



Hattie Ever After

By Kirby Larson

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After leaving Uncle Chester's homestead claim, orphan Hattie Brooks throws a lasso around a new dream, even bigger than the Montana sky. She wants to be a reporter, knowing full well that a few pieces published in the *Arlington News* will not suffice. Real reporters must go to Grand Places, and do Grand Things, like Hattie's hero Nellie Bly. Another girl might be stymied by this, but Hattie has faced down a hungry wolf and stood up to a mob of angry men. Nothing can squash her desire to write for a big city newspaper. A letter and love token from Uncle Chester's old flame in San Francisco fuels that desire and Hattie jumps at the opportunity to get there by working as a seamstress for a traveling acting troupe. This could be her chance to solve the mystery of her "scoundrel" uncle and, in the process, help her learn more about herself. But Hattie must first tell Charlie that she will not join him in Seattle. Even though her heart approves of Charlie's plan for their marriage, her mind fears that saying yes to him would be saying no to herself. Hattie holds her own in the big city, literally pitching her way to a byline, and a career that could be even bigger than Nellie Bly's. But can making headlines compensate for the pain of betrayal and lost love? Hattie must dig deep to find her own true place in the world. Kirby Larson once again creates a lovingly written novel about the remarkable and resilient young orphan, Hattie Inez Brooks.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 6-10-The feisty protagonist from *Hattie Big Sky* (Delacorte, 2006) returns. In 1919, the 17-year-old is working at a boardinghouse in Montana. The restlessness that she has been feeling comes to a head when a surprise visit from Charlie makes her see that she cannot contemplate settling down as his wife until she pursues her own ambitions as a reporter. Hattie travels with a vaudeville troupe to San Francisco. At first, it seems that her only exposure to the newspaper world will be as the night-shift cleaning woman for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, but perseverance and a few lucky coincidences allow her to achieve her dream of being a full-fledged reporter in a way that highlights the struggles of women in the workforce in the aftermath of World War I. Along the way, Hattie struggles with her decision to leave Charlie behind, especially as she is betrayed by people she thought were friends. As difficult as some of these incidents are, Hattie manages to find true friendship in surprising places. Larson's meticulous research brings early-20th-century San Francisco to life, and readers will feel that they are right there with Hattie in the hustle and bustle of a booming city. The way in which she achieves not only her professional ambitions but also personal growth and fulfillment leads to a wholly satisfying conclusion, and the author's note gives readers a good feel for the solid historical foundations of Hattie's story. While this novel stands on its own, references to characters and events in the earlier book may be confusing to those meeting Hattie for the first time.-Kim Dare, Fairfax County Public Schools, VA(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

Readers first met Hattie Brooks in the Newbery Honor Book *Hattie Big Sky* (2006). Now Hattie has left Montana for San Francisco, hoping she can somehow find a way to become a newspaper reporter. In quick succession, Hattie works as seamstress for a vaudeville troupe, a char woman at the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and then becomes a researcher there as she finds ways—and people to help her—work her way up the ladder. One of the best parts about this is the way Larson brings San Francisco, circa 1919, alive—especially the opportunities and stumbling blocks for women. Less successful are a few of the plot points, including the introduction of a scammer, who seemingly spends more money on Hattie than the small change she is able to swindle from her. But fans of the first book will be thrilled to see the ups and downs of Hattie's romance with old boyfriend Charlie, while her relationship with another fellow leads to an interesting twist. This is reminiscent of Maude Hart Lovelace's later Betsy books, whose heroine also wanted to write. And that's high praise. Grades 7-10. --Cooper, Ilene

Review

Starred Review, [Kirkus Reviews](#), December 15, 2012:

"Readers will fall for this earnest, wide-eyed and strong-minded young woman... Historical fiction with heart."

[Washington Post](#), March 10, 2013:

"Larson brings this bustling city to vivid life through glimpses of Chinatown, Great Beach Highway and the *Chronicle* offices, with their "inky perfume" and clattering presses. The novel also has a nice tie-in to National Women's History Month, exploring as it does the changing role of women in the post-World War I workplace...[Don't let the] age range stop you from sharing this lively tale with younger newshounds and history buffs."

[Booklist](#), February 1, 2013:

"One of the best parts about this is the way Larson brings San Francisco, circa 1919, alive—especially the opportunities and stumbling blocks for women...Fans of the first book will be thrilled to see the ups and downs of Hattie's romance with old boyfriend Charlie, while her relationship with another fellow leads to an interesting twist. This is reminiscent of Maude Hart Lovelace's later Betsy books, whose heroine also wanted to write. And that's high praise."

Publishers Weekly, February 18, 2013:

"Fans of the first novel will gladly reconnect with this memorable heroine, but the narrative stands firmly on its own, too."

The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, February 2013:

"Hattie is the kind of character readers actually wonder about after closing the book, and her fans from her first title will be satisfied, and even perhaps relieved, to know she finds her footing in the world."

School Library Journal, March 2013:

"Larson's meticulous research brings early-20th-century San Francisco to life, and readers will feel that they are right there with Hattie in the hustle and bustle of a booming city. The way in which she achieves not only her professional ambitions but also personal growth and fulfillment leads to a wholly satisfying conclusion, and the author's note gives readers a good feel for the solid historical foundations of Hattie's story."

Starred Review, Shelf Awareness, March 26, 2013:

"Engaging and absorbing...*Hattie Ever After* reflects Larson's meticulous research, yet the historical details never overwhelm the story or the characters. Instead, all the elements combine to form a multilayered and colorful story. Readers will be thrilled to follow the trials and triumphs of Miss Hattie Inez Brooks in 1919 San Francisco."

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Henson:

In this 21st one hundred year, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a e-book your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand up than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you that Hattie Ever After book as starter and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

Richard Hennessy:

The book Hattie Ever After will bring someone to the new experience of reading any book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book to learn, this book very appropriate to you. The book Hattie Ever After is much recommended to you to see. You can also get the e-book through the

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Donna Bledsoe:

It is possible to spend your free time to read this book this reserve. This Hattie Ever After is simple bringing you can read it in the park, in the beach, train and also soon. If you did not have much space to bring the particular printed book, you can buy the e-book. It is make you much easier to read it. You can save the actual book in your smart phone. Therefore there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Ruth Vigue:

A lot of reserve has printed but it differs from the others. You can get it by web on social media. You can choose the most beneficial book for you, science, comedian, novel, or whatever simply by searching from it. It is known as of book Hattie Ever After. You can include your knowledge by it. Without leaving the printed book, it can add your knowledge and make a person happier to read. It is most critical that, you must aware about book. It can bring you from one place to other place.

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