

The background features a complex network of white nodes connected by thin white lines, set against a gradient background that transitions from dark purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with some forming larger, more interconnected clusters than others.

# One More River to Cross

Written by Jane Kirkpatrick

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Published by griefconvention

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# One More River to Cross

By Jane Kirkpatrick

## One More River To Cross

In 1844, two years before the Donner Party, the Stevens-Murphy company left Missouri to be the first wagons into California through the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Mostly Irish Catholics, the party sought religious freedom and education in the mission-dominated land and enjoyed a safe journey--until October, when a heavy snowstorm forced difficult decisions. The first of many for young Mary Sullivan, newlywed Sarah Montgomery, the widow Ellen Murphy, and her pregnant sister-in-law Maolisa.

## One More River To Cross Book

When the party separates in three directions, each risks losing those they loved and faces the prospect of learning that adversity can destroy or redefine. Two women and four men go overland around Lake Tahoe, three men stay to guard the heaviest wagons--and the rest of the party, including eight women and seventeen children, huddle in a makeshift cabin at the headwaters of the Yuba River waiting for rescue . . . or their deaths.

## One More River To Cross Chords

Award-winning author Jane Kirkpatrick plunges you deep into a landscape of challenge where fear and courage go hand in hand for a story of friendship, family, and hope that will remind you of what truly matters in times of trial.

Thanks to the publisher, Revell, via LibraryThing, for an ARC in exchange for my honest opinion.

This is a story of survival based on true events in 1844 about a group of people from Missouri traveling through the Sierra Nevada mountains to find a better life in California. They encountered unimaginable hardships of starvation, cold, separation from loved ones, and birthing babies in the wilderness.

I am always interested in how an author gets an idea for a novel. Jane Kirkpatrick saw a footnote in *The Brazen Overlanders of 1845* by Donna M. Wojcik. Writing of the Bear River country, "they camped in the valley near a log cabin built by 1844 emigrants.... Here the snow must have been very deep for some of the trees had been cut off 8 feet from (above) the ground.... This cabin was occupied the winter of 1844 by women emigrants looked after by James Miller." For Jane Kirkpatrick the obvious question was, who were those women and what were they doing? So a few years later, she began her research.

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There were so many characters in this novel that the author compiled a list at the front of the book with pertinent information like who was related or married and a comment as to their occupation, personality, etc. It was very helpful since I have a hard time remembering details when there are so many characters. There is also a map which helps to envision the route they took.

I felt this novel was too long. There was so much misery among the people who endured the trip, I felt depressed, cold, and hungry most of time while reading. I don't mean to diminish the courage and strength it took for the people to survive, but the slow pace was hard to handle with all the trials and tribulations going on. ...more

## One More River Lyrics

What a thoughtful, inspiring, beautiful book! I truly believe in 2019, people need instant gratification and action. That is why this amazing book is getting low ratings. This book is historical fiction based on real pioneers. It naturally happens and is authentic to the time. Yes, it's leisurely but it's exactly authentic and how a pioneer story should be. I grew up listening to my grandmother telling me stories of my pioneer ancestors. Jane Kirkpatrick sounds like my grandmother sitting at her kitchen table telling me stories. What a thoughtful, inspiring, beautiful book! I truly believe in 2019, people need instant gratification and action. That is why this amazing book is getting low ratings. This book is historical fiction based on real pioneers. It naturally happens and is authentic to the time. Yes, it's leisurely but it's exactly authentic and how a pioneer story should be. I grew up listening to my grandmother telling me stories of my pioneer ancestors. Jane Kirkpatrick sounds like my grandmother sitting at her kitchen table telling me stories. These are my people . So much love for this book! ...more

Title: One More River to Cross

Author: Jane Kirkpatrick

Pages: 352

Year: 2019

Publisher: Revell

My rating: 4 out of 5 stars.

I am always amazed to read how various authors get started on a novel. Whether it's a person of history or an event it just fascinates me. The novel One More River to Cross began when the author read a footnote, which you can read about in your copy, and from there she set out to learn more. Jane Kirkpatrick does a very good job of researching and portraying true events as close to reality as possible. When she writes the story, there are times she might deviate from what occurred if she knows what did or if there is no way to know, and her ability to create a believable tale is exceptional. Before I started reading the tale, I read in the back the Author's Notes and Acknowledgments, which lets me know fact from fiction. For me, it doesn't diminish my ability to enjoy the novel. In fact, it enhances it knowing the truth from fiction. In the beginning of the book, Jane lays out her characters' histories such as who they are, if they are married and to whom they are related. Having this helps me if I forget as I read who is related to whom.

