



The Last of the Honky-Tonk Angels

Marsha Moyer

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From Marsha Moyer, the critically acclaimed author of *The Second Coming of Lucy Hatch*, comes a second novel as rich in atmosphere and heart, as brimming full of colorful, unforgettable small-town characters and incidents as her notable debut.

On a lazy June morning in Mooney -- a wooded patch of sparsely populated northeast Texas -- a shiny red Chrysler sedan pulls up to the home of Lucy Hatch and her live-in beau Ash Farrell, depositing a teenage girl on their doorstep before speeding away. For Ash, town carpenter and musician, the unheralded arrival of his daughter, Denise -- whom he hasn't seen in nearly eight years -- is a major life-altering shock. It's a surprise for Lucy as well, since she's had little reason till now to recall the fourteen-year-old's existence. And the unanticipated intrusion is certain to further complicate Lucy's increasingly complex relationship with Ash, now that she has discovered she is pregnant with his child.

Angry, rebellious, and uncertain -- having been unceremoniously dumped by her mother on the father she barely knows and the stranger who now shares his life -- Denny must somehow find a place where she belongs in a town far tinier than any that has imprisoned her before. But it's not until she picks up Ash's guitar -- and hears the songs that were born in her father's heart -- that Denny and Ash are drawn closer together by the common bond of music. In its haunting strains and true emotions lies hope -- that Denny can finally settle down, that she and Lucy can build a real friendship, that all of them can become, at last, that most rare and precious thing: a family.

But anything that happens in a place as small as Mooney has repercussions for every one of its residents. And when an ugly incident divides the community -- raising specters of suspicion, hatred, and intolerance -- the members of the growing Farrell-Hatch household will be deeply affected as well.

From its rollicking dance halls to its tree-shaded front porches, the world Marsha Moyer creates in *The Last of the Honky-tonk Angels* draws us inexorably in and makes us feel right at home. A glorious novel of love, family, and forgiveness, it is at once funny and poignant, startling and uplifting, richly imbued with the author's luminous prose and a vitality that reminds us all of how good it is to be alive.

The Last of the Honky-Tonk Angels Details

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Author : Marsha Moyer

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From Reader Review The Last of the Honky-Tonk Angels for online ebook

Chloe Lockhart says

I thought this book was ok, but nothing special. I found it dragged on in the second half, but I was invested enough to read through until the end.

I didn't realise though that this book is part of a series, so I might have had a higher opinion if I had read the first book to understand the characters more.

Sue Ann Colvin says

My favorite of the series. Books like these fly in the face of the standard advice to novelists not to have too many characters. Moyer not only creates an ensemble of personalities, she treats them all as the complicated human beings that they are and allows us to see them and love them as Lucy does.

Mandy says

My favorite of the series--#2 of the Lucy Hatch books. Lucy is still tentatively moving forward in life, but her space is shared now by Denny, her 15 year old stepdaughter. I like continuing Lucy's story & narrative, but I especially enjoy Denny's young, fresh perspective.

Pluses: Denny's narrative, curiosity, new perspective on her father & soon-to-be stepmom, getting to know a bit more of Ash's heritage and going more in-depth with already loved characters.

Minuses: Slap-dash plot, trying to hold together too many lines at once and failing on some of the deeper levels (less race relations, more music & personal histories would have been my preference).

My favorite.

Marleen says

This was a thoroughly enjoyable read, a very pleasant continuation to the story of Lucy Hatch and Ash Farrell. I'm a big country music fan; I might be biased.

Denny, Ash's daughter is a wonderful addition to the "household". She's so exceptionally wise for her age; at times I wondered if that was possible for a girl of 14 to have this much insightfulness? She was often smarter than her elders.

I'm looking forward to reading the 3rd and 4th book telling the stories of these wonderful characters.

Jill Nieters says

One of my absolute favorite books I've read. Funny, profound, deep, familiar. Loved the characters. The music. The setting. Will reread this one in the future.

Anne OK says

The saga of Lucy Hatch and Ash Farrell continues. This installment introduces us to Denise (or Denny as she prefers to be called), who is Ash's fourteen year old daughter. Marlene, Ash's ex-wife drops Denny off at Ash's house early one morning unexpectedly. She then takes off for Chicago without further ado. I loved the thoughts that go through Denny's head as she and her dad try to re-establish a relationship.

