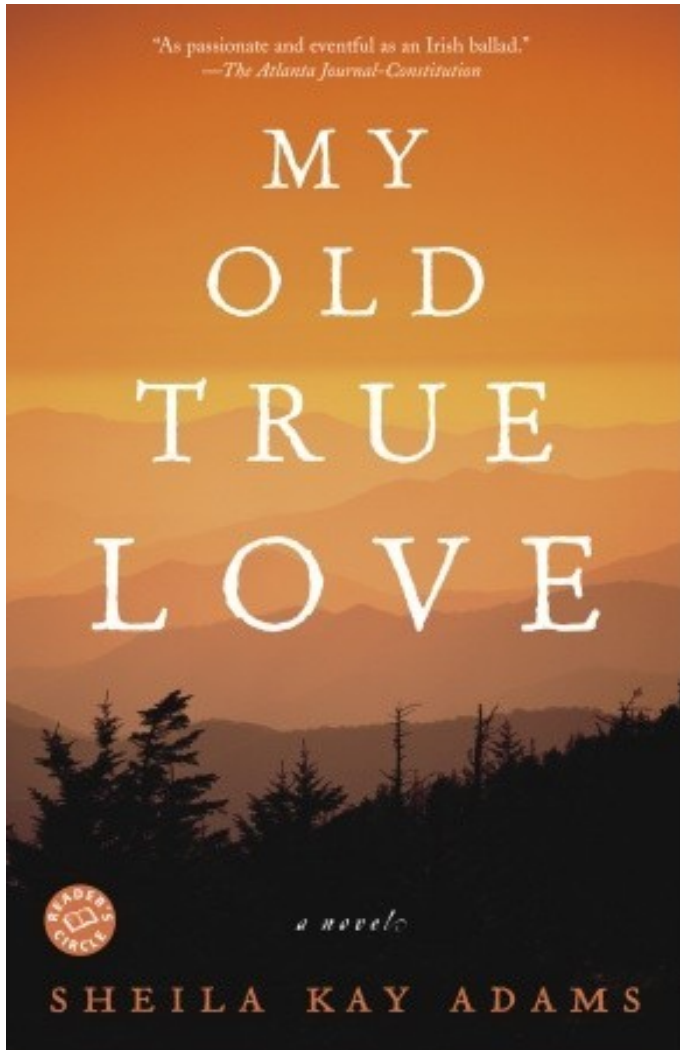

Sheila Kay Adams

My Old True Love: A Novel



Title: My Old True Love: A Novel

Author: Sheila Kay Adams

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Description

In tones as warm and rich as the sun shinging on his Appalachian home, Larkin Stanton sings the country ballads of his heritage. Even before he could talk, Larkin would hum along with his Granny as she warbled. And though orphaned at birth, Larkin was never alone—born as he was into the clannish, protective Scottish community of the North Carolina mountains in the 1840s and placed under the care of his silver-tongued cousin Arty.

As he grows, Larkin feeds on the subtleties of singing. When he goes head-to-head with his cousin Hackley, their ballad contests produce songs that bring a lump to the throat. And as the boys mature, their competition spreads to the wooing of Mary, the prettiest girl around. But shortly after Hackley wins her hand, he must fight in the Civil War. Left behind, Larkin finds himself inexorably drawn to the woman he has always loved. And what he does next will live on in the mournful ballads of his hills forever.

Insightful reviews

Ruth: for book club, great writing, storyline was a bit slow in parts, but overall enjoyed reading it because it described the effects of the civil war on families and individuals, felt the ending was a bit abrupt and left me feeling empty

Jayna: AAAHHH! I stayed up until 1:00am finishing this book because I was loving it so much...but then, THE ENDING RUINED IT. It was such a disappointment. The last few books I've read have all been great reads until the last quarter- I don't know what is up with that! Anyways, this book was like a fantastic mix between "These is my words" and "Cold Mountain." The heroine is full of life and humor and I really enjoyed her wit, and you feel like you KNOW her. But the plot weakened as the climatic ending approached...it was a great build up (with tragedy intermingled in a very authentic Shakespearean way) that just fell absolutely flat.

So close, yet so far away. Three stars for sure.