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One More River to Cross

October 1844 is where the reader's journey begins, traveling with women who must face a harsh wilderness with courage and fortitude. In a time where there wasn't any way to communicate instantly with a loved one or know what lay ahead, these women had to carve out a living with their children until they reached their destination.

What is so gripping is the precariousness of life in the wilderness and traveling long distances always keeping in mind the unknown future. These women had to fight to live. It wasn't pursuit of riches or fame but wanting a future. I hope readers enjoy following these Winter Women to their destination through a vast and unkind wilderness to reach a future they believed would be better.

May you enjoy the novel and the journey!

Note: The opinions shared in this review are solely my responsibility.

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## One More River Book

One More River to Cross by Jane Kirkpatrick is an interesting read. One that brings a story of traveling from one land to another, alive. There were so many dangers presented in this book. Many did not survive trips like these. Still so many treaded forward. Hoping for the promise of a new life. Loss, grief, fear, and hope were mixed on every page. The unpredictability was good. I kept on wondering what next. They story was well-written. Slow but steady was the pacing. I did feel like the plot w One More River to Cross by Jane Kirkpatrick is an interesting read. One that brings a story of traveling from one land to another, alive. There were so many dangers presented in this book. Many did not survive trips like these. Still so many treaded forward. Hoping for the promise of a new life. Loss, grief, fear, and hope were mixed on every page. The unpredictability was good. I kept on wondering what next. They story was well-written. Slow but steady was the pacing. I did feel like the plot was not as engaging as I expected. However, I could feel and sense everything the cast of characters were experiencing. That made this a worthy read.Â Growing up in this time period was tough. The characters had my sympathy all the way. Overall, the book was realistic and a good historical trip.Â

I received this copy from the publisher. This is my voluntary review. ...more

Set in the American West of the 1840's, this novel is based on the obscure true story of a group of pioneer families who set out for and reached California, after enduring hardships, obstacles, and setbacks. Quite a contrast to the unfortunate Donner Party, this group all pulled together, helped each other, and were willing to separate into several groups, so that at least some of them would reach their goal and no one would hold anyone else back. I liked the author's note where she explained ho Set in the American West of the 1840's, this novel is based on the obscure true story of a group of pioneer families who set out for and reached California, after enduring hardships, obstacles, and setbacks. Quite a contrast to the unfortunate Donner Party, this group all pulled together, helped each other, and were willing to separate into several groups, so that at least some of them would reach their goal and no one would hold anyone else back. I liked the author's note where she explained how she came across this unbelievable story in a footnote to something she was reading. She just HAD to research it deeply. Too bad, with such enticing material to work with, the writing was bland and cloyingly sweet. There was too much banal dialogue and it was much too long; it could have been pared down. With so many similar names, I'm glad the author gave a list of who each person was, and in which group. This made it clearer to me.

Recommended, only with reservations. Thanks to LibraryThing for an ARC. ...more

## One More River To Cross By Jane Kirkpatrick

This is my first novel by Jane Kirkpatrick and I'm now wondering why I haven't already come across some of her previous novels. This newest work is set in 1844 and involves a wagon train that travels through the Sierra Nevada mountains en route to California.

Most of the settlers from the wagon train are Irish Catholics, but regardless of where they are from or what their religious views are, they are all searching for a better life in California.

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Most of the settlers from the wagon train are Irish Catholics, but regardless of where they are from or what their religious views are, they are all searching for a better life in California.

Unfortunately, the journey didn't move fast enough to beat the first snows of winter. Due to the weather situation, they began to run low on food and to have trouble getting the wagons through the snowy mountainous terrain.

At some point in the journey, they decide to split up. They end up having three groups. Some stayed with a few wagons that held the heaviest and most valuable possessions. The plan was to winter in place and have others come help them when the snow melted.

Another group traveled by horseback. This group made the best time and reached the settlement area in California before any of the others.

The third group was the rest of the wagon train. This group eventually split due to the lack of food and the slow progress being made. The idea was for the men to ride ahead and send back help.

As so often happens, the best laid plans go awry. With each group facing starvation, natural disasters and other hazards common to living in a snowy mountainous region, there were quite a bit of tense moments. The experience that the people endured also brought to light various weak spots in some of the marriages. It was truly a journey that exposed what was important in life to each individual.