This series is such fun to read and has so many delightful characters in the little town of Mooney, Texas. Whether we're two-stepping to the Ash's country music or cooking up a big pot of greens from Aunt Dove's garden or watching another sparring match between Ash and Lucy, this series has won over my heart. It's a dang good story that continues to grow with each new installment.

Cindy says

I enjoyed this book very much. It continues just a couple of weeks after Moyer's first book The Second Coming of Lucy Hatch. Lucy and Ash are still hot and heavy - lovin' and fightin' when Ash's fourteen-year-old daughter is dumped on them. This book alternates points of view between Lucy and Denny.

The townspeople are a great bonus and I was surprised that even in this small East Texas town, racial ugliness would raise its head.

I'll be waiting a couple of months to read the next book in this series Heartbreak Town.

This series MUST be read in order!!!

2011 - NL Book Crawl - Texas

2011 - NL Color my Palette - Chocolate Truffle

Max says

Lucy Hatch is in love with Ash Farrell. That is not in dispute. What is in dispute is what to do with Denise "Denny" Farrell, Ash's 12 year-old daughter, who has just been unceremoniously dropped-off at her dad's front steps by her mother, who is on her way to Chicago and some sort of "job opportunity". I am thinking that this might have not been so bad, except Lucy Hatch just found out she and Ash are going to have a baby, and they are not set up for a baby, much less a 12 year-old girl.

The people in this book are always looking for something--Lucy is looking to make Ash happy, Ash is looking to make Lucy happy, both Ash and Lucy want to make Denny happy. None of them realize that the others are all trying to do the same thing that they are doing. Only when they realize that it's love, and

nothing else, that makes a family do they each begin to heal and become the family unit that each has been wanting their whole life.

Jenn says

Lovely, really. I spent a lot of time being very worried about everyone, and my goodness but there were a lot of plot points to work out, but, oh, gardens, and holding hands, and old burned-down churches, and Ash Farrell, who's still sexy as hell, even when he's being an asshole. Now we need one from his point of view!

Becky says

2.5 stars. I didn't enjoy this much, "The Second Coming of Lucy Hatch" introduced you to the characters and story line. This sequel had Lucy and Ash crabbier and crazier, though I did like the Denny character that was introduced. Aunt Dove still great. But as far as story goes, it just didn't capture me.

Sheila says

I still don't know what I think about this series. I'm pretty sure I'm going to read the next one, because this ended where I wish it would have started, but there are a lot of things about it that I don't like. It is way too drawn out and I get bored of it after only a few pages. I had to put the book down and go back to it many times. I still enjoy the character of Ash and still don't like Lucy.

Peggy says

I enjoyed the book very much. It is very easy to read and enjoy. the characters were well developed and seemed like they just walked off the page. They were very realistic. the plot was good and I enjoyed the two different points of view: Denny, a 15 year old girl who had not seen her father for 8 years and Lucy, a 33 year old widow involved with Denny's father.

Jennifer says

The continuing saga of Lucy and Ash, now with a few more characters thrown in for spice and added adventure! This is a great continuation of Lucy's struggle to find her feet on solid ground and make her way in this life. I'm moving on to the next one (Heartbreak Town) with high hopes for another great book!

Kathy says

What a wonderful author! ! !

I love the descriptions of nature. Give me those sunny blue skys and the dark blue-purple of night with stars

peaking out. Reminds me of summers long ago.

This story set in small town (where everyone knows your business, often before you do) Northeast Texas is fast paced and full of the wisdom of an old Aunt - Dove, a fourteen (almost fifteen) teenager and the adults she lives with. The story blooms with the interpretation of Denny, Lucy and their take on many family and small town events. The exploration of the feeling of these two is remarkable and full of fun, music and angst. I plan on following the next two

Jeanne says

I enjoyed this second book regarding Lucy Hatch as much as the first. Again towards the end, it kind of lost something, but at this point by the second novel in this series, I truly can say I've fallen in love with the characters. I will probably continue to read stories about Lucy Hatch, just to check up on her and see how's she's doing.
