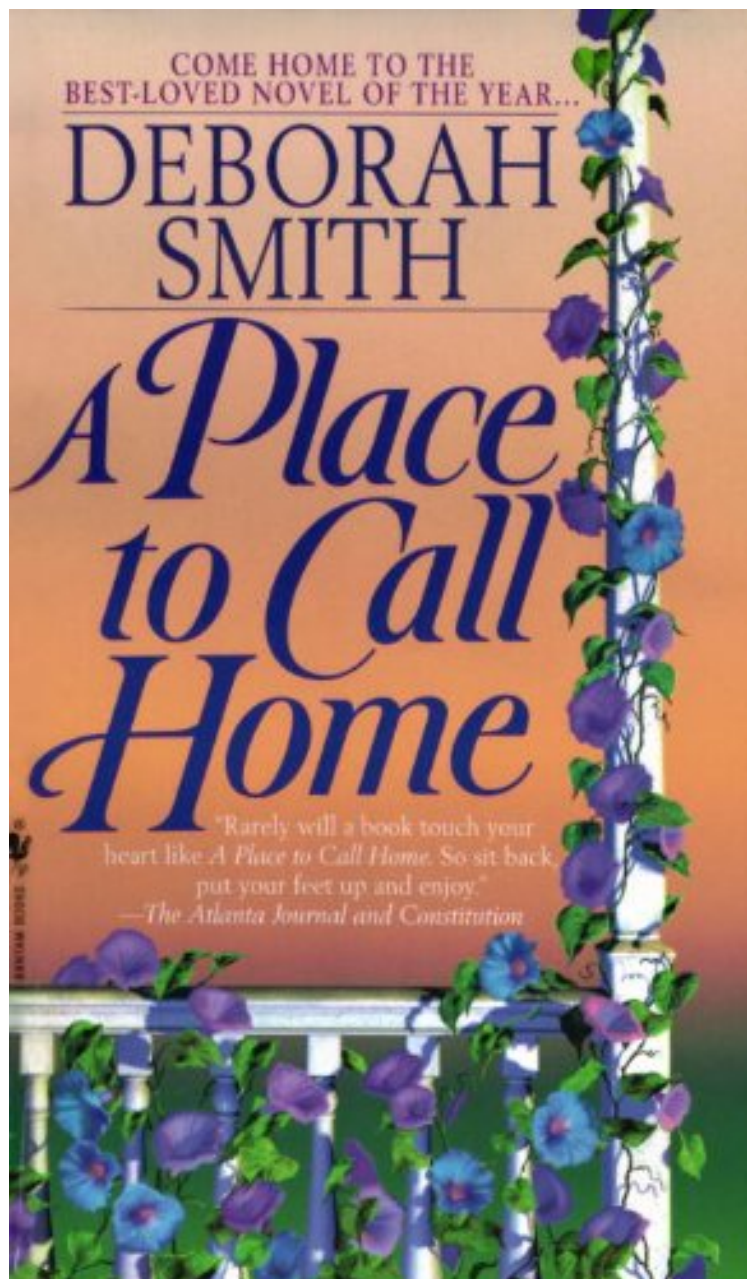


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A Place to Call Home

Von Deborah Smith

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Von Deborah Smith : A Place to Call Home before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Place to Call Home:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Could someone explain what's wrong with a happy ending? Von Ein Kunde I read this book about Roan and Claire and was delighted. I read "Hear on Earth" by Alice Hoffman right afterward. It was an Oprah book club selection and got great reviews. It's essentially the same tale but much, much darker with a violent ending. The Kirkus review of "A Place Called Home" calls it "A cloyingly sweet love story whose willful heroine and grudge-bearing hero remain strangely unsympathetic." Do reviewers have a bad attitude or what am I missing? Why do they always seem to pan uplifting tales? If I'm going to read for enjoyment I want to be optimistic about the possibilities in life, not constantly hammered at with twisted psyches and violent motives. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A book about love, family and redemption... Von Ein Kunde If you've ever rooted for the underdog or felt the pain of rejection, you'll understand the emotions in this novel. Claire, at the tender age of five, knows that Roanie is someone special. Despite the horrible things that are said and done to Roanie, both by his father and the community, Claire stands by him. Roanie longs to leave his "white trash" roots and just be able to trust someone. He trusts Claire, but they are too young to change the prejudiced ideas of their community and most of her extended family. Through fear, distrust and violence, Roanie and Claire are torn apart. Years pass, they long for each other, but Roanie has secrets he believes will keep Claire from him and Claire is not able to find him, though she sees him in strangers on the street. In her greatest hours of need, Roanie comes back to her and through tears and anger, letters of love and finally understanding, they are able to let go of the past and face a bright future. --- I have always loved Deborah Smith's ability to make her characters real for the reader. I do find myself rooting for the underdog, laughing at their humor and crying "with them" in their grief. I haven't read a book by Deborah Smith that I haven't loved! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The characters come alive - a book you will not want to end. Von Ein Kunde As an avid reader of many different types of books (including romance), I am pretty picky about the quality of writing. Deborah Smith enchants the reader with her knowledge of children's reactions and expressions. In this book she makes you want to live in the Georgia Mountains. You will love Claire and Roanie as children and as adults. A lot of romance fiction writers rely on sex to make the novel a good read. This has a rare blend of true, touching romance that reminds me of Lyrle Spencer. Rarely has a book come alive from the pages for me. I highly recommend this one and I warn you - you will be tired for work in the morning, because you can't put this book down!