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Acclaimed author Jane Kirkpatrick is known for the meticulous detail found in her inspiring works of historical fiction. "One More River to Cross" is her storytelling of the "Murphy-Stephens-Townsend Overland Party", which traveled from Missouri through the Sierra Nevada Mountains to reach California

## One More River to Cross

in 1844. Decisions of varying wisdom by members of the group. the twists and turns of Fate, and the undeniable force of Nature itself lead the travelers on an eventful, life-altering journey for which none of them were truly prepared. The author has included a breakdown of the groupings in the wagon party which explains who was in each group--giving us insights into their characters: "Horseback Group"; "Wagon Guards"; "The Wintering Women"; "Also at the Wintering Cabin"; and "Cross-Country Men". The party eventually separated into three main groups--each one choosing a different and difficult route to follow. If you enjoy reading about American Frontier trials and tribulations and life in the mid-nineteenth century, then you will find "One More River to Cross" to be an involving and inspiring journey of a lifetime.

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## One More River To Cross Sheet Music

They started out together: the Murphy, Townsend, Montgomery, Sullivan, and Patterson families and those accompanying them, following Captain Elisha Stephens on their way westward to California. Meeting hardships and harsh conditions, the group broke apart piece by piece, some taking a different route, others left behind with the hope of being rescued come spring. None knowing whether they would reach their final destination or what awaited them there.

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As usual Kirkpatrick's story focuses on the strong women who helped mold our nation. As is frequently the case in her stories, this story is set within the westward movement. The matriarchs of the families whose story is told in One More River to Cross were women often left to feel powerless as their fates and the fates of their children were left to the decisions made by the men in their lives. When left on their own, Kirkpatrick shows them to be women of strength, courage, and determination.

Kirkpatrick's books are not your typical historical romance, but are more aptly described as historical drama filled with perseverance and true grit. Her books would not be described as fast-paced, but her chosen pace allows for deep character development. I must say that while this story was very interesting, it is not among my favorites of her books. I think that is because, although Mary and Sarah did get a bit more attention than the other women, there really didn't seem to be a main character among the women. I did enjoy the story though, and would choose it to read again. I appreciate having received a copy of One More River to Cross from Revell Publishing via NetGalley in exchange for my honest opinion. I was under no obligation to provide a positive review, and received no monetary compensation. ...more

An enthralling, heart pounding, heartbreaking and ultimately triumphant story of the first successful journey to settle California in the mid 1840s. With each step guided by their faith in God the women in this story experience every difficulty with strength and fortitude that left me in awe and woefully lacking in their courage to withstand the elements and their pig-headed menfolk, some of who treat them like chattel. This author has become a favorite of mine because she weaves historical facts An enthralling, heart pounding, heartbreaking and ultimately triumphant story of the first successful journey to settle California in the mid 1840s. With each step guided by their faith in God the women in this story experience every difficulty with strength and fortitude that left me in awe and woefully lacking in their courage to withstand the elements and their pig-headed menfolk, some of who treat them like chattel. This author has become a favorite of mine because she weaves historical facts

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One More River to Cross

embellished with a little fiction that enhances the story and illuminates the time time period for history fans like me. I especially appreciate Ms. Kirkpatrick's impeccable research and her updates on what happens to these remarkable people after the book ends which also provides titles of non fiction resources that I find particularly fascinating. I can't say enough wonderful things about this wonderful book. I read an early copy of this book through NetGalley and all opinions expressed in my voluntary review are completely my own. ...more

## One More River To Cross Jimmy Swaggart

Irish immigrants traveled from Quebec to Missouri and to California in 1844-45 over the same trail that the Donner Party took in 1846, but with much different results. This account see courage, fortitude and wise decision-making as reasons for 51 people making it to Sutter's Fort alive. By dividing up, one group made it by horseback and were able to send back help to the other group waiting out the winter. The Stephens-Murphy-Townsend party brought the first wagons into California. Their legacy Irish immigrants traveled from Quebec to Missouri and to California in 1844-45 over the same trail that the Donner Party took in 1846, but with much different results. This account see courage, fortitude and wise decision-making as reasons for 51 people making it to Sutter's Fort alive. By dividing up, one group made it by horseback and were able to send back help to the other group waiting out the winter. The Stephens-Murphy-Townsend party brought the first wagons into California. Their legacy is a large part of California's history. Jane Kirkpatrick brings empathy, faith and passion to a well-told story. ...more

One More River to Cross

# One More River To Cross Lyrics