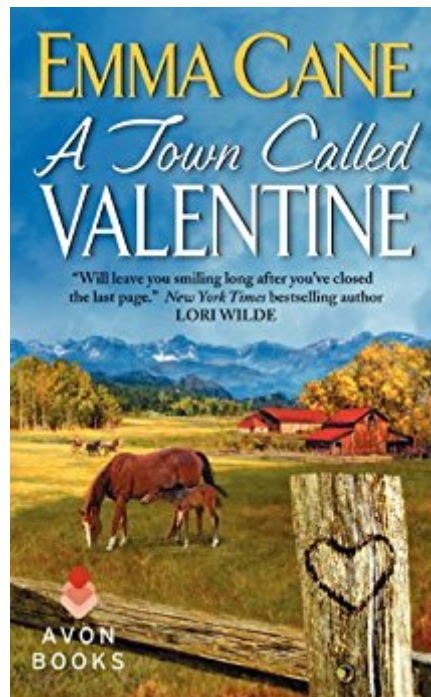


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# A Town Called Valentine: A Valentine Valley Novel



## Synopsis

Will leave you smiling long after you've closed the last page. "Lori Wilde, New York Times bestselling author of *The First Love Cookie Club* Small towns, rugged cowboy heroes, and passion are a perfect combination when it comes to contemporary romance "just ask the many fans of Susan Wiggs, Robyn Carr, Lori Wilde, and Linda Lael Miller. Now newcomer Emma Cane joins their ranks, transporting readers to fictional Valentine, Colorado. In the first book in Cane's heartwarming and deliciously sexy series, a young woman with a painful past and a rancher who's no stranger to heartbreak find love in a tiny western town known for happily-ever-afters | *A Town Called Valentine*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Emma Cane's debut novel, *A Town Called Valentine*, is the first in a new series set in Valentine Valley, Colorado. Newly divorced, Emily Murphy is only in town to sell the building she inherited, but things aren't going as planned. Her car dies; the previous tenants virtually destroyed the building; and there's also the near one-night fling with a handsome cowboy that's leaving Emily a little shaken. She's just gotten out of one bad marriage and plans to sell the building for enough money to attend college back closer to her home in San Francisco. Needing to fix up the place before she

can sell it, Emily hits the computers to learn how to handle home repairs. Nate Thalberg is smitten with Emily, but he's not the staying kind. All of his past relationships ended with him fleeing the minute things get too comfortable. Why his attraction to Emily isn't dwindling is beyond him. It's for that reason that he finds himself offering to help Emily out, and the more time he spends with her, the more he realizes that he's becoming far too attached. The setting of this book is half of the appeal. Valentine is a small town where people know each other. It's the kind of town I'd love to be part of instead of living in an area where people keep to themselves and it's rare for you to even know your neighbors first names. If you attempt to welcome a new neighbor to the area, they look at you like you're psychotic. It's not the type of neighborhood where I grew up and I'm sad to see so many areas like that now. For this reason, I really had fun getting to know the setting and the characters. There are a number of minor characters who should appear in future books with their own romances. Nate's brother and sister, Emily's new friends and the widows who take Emily under their wing all deserve their own romances. I can't wait to see what is in store for them all. The next book is due out in February 2013, and I can't wait to read it!

When Emily Murphy returns to her mother's hometown it is with a broken heart and a simple mission. She wants to clean up a building that she now owns, put it up for sale, and then return to San Francisco to start her new life. What she finds in Valentine Colorado is a chemical attraction to a helpful cowboy named Nate, a building in need of tons of repairs, and a bombshell about her paternity and past. Suddenly Emily finds herself immersed in a town that's welcoming and warm and uncovering her past while learning some things about herself and getting wrapped up in Nate. This book was very reminiscent of the Virgin River series by Robyn Carr. A cast of characters that are intriguing and seem to have that old fashioned sense of community where everyone is looking out for everyone else and there is a comfort in the fact that everyone knows everyone and the warmth and affection is genuine. And like Carr's series, it reads more like a novel than a romance. While there is plenty of heat between Emily and Nate, it's not the focus. There is more substance than sex in this tale. Both Emily and Nate have been burned by relationships so they are cautious when it comes to one another. Emily's jaded views I understood. Nate's past troubles never made sense to me, even when he finally explained them. I found myself thinking "yeah, so?" It made his reasoning and his helping hands seem a little ridiculous. But other than that small gripe I found myself completely invested and enjoying myself. The way the book read I am assuming, and hoping, there will be more stories set in this town. I would really like to hear what happens to Monica, Josh, Brooke and the rest of the characters. I think this author has created something wonderful. Cherise

Everhard, November 2011

I was on the fence between calling this book "disappointing" and "okay". This novel just didn't do it for me. I thought it was totally predictable. It was so slow that I wanted to slap the heroine for being hot one minute and cold the next. She was involved in trash removal for so long I was ready to jump a plane and help her out and she could have had the trash out in record time if she didn't socialize with the woman next door forever and a day.. The hero walked around frustrated through much of the book but that was his fault for always putting himself in a situation where that would happen. The side plot of Emily's real father was neither interesting nor surprising. By the time I got to the end of the book I could care less about any of the characters. I guess it was more "disappointing" than "okay".

Welcome to the Colorado Mountains. This debut novel is hopefully the beginning to many additional installments. Emily Murphy came to Valentine, Colorado to escape her past. Emily is recently divorced and hoping to quickly sale the building she inherited from her mother - she is going to use to the proceeds from the sale to fund her college tuition. However, she runs into problems at every turn; she has a meet and greet, make that meet-and-grope, session with a stranger in a bar, then discovers the building is a dump - with no money and no place to stay - she accepts an invitation to stay at the WIDOW'S BOARDINGHOUSE. Nate Thalberg, local cowboy, feels an immediate attraction to Emily. Seeing her distress, Nate feels an almost compelling need to take care of her. For Nate, that is something that happens to him often - but it is the one thing that he can't seem to control. When Emily discovers her building in major disrepair, he knows that she will need his help - even if she is reluctant to accept it. Before long, Nate finds himself unable to maintain the distance they agreed too - he wants to claim Emily for his own. This is an emotion packed book that will make you laugh and make you cry. Emily's plight comes right off the pages and you can't help but love her. Her confusion over her feelings for Nate tears her, and me, in two. Nate and Emily come together, two people who never expected to find what they found. Nate never thought he could have a permanent attachment to a woman, for fear of hurting them. Emily didn't think that she could ever love again after her husband betrayal. The secondary characters enrich the story. Valentine is a town the reader can't help but love and will want to return to again and again.

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