Kurzbeschreibung Twenty years ago, Claire Maloney was the willful, pampered, tomboyish daughter of the town's most respected family, but that didn't stop her from befriending Roan Sullivan, a fierce, motherless boy who lived in a rusted-out trailer amid junked cars. No one in Dunderry, Georgia--least of all Claire's family--could understand the bond between these two mavericks. But Roan and Claire belonged together...until the dark afternoon when violence and terror overtook them, and Roan disappeared from Claire's life. Now, two decades later, Claire is adrift, and the Maloneys are still hoping the past can be buried under the rich Southern soil. But Roan Sullivan is about to walk back into their lives.... By turns tender and sexy and heartbreaking and exuberant, *A Place to Call Home* is an enthralling journey between two hearts--and a deliciously original novel from one of the most imaginative and appealing new voices in Southern fiction. From Booklist Claire Maloney is the protagonist in this story of a well-to-do Georgia family that dates back to early Irish roots. Claire's childhood friend was Roan Sullivan, white trash from a poverty-stricken neighborhood. When Claire was 10 and Roan 15, the boy killed his father when the elder Sullivan attacked Claire. Roan is sent away; 20 years later, he comes back into her life. Smith, author of five other novels, is an exceptional storyteller. She begins this entertaining novel with, "It started the year I performed as a tap-dancing leprechaun at the St. Patrick's Day carnival and Roanie Sullivan threatened to cut my cousin Carlton's throat with a rusty pocket-knife." If ever a novelist hooked a reader with the opening sentence, this is it. Expect demand by patrons who relish popular fiction that is at once exciting and heartwarming. George Cohen From Kirkus sA white-bread take on the stock elements of southern family saga--family secrets, eccentric relatives, the importance of place, and the girl who falls in love with a handsome boy from the wrong side of the tracks. Fourteen-year-old Roanie Sullivan, a motherless boy whose father, Big Roan, is a violent drunk, is an outcast in the small Georgia town of Dunderry. But nine-year-old Claire Maloney, the spoiled daughter of a large, prominent family, springs to his defense--offering him rides to school and helping to clear him when he's accused of stealing money. Despite his traumatic upbringing, Roanie is responsible and upright, and, after Claire's cousin Carlton knocks out some of his teeth in a fight, the Maloneys offer him a home. Roanie works hard around the Maloneys' farm and causes peace to break out between the family's warring matriarchs; meanwhile, he and Claire become best friends and swear a chaste love. Then Claire, seeking help after her Great-Gran has a car accident, stumbles into Big Roan's trailer; he hits her and threatens to rape her before Roanie shows up and shoots his father dead. Roanie is sent to a foster home, while Claire is left to brood about him. Shift then to 20 years later: Roan, who's nursed his passion for Claire but failed to get in touch, has become a millionaire real-estate speculator and adopted a son, Matthew, who, according to rumor, is the illegitimate child of Claire's uncle. When Roan learns that Claire, now a prizewinning reporter, has been badly injured while fleeing a wife-batterer who's angry

about one of her stories, he seeks her out. The two fall effortlessly back in love, and the last hundred or so pages can only defer their happiness through red-herring complications. A cloyingly sweet love story whose willful heroine and grudge-bearing hero remain strangely unsympathetic. -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.