Margaret: A beautiful book rich with imagery, prose and music of the Appalachian mountains of North Carolina. The first person pov was excellently crafted with humor and observation which sucked me right in. I am a bit disappointed that the author has just one other book to offer, I am hoping that there will be other books in the future. This book was simply magical and the storytelling was stellar which left me wanting for more.

Melissa: i'm a collector of Appalachian literature and this booklet strikes to the head on my favorites list. Taking locations before, in the course of and soon after the Civil conflict this tale is a portrayal of mountaineers and the way they have been sufferers of the war. that they had no real interest in any of the issues, didn't wish to take each side and will purely endure nice loss, which they did. Mountaineers are strong, self reliant , challenging operating parents and so they have been represented as such during this book. I enjoyed he lyrical, poetic rhythm of Adams writing. She additionally wove history and heritage notwithstanding ballads and songs of outdated to tie jointly the tale and to reinforce the beauty. i discovered this publication to be

rather attractive and intensely moving.

Kim: this can be the most effective books that i've got read. it truly is set within the Appalachians of NC before, in the course of and after the civil war. the way in which the characters communicate jogs my memory of the way my grandparents from Ararat, VA talk. I additionally enjoyed all of the previous forgotten songs of the mountains. This publication made me laugh, cry or even blush. this can be a needs to read! under is considered one of my favourite passages from the book. That summer time was once sizzling as hell and dry as a bone. it was once a continuing struggle to save lots of our gardens, whereas the corn patches within the higher box simply withered up and died. We toted bucket after bucket of water from the streams till they dried plumb up. They was once now not sufficient water to clean outfits and everyone went nasty and soiled smelling. We could not even wash the dishes, we simply wiped them fresh and used them back for the subsequent meal. Oh, how I dreaded them white-hot puppy days to come back that rendered snakes blind and mean. Sores could get all caked up with a yellow scab and wouldn't heal after which could come that pink line streaking toward your heart. puppy days-when skunks, coons, bats, and canine went mad, and the creeks will be status swimming pools of sickness. And this yr brough the main dreaded of all to us, and that used to be the fever.

Hannah: ranking Clarification: 4.5 Stars Two issues instantly off: 1. the following time i am getting on my soapbox complaining concerning the caliber of latest liberate books verses these oldies which I so dearly love and champion, i must remind myself of this unbearably appealing and (almost) ideal novel. Had the final 15 pages performed out in a marginally diversified way, had I no longer felt the top was once rushed, anticlimatic and "tacked on", it is going to with none doubt be the easiest fiction i have learn all 12 months (and in a protracted time, to boot). 2. This e-book must also function a cease cost for while i am engaged on convincing myself that non-fiction is best than fiction, simply because while a singular like this one comes alongside on your examining world, and the writing is so brilliant, you as a reader start to reflect on those fictional characters as real: as respiring and speaking and loving and agony and every part you feel. You develop attached. You snicker with them. You cry with them. they're as genuine because the Velveteen Rabbit...:) Yes people, it used to be that sort of extraordinary .My previous real love is a straightforward but powerfully written tale of relatives ties, love, struggle, pain, war, loss and redemption set within the Appalachian mountains of mid-19th century North Carolina. writer Sheila Kay Adams creates a very genuine studying adventure via her characters and their "voice", the plot woven one of the surroundings and time period, and the outdated folks ballads which are sprinkled in the course of the story. Our narrator via all of it is Arty Wallin, a robust and opinionated mountain lady who's the genuine middle and soul of the book. this is the place Adams' writing brilliance and realizing of the sector and tradition fairly shines. As a local North Carolinian, i have met humans like Adams has created, i have heard a few of these songs, and use a few of the expressions, idioms and slang. The authenticity came across during the pages resonated very deeply and individually with me. Adams is a real storyteller within the old school – she has performed her mountain ancestors proud. Along an analogous vein, i'd suggest Sharyn McCrumb's The Ballad of Tom Dooley. McCrumb's tale isn't as robust IMO, and the characters are just about all unlikable, yet there's a similarity of varieties among the two. Adams, however, wins the Appalachian-ballad-loving-mountineer-saga palms down.